Uplift of morality and education as well as health and fitness of the entire people are especially required in building a modern and developed nation. Clarifications on detailed basic principles for social and management sectors made at National Convention

Yangon, 20 May—The followings are the translation of clarifications concerning detailed basic principles for social and management sectors that are to be included in drafting State Constitution made at the National Convention today.

Clarifications of National Convention
Convening Work Committee members
Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein
and Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin

The social sector

Respected Chairman,

What I am going to present here is about the finds of the Work Committee on the sharing of legislative power among the Pyidaungsu legislative body and the region or state legislative bodies concerning the social sector. Of the legislative power in connection with the social sector, I will clarify which of the issues will be vested in the Pyidaungsu legislative body, and which of them in the region or state legislative bodies.

Mainly, the educational functions, health activities, social tasks, labour affairs etc. are included in the social sector. The matters in connection with the educational functions are curricula, syllabus, teaching methods, research, planning and drawing of projects and fixing of norms and standards; matters relating to examinations designated by the Union; the issue of the courses of universities, degree colleges and institutes and other organizations of the higher education sector; the sector of the government basic education schools; the issue of vocational schools; and the matter of private schools and training courses.

The matters relating to national health, free hospitals and dispensaries, and private hospitals and dispensaries; region, state, district, township and station hospitals; prevention against counterfeiting of foodstuff, medicines, medical equipment and cosmetics or mixing them with other ingredients; traditional medicine and its development; and birth and death registration are included in the health activities.

The functions of the social sector are wide and numerous, covering a large array of areas from maternal and child welfare to Red Cross, social welfare; caring of children, youths, women, the disabled, the aged and homeless; relief and resettlement; and fire brigades and fire prevention.

(See page 6)
In the interests of the people

The National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmauby Township on 20 May and the National Convention Convening Work Committee clarified economic, agriculture and livestock breeding, energy, electricity, mining and forestry, industry, transport and communication sectors. The National Convention Convening Work Committee clarified matters concerning the detailed basic principles for the Executive, Legislative and Judiciary that are to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

Member of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Supreme Court Justice U Tin Aye clarified the economic sector and National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman Justice U Aung Toe, the agriculture and livestock breeding sector. Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Attorney-General U Aye Maung explained the agriculture and livestock breeding sector and the energy, electricity, mining and forestry sectors.

Secretary of the Work Committee U Thaung Nyunt explained the industrial sector and the transport and communication sector. The Government, with the aim of ensuring the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, is making endeavours for the economic sector, laying down the economic objectives and long-term and short-term plans, and making systematic and coordinated efforts.

Paddy cultivation will have to be extended to produce enough food to meet the annual population growth of the nation and to export the surplus. The nation’s economy will be in very good shape only if there is balance between the economic sector, laying down the economic objectives and long-term and short-term plans, and making systematic and coordinated efforts.

Now, it is found that arrangements are under way for long-term extraction of timber on a commercial scale by using the forest resources of the country without causing deforestation, for environmental protection and conservation, for temperate climatic conditions, and for increased production of value-added finished wooden items.

In order to build a modern developed nation, it is necessary to obtain capital from agriculture, which is the base. The capital thus obtained is to be invested proportionately in agriculture, which is the base. The capital thus obtained is to be invested proportionately in agriculture, which is the base. The capital thus obtained is to be invested proportionately in agriculture, which is the base. The capital thus obtained is to be invested proportionately in agriculture, which is the base. The capital thus obtained is to be invested proportionately in agriculture, which is the base.

A robust economy is required for a nation as its economy is serving as the main link connecting politics and the social sector. The connection between the politics and social sectors will be strong only if the economic link is strong.

We believe that the delegates to the National Convention will try to make suggestions on the basic principles to be included in the State Constitution in the interests of the people.

**Myanmar Gazette**

**Yangon, 20 May —** The State Peace and Development Council has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

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**The signing ceremony in progress. — MNA**

**Agreement on building road signed**

**Yangon, 19 May —** The ceremony to sign a build and transfer agreement for the Kunpuki-Washuang-Myitkyina Road between the Public Works of the Ministry of Construction and the Htain Min Road Construction and Maintenance Co Ltd of China was held at the head office of Public Works on Shwedagon Pagoda Road here this afternoon. Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Deputy Ministers U Tint Swe and Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Mr Wang Cai Chun of Htain Chong District Foreign Friendship Federation and guests were present on the occasion. The 95-kilometre road to link boundary point 4 with the Washuang-Myitkyina road will be built in two years. Managing Director of Public Works U Nay Soe Naing and Htain Min Road Construction and Maintenance Co Ltd Managing Director Mr Chon Shan Chint signed the agreement and exchanged notes — MNA

**Digital multifunctional system machine donated**

**Yangon, 20 May —** A ceremony to donate digital multifunctional system machine was held at the Traders Hotel here at 10 am today. First, Chairman of Prime Boss Co Ltd U Aye Thant made a speech. Next, Mr Osamu Kobayashi of Sharp-Roxy Sales (Singapore) Pte Ltd demonstrated the multifunctional system. Next, U Aye Thant handed over the machine to Senior Engineer of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) U Nyan Win Aung — (a)

The Myanmar Tong Taq Trade Fair 2004 was held at the Yangon Trade Centre on Upper Pacandaung Road on 19 May morning. News reported. Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Soe Tong Tab Co Ltd Chairman Mr Peter Loh and Tong Tab Co Ltd Managing Director U Khin Maun Latt formally open the trade fair by cutting a ribbon. — MNA

**Prime Boss Co Ltd Chairman U Aye Thant hands over the machine to Senior Engineer of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) of the Ministry of Education U Nyan Win Aung. — (a)**

**People’s Desire**

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

**Let hands of all flowers be clasped**

* Sabei Kyetume, Gamone, Khatta
* Zizawa and Natha Dawna
* Plus orchids and Thawka, Hninzi
* All in bloom together, with varied tints
* Varicoloured beauty to behold
* Peaceful and tranquil little garden.
* This garden, with assembled flowers
* Roses as one, Sabei as another
* There’s Myatlay, and also Khatta
* Graced by Gamone, Orchid as a variety
* Though exist variously, all colours blend
* Beauty in unity, never to part
* All together, not ‘that’ separate
* Not ‘me’ alone, that’s not the way
* Staying together on same land, use same water
* Ideas and thoughts unified
* Thawka’s beautiful, Dawna’s fragrant
* Myatlay’s a dainty, Thain’s perfumes
* Rose is substantial, Sabei lends blend
* Each with own beauty, sister-brother of same kin
* As “We brethren”, with determination to help
* Though matched, can’t differentiate
* All flowers beautiful, comparatively
* One thinks of it, as celestial garden
* Graciously great.
* O, only because unity is strength
* Though they divide, by driving wedge
* We’re not divided, stay hands clasped
* Strength of unity, held to bosom
* With noble heart and righteousness
* Like the flowers in pride of unity
* No different from celestial above
* “The path we’ll tread, let’s build it”
* “The path we’ll walk, let’s choose”
* Be tough, no shirking
* Let our garden be always developed
* Garden’s history, never to be rude
* Let hands of all flowers be clasped
* Without parting, let’s tread along this path.

Yan Naing Os (Tsv)
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Friday, 21 May, 2004  3

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects development of Chaungtha Beach

YANGON, 20 May — Member of the StatePeace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and departmental officials, on 17 May morning met with hoteliers at Yuzana Hotel on Ngwe Haung Beach and gave necessary instructions.

Present on the occasion were hoteliers and in-charges of 23 hotels on the beach. Chairman of Pathein District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Ha Thwin reported on number of hotels on the beach and services. Director-General U Khin Maung Latt of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism reported on functions of the hotels while the commander gave a supplementary report. Next, hoteliers reported on the salient points of the hotels including services and extension of hotel rooms. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, in his address, said that hoteliers are to make concerted and collected efforts for development of hotel industries after forming Ngwe Haung Hoteliers Association, adding that Ngwe Haung beach is popular among local and foreign tourists like other resorts. It is incumbent upon hoteliers to strive their utmost for improvement of services to the liking of the holiday-makers. The hoteliers are required to make efforts in accord with rules and regulations. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met members of Division, District, Township and Peace and Development Councils, townswelders of Ngwe Haung, members of social organizations and local people.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing extended greetings. Next, Chairman of Pathein District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Ha Thwin reported on location and area of Ngwe Haung and social, economic, educational and health conditions. Later, divisional level departmental officials reported on work being carried out for regional development. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing gave a supplementary report. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made a speech. He said that Ngwe Haung is a resort town where foreign tourists often visit for their recreation. Thus, the government has been making arrangements for its development. Departmental officials and local people are to make strenuous efforts for the betterment of the town and for ensuring prevalence of peace and stability, he said.

Next, the Chairmen of Ward and Village Peace and Development Councils in the township reported on social, economic, health and education conditions. After the meeting, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially greeted those present.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected Ngwe Haung. Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected Shaukchaung village cross bridge in Shaukchaung Village where Senior Engineer U Myint Thein reported on fitness of the bridge and future tasks. On arrival at Shaukchaung Village Basic Education High School (Branch), Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party were welcomed by local people, teachers and students. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met local people at the school where Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing extended greetings. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Ngwe Haung BEHS on 18 May morning and they were welcomed there by departmental officials, social organization members, local people, teachers and students. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party looked into construction of new school building and Ayeyawady Division Education officer U Maung Maung reported on matters related to construction works. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected electronic media language lab, computer aided instruction room of the school. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental officials, teachers, members of social organization and local people. Head of Ngwe Haung BEHS U U Maung Maung presented K 100,000 each to 60 teachers and people. He heard reports by divisional level departmental officials, gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs. On arrival at Shaukchaung Village Basic Education High School (Branch), Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected Shaukchaung river crossing bridge site on 22 March 2004. The school building which costs K 12.5 million will be 60 feet long, 36 feet wide and 10 feet high. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected hotel service of Hotel of Chaungtha Beach. At Ohndawgyi Village Basic Education Primary School donated by Max Myanmar Co Ltd in Pathein Township on 16 May. Building the school started on 22 March 2004. The school long bridge is being built with concrete. The bridge will be 140 feet long.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects regional development in Dawei District

YANGON, 20 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Tanintharyi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and departmental officials, on 12 May morning left Ye Town, Mon State, and arrived at Mahlabwein in Tanintharyi Division by car. Chief Engineer of Public Works U Thaw Ka and Divisional Superintending Engineer U Chin Pan reported on maintenance of Ye-Dawei Road to Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to Kakainuang in Yebyu Township where they met service personnel, member of social organizations and townswelders. Township officer, U Soe Lwin, reported on construction tasks in the township. Lt-Gen Maung Bo instructed them in ensuring rule of law and order and community peace and tranquillity and to make cooperative efforts for implementing five rural development tasks. He then saw to making arrangements for its development. Departmental officials and local people are to make strenuous efforts for the betterment of the town and for ensuring prevalence of peace and stability, he said.

Next, the Chairmen of Ward and Village Peace and Development Councils in the township reported on social, economic, health and education conditions. After the meeting, Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially greeted those present. — MNA

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe inspects Saikhaung-Namhsam railroad

YANGON, 20 May — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of the Shan State Peace and Development Council and Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister of Rail Transport U Pe Thaing and officials, arrived Namhsit No 3 bridge construction site on Saikhaung-Namhsam railroad on 14 May afternoon.

Manager-in-charge of the project U Toe Toe Tun reported on completion of the project. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe gave necessary instructions. The bridge will be built of reinforced concrete and it will be 140 feet long.

Next, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and party inspected progress of building Saikhaung Namhsam railway on Pon Creek Bridge project. Col Thaung Htwe, member of local station reported on sector-wise completion of Ponchaung-Namhsam railroad. Project Director U Tin Soe briefed them on progress of implementing the project and Deputy Minister U Pe Thaing on requirements. Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented K 750,000 for renovation of the school. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party left there and stopped over for the night in Ngwe Haung. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Ngwe Haung BEHS on 18 May morning and they were welcomed there by departmental officials, social organization members, local people, teachers and students. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party looked into constructed new school building and Saiyawady Division Education officer U Maung Maung reported on matters related to construction works. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected electronic media language lab, computer aided instruction room of the school. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental officials, teachers, members of social organization and local people. Head of Ngwe Haung BEHS U U Maung Maung presented K 100,000 each to 60 teachers and people. He heard reports by divisional level departmental officials, gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs. On arrival at Shaukchaung Village Basic Education High School (Branch), Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected Shaukchaung river crossing bridge site on 22 March 2004. The school building which costs K 12.5 million will be 60 feet long, 36 feet wide and 10 feet high. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected hotel service of Hotel of Chaungtha Beach. At Ohndawgyi Village Basic Education Primary School donated by Max Myanmar Co Ltd in Pathein Township on 16 May. Building the school started on 22 March 2004. The school long bridge is being built with concrete. The bridge will be 140 feet long.

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US generals take responsibility for Iraq prison abuse

WASHINGTON, 20 May—The two top US generals in charge of the occupation of Iraq said they took responsibility for the Abu Ghraib prison abuse scandal and warned that more soldiers could face action.

General John Abizaid, the head of US Central Command, and Lieutenant General Ricardo Sanchez, commander of US forces in Iraq, appeared Wednesday before the Senate Armed Forces Committee to answer questions over the scandal.

“We have suffered a setback,” Abizaid told the panel. “I accept responsibility for that setback.”

“From evidence already gathered, we believe that systematic problems existed at the prison that may have contributed to events there,” Abizaid went on.

“Other investigations are currently underway,” he added. “We will follow the trail of evidence wherever it leads, we will continue to correct systemic problems. We will hold people accountable.”

Sanchez also assured lawmakers that measures had been taken to ensure no repetition of abuses that brought international criticism of the US after pictures of naked prisoners being sexually humiliated appeared.

“While horrified at the abuse behaviour which took place, I believe that the proper steps to ensure that such behavior is no longer repeated,” Sanchez said.

“Further, I believe that my actions have sent the clear message that such behavior is not acceptable.”

Federal Public Defender Michael Sivits, who had represented all soldiers accused of abuses at the Abu Ghraib prison, faced a court martial Wednesday on charges of failing to properly monitor conditions at the facility.

Sivits, who had offered to plead guilty to three abuse charges, told the military judge that he had acted as an attorney representing clients whose rights were being violated.

“I have learned huge lessons, sir,” he added. “You can’t let people abuse people like they have done.”

Sivits apologized to the Iraqi people.

“I’d like to apologize to the Iraqi people and thoseSivits was sentenced to a year in prison.

The committee’s Republican chairman Senator John Warner warned the officers of the anger that the scandal had caused.

“Just felt it was imperative that at some point in time...you would face the American public and then face the world and give your personal accounts of how this situation happened and most importantly, what we’re going to do to see that it never happens again,” Warner said at the start of the hearing.

BAGHDAD, 20 May—US court martial Wednesday sentenced Specialist Jeremy Sivits to a maximum penalty of one year in prison, reduction in rank and a bad conduct discharge for his role in the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse case.

Sivits apologized to the Iraqi people and said he was rehabilitated and had made a contribution to society.

Sivits, who pleaded guilty to three abuse charges, took pictures of naked Iraqi prisoners being humiliated at Abu Ghraib prison.

A video grab image shows an Iraqi man crying in the cemetery in Ramadi on 19 May, 2004. The leaders of six Gulf Arab states meeting in Saudi Arabia on Sunday condemned the treatment of prisoners by US-led occupation forces in Iraq.

Honduran troops complete withdrawal from Iraq

TIGRECRAYA, 20 May—The last Honduran troops in Iraq have completed their withdrawal earlier than planned because of the spiraling violence in the war zone, a Honduran defence ministry spokesman said on Tuesday.

“All our soldiers have now left Iraq and are in Kuwait,” the last group arrived in Kuwait today,” Lt.Col Rafael Moreno told Reuters.

The Central American nation’s 370-strong contingent had intended to stay in Iraq until its mandate expired in July but decided to pull out early after Spain’s announcement last month that it would withdraw its 1,400 troops.

The Honduran troops started their withdrawal on 11 May and the last group to leave will fly back on Friday to a military base shared with US troops in central Honduras, Moreno said.

Spain had been in charge of troops from other Spanish-speaking nations in Iraq, including those from El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic.

Although Central American countries were keen to build on close trade and immigration ties with the United States by sending troops to Iraq, support for the US-led coalition in Iraq has dwindled as attacks on foreign troops and civilians have escalated.

British worker killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 20 May—A British civilian worker was shot and killed in Iraq yesterday while driving between the northern cities of Mosul and Arbil, the Foreign Office said today. The man killed was Andrew Harris, 33, who was born in Cardiff, the Foreign Office said without giving any further details about the incident.


An Italian soldier was killed during an uprising in violence in the Italian-patrolled town of Nasiriyah at the weekend and three civilians are still being held hostage by militants, adding to pressure on British forces in the area.

An Italian soldier was killed during an uprising in violence in the Italian-patrolled town of Nasiriyah at the weekend and three civilians are still being held hostage by militants, adding to pressure on British forces in the area.

Italian also wanted American soldiers accused of abusing prisoners in Iraq to have “public and exemplary” trials, Berlusconi said in a telephone interview with Rete 4 television from the plane taking him to the United States.

“Foreigners must be sure that there will be a clear break-through in the Iraqi situation that will truly give sovereignty to the government, with the UN’s envoy Lakhdar Brahimi responsible,” Berlusconi said.

Iraq should have a representative assembly of about 1,000 or 1,500 people ahead of elections “as soon as possible, probably in the month of January”, he added.

Many Italian politicians, both government supporters and opposition members, have called on Berlusconi to voice concerns over events in Iraq.

BERLIN, 20 May — Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, on his way to a meeting with US President George W. Bush, said on Tuesday Italy wanted “a clear break-through” in policy leading to sovereignty in Iraq.

“US military deaths in Iraq amount to 789

BAGHDAD, 20 May—As of Wednesday, May 19, 789 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Department of Defence. Of those, 575 died as a result of hostile action and 214 died of non-hostile causes.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 651 US soldiers have died as a result of hostile action and 185 of non-hostile causes, according to the military’s numbers.

US helicopter kills 40 at wedding in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 20 May—A US helicopter fired on a wedding party in western Iraq today, killing more than 40 people, Iraqi officials said.

The US military said it could not confirm the report and was investigating.

Lieutenant Colonel Ziyad al-Ibouri, deputy police chief of Ramadi, said between 42 and 45 people were killed in the attack, which took place about 2.45am in a remote desert area near the border with Syria and Jordan.

He said the dead included 15 children and 10 women.

Dr Salah Al-Ani, who works at a hospital in Ramadi, put the death toll at 45.

Associated Press Television News obtained videotape showing a truck containing bodies of people who were allegedly killed in the incident.

Most of the bodies were wrapped in blankets and other clothes, but the footage showed at least eight uncovered, bloody bodies, several of them children. One of the children was headless.

Iraqis interviewed on the videotape said partygoers were firing in the air in traditional wedding celebration.

American troops have sometimes mistaken celebratory gunfire for hostile fire.

Al-Ani said people at the wedding were firing weapons in the air, and that American troops came to investigate and then left.

However, he said, helicopters attacked the area at about 3am. Two houses were destroyed in the attack.

US troops took the bodies and those injured in a truck to Rutba hospital, he said.

Ramadi is a stronghold of guerrillas who are fighting the US-led coalition.

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Fresh clashes in Iraqi holy city of Najaf

KABUL, 20 May—Fighting loyal to rebel cleric Moqtada al-Sadr attacked a US base on the edge of the holy Iraqi city of Najaf on Tuesday with mortar bombs, witnesses said.

Two US tanks stationed around the main police station, some two km (one mile) from some of the holiest shrines for Shiite Muslims, moved towards the base and were attacked with rocket-propelled grenades, the witnesses said.

There was no immediate word on casualties.

Clashes between the two sides have been frequent in the last couple of weeks and exploded into fierce fighting last Friday when US tanks thrust into Najaf’s ancient cemetery, considered sacred ground, against fighters firing mortars.

There have also been fierce clashes between US-led forces and Sadri’s Mehdi Army militia in two other towns across the mainly Shiite south since the American incursion into the Najaf cemetery, where devouts’ souls wish to be buried.

Some of the fiercest have been in the nearby holy city of Kerbala, where Iraqi security forces are fighting alongside the Americans.

Italian troops have been attacked heavily in Nassiriya and British soldiers have fought fierce skirmishes around Amara. US commanders call it a “minor upsurge”, but on Monday evening chief US military spokesman Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt said 51 Mike, Army fighters had been killed in the previous 24 hours.

Sadr, who preaches trenchant anti-American sermons, launched an uprising against the US-led occupiers in early April and has taken refuge near the Imam Ali shrine in Najaf, one of the holiest Shiite sites.

He accuses the US-led forces of intruding on sacred ground in Najaf and Kerbala, where US tanks frequently take up position around holy shrines and fight battles with his militia.

“My beloved people, rise up to express your views against these violations and so become the worthy people of these holy sanctuaries,” Sadri wrote in his latest statement. — MNA/Reuters

India warns fishermen against eastern cyclone

KOLKATA, 20 May—India warned fishermen on its eastern coast not to go to sea as a cyclone brewed in the Bay of Bengal, officials said on Tuesday.

The storm, which has been hovering off the coast for three days, lay 200 miles southeast of the coastal town of Balasore in Orissa where at least 10,000 people were killed in 1999 when a powerful cyclone slammed the eastern state.

“The cyclonic storm is behaving erratically and has moved in different directions in the past three days. We have to watch this one carefully,” Tapan Kumar Bose, an official of the regional weather office in Kolkata, told Reuters.

 Authorities in Orissa and the neighbouring state of West Bengal told people to brace for wind speeds of up to 62 mph from Wednesday morning.

 Authorities had stockpiled food and tents in several places along the Orissa coast.

 A cyclone pounded India’s southeastern coast last December, killing at least 45 people and damaging crops. — MNA/Reuters

Nigeria sets up committee to evaluate oil, gas policy

ABUJA, 20 May—The Nigerian Government on Monday set up a nine-member committee in capital Abuja with the assignment of examining and making recommendations on the West African country’s oil and gas policy.

Speaking at the inauguration, Nigerian Vice-President Atiku Abubakar said the committee had two months to conclude its work and submit its report.

Abubakar said the oil and gas sector was a key component of the country’s economic reforms and a crucial component that must be put right.

According to Vice-President, getting the sector right would give foreign investors the needed confidence to participate in the country’s economy and pave way for a more efficient utilization of available resources.

Members of the committee were drawn from the Central Bank of Nigeria, Ministries of the Finance, the National Planning Commission, the Bureau for Public Enterprises, as well as the Nigerian National Petroleum Corp.

Nigeria is the largest oil producer in Africa and the sixth largest oil exporter in the world with a daily crude oil output of over two million barrels. Crude oil exploitation accounts for 85 per cent of the government’s revenue and 90 per cent of foreign exchange earnings. — MNA/Xinhua

Iraqis want coalition troops out

BAGHDAD, 20 May—A poll of Iraqi people has shown that more than half of them now want the US-led coalition troops to leave their country, while most regard the military presence as an occupying force, a British newspaper reported today.

The poll was conducted by the year-old Iraqi Centre for Research and Strategic Studies, a group considered reliable enough for coalition officials to have submitted questions for inclusion in the poll, the Financial Times said.

According to the findings of the survey of 1600 Shia and Sunni Arabs and Kurds, not formally released until next week, more than half the population want coalition troops out of Iraq, the poll’s organisers told the newspaper.

This compares with a figure of only about 20 percent in a poll taken last October, the paper said, adding that the latest survey was taken before the scandal emerged of the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by US troops.

Also, 88 per cent of respondents saw coalition troops in Iraq as occupiers, while about two-thirds supported radical Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr, a noted foe of US-led forces.

“You always contrast American actions with American promises and there’s now a wide gap in credibility,” Saadoun Duleimi, the head of the centre, told the paper.

More photos obtained from Abu Ghraib by ABC

BAGHDAD, 20 May—ABC News has obtained two new photos taken at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq showing Spc Charles Graner and Spc Sabrina Harman posing over the body of a detainee who was allegedly beaten to death by CIA or civilian interrogators in the prison’s showers.

The detainee’s name was Manadel al-Jamadi.

According to testimony from Spc. Jason Kenner, obtained by ABC NEWS, the man was brought to the prison by US Navy SEALs in good health. Kenner said he saw the detainee being bruising on the detainee’s body when he was brought out of the showers, dead.

Kenner says the body was packed in ice during a “battle” between CIA and military interrogators over who should dispose of the body. The Justice Department opened an investigation into this death and four others today following a referral from the CIA. The photos were taken by Staff Sgt. Ivan “Chip” Frederick, who in e-mails to his family has asked why the people responsible for the prisoner’s death were not being prosecuted in the same manner that he is.

Frederick, Graner, and Harman are among six reservists from the 372nd Military Police Company who are facing charges in the abuse scandal.

A lawyer for Graner, Guy Womack, told ABC NEWS the photo of his client represents inappropriate “gallows humor.” Womack questioned why US officials have not opened a criminal investigation into alleged murders at Abu Ghraib, while the investigation of his client has proceeded at a rapid pace.

A seventh member of the unit, Spc. Jeremy Sivits, pleaded guilty today to four counts for taking pictures of naked Iraqi prisoners being humiliated. Sivits received the maximum penalty of a year in prison and a bad conduct discharge. — Internet

Uganda’s teledensity among highest in sub-Saharan Africa

KAMPALA, 20 May—Uganda’s teledensity is among the highest in sub-Saharan Africa, Ugandan Minister of Works, Housing and Communications John Nasasira said here Monday.

In a statement to mark the World Telecom Day, he said that eight years ago the Ugandan Government instituted reforms in the communications sector in order to improve the country’s telecommunications service through private sector participation rather than the government intervention.

As a result, the sector has registered remarkable growth in terms of extensive penetration of basic telecommunications services across the country and improved quality of services as well as a general reduction in the tariffs for services,” he said. He said his ministry has embarked on an e-government project, which aims at automating all government operations and will connect all government institutions together.

The minister said his country’s overall target is by the end of 2005 to have at least the following in place: a public pay phone access point for every 5,000 inhabitants, district information portals (web sites) for every district, information communication technology training centres at every district headquarters, and Internet points of presence at every district to allow connectivity to schools and establishment of public Internet cafés. — MNA/Xinhua

An Iraqi woman weeps after learning that her brother has died of his wounds caused by a car bomb, at Yarmouk Hospital in Baghdad, on 17 May, 2004. — Reuters
Uplift of morality and …

Uplift of morality and education as well as health and fitness of the entire people are specially required in building a modern and developed nation. A modern and developed nation can be built with intensified acceleration only if the people are fit and healthy and their education level high. Women, disabled persons, aged persons and homeless; and the issue of relief and resettlement and fire brigade. When constitutions of a number of countries are studied, it is found that their national constitutions have special attention to the caring of children, women, disabled persons, aged persons and homeless; and the issues of relief and resettlement in the social welfare sector. The 1947 Constitution of Myanmar stipulates that the State shall pay special attention to the young and promote their education:

The State shall direct its policy towards securing to each citizen—the right to maintenance in old age and during sickness, and the issues of relief and resettlement and fire brigade. The State shall implement free compulsory primary education and health of the people. The delegates have already known the remarkable developments in the arts and science fields of the developed power countries. As Myanmar is a UN member as well as a member of the World Health Organization, a UN branch, it will become a member of the International Olympic Committee, its athletes are also taking part in the various Olympic games. There are State level, region or state level, district level and township level sports competitions in the nation. Harmony and uniformity is of vital importance to carry out the national sports activities to improve the standard of sports and techniques, to enable Myanmar athletes to compete against counterfeiting of food, medicines, medical equipment and cosmetics and mixing them with other ingredients is required, it should be included in the Union Legislative list. Respected Chairman,

Now, I will explain matters concerning maternal and child welfare services, to widely disseminate basic knowledge on maternal and child care and to provide required health and social support in a wide array of sectors. The maternal and child welfare associations at different levels are social organizations. It is required to ensure equal rights in every part of the nation in conducting health care services of mothers and children and health and other social activities. Thus, promulgation of laws concerning “maternal and child welfare” should be included in the Union Legislative list.

The national health activities covering diagnosis, disease control and treatment are effectively serving only if plans are being laid down and implemented systematically, and the matter needs uniformity in the whole nation. In raising and developing the national health, it is necessary to harmonize domestic and international levels, implementation methods, and the set standards. As Myanmar is a UN member as well as a member of the Health Organization, a UN branch, it will become a member of the International Olympic Committee, its athletes are also taking part in the various Olympic games. There are State level, region or state level, district level and township level sports competitions in the nation. Harmony and uniformity is of vital importance to carry out the national sports activities to improve the standard of sports and techniques, to enable Myanmar athletes to compete against counterfeiting of food, medicines, medical equipment and cosmetics and mixing them with other ingredients is required, it should be included in the Union Legislative list.

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Another social organization, the Red Cross, has formed its branches from the federal level to the ward level. The Red Cross Brigades helping the victims of natural hazards including fires, floods and storms with full kindness can be witnessed in the nation. Moreover, the Red Cross Brigade members participate proactively in training courses for festivals held occasionally and health activities, as necessary. It is specially required for every Red Cross member to be skilled in first aid, which can be said the first aid courses, which are producing outstanding Red Cross members, are being systematically conducted occasionally in the whole nation. In addition, the tasks of Red Cross are inclusive in many organizations, and the Myanmar Red Cross society is systematically conducted occasionally in the whole nation. Moreover, the Myanmar Red Cross society is systematically conducted occasionally in the whole nation. Thus, promulgation of laws concerning “children, youths, women, disabled persons, aged persons and homeless” should be included in the Union Legislative list.

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The New Light of Myanmar


devoted to the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning the matter.

Respected Chairman,

As the task concerning (1) working hours, break time and holidays; (2) labour disputes; (3) social welfare; (4) labour organization, cover the whole nation, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning the matter.

Respected Chairman,

I will now deal with the matters relating to the social sector that should be included in the Union Legislative list as follows:

1. Curricula, syllabus, teaching methods, research, and projects and programmes
2. Courses of universities, degree colleges and institutes
3. Examinations designated by the Union
4. Private schools and courses
5. National sports
6. National health
7. Development of traditional medical science and medicine
8. Free hospitals and dispensaries and private hospitals and dispensaries
9. Maternal and child welfare
10. Red Cross society
11. Counterfeiting of food, medicines, medical equipment and cosmetics and mixing them with other ingredients
12. Caring children, youths, women, the disabled, the aged and homeless
13. Relief and resettlement
14. Fire Brigade
15. Working hours, break time and holidays
16. Labour disputes
17. Social security
18. Labour organizations
19. The matters managed by the Pyidaungsu concerning (a) Ancient cultural or historical regions, edifices, monuments, records, stone inscriptions, inanimate objects and archaeological undertakings (b) Museums and libraries
20. Literature, theatrical art, music, traditional arts and crafts, movies and videos.

I have explained the above-mentioned points so as to enable delegates to make discussion and give suggestions on whether or not the detailed principles are to be formulated to include those points in the Union Legislative list.

Respected Chairman,

I have already laid down a basic principle, saying, “The State shall enact necessary laws to protect the rights of workers.”

There will be fairness and equality among workers discharging duties in the respective regions all over the country, as the matters I have explained concerning the workers are materialized in uniformity.

As the tasks concerning (1) working hours, break time and holidays; (2) labour disputes; (3) social welfare; (4) labour organization, cover the whole nation, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the said tasks.

Respected Chairman,

Concerning national culture, the National Convention has laid down the basic principle — “The State shall help for development, consolidation and preservation of national culture. In the country, the national races who have been living in the land in weal or woe since many years have their own culture and customs. It is a common knowledge for delegates that the nation has a large number of historical heritage such as ancient cultural or historical edifices, monuments, records, stone inscriptions, handicap, and inanimate objects all over it, and it is discovering and preserving more. They all have ancient cultural heritage for the national people. It is the duty of the national people to preserve and protect the nation’s large number of items of cultural heritage against destruction and loss and the danger of smugglers; and for their perpetuation. The tasks including the discovery, compilation and keeping of precise and correct records on human resources. Laws concerning working hours, break time laws; labour rights, social welfare rights, the successful implementation of social welfare projects in the entire nation, the duties of employers and employees and the labour organizations should be enacted for employees and employers all over the country.

The constitutions of many other countries contain laws concerning similar matters. The National Convention has already laid down a basic principle, saying, “The State shall enact necessary laws to protect the rights of workers.”

As the tasks concerning (1) working hours, break time and holidays; (2) labour disputes; (3) social welfare; (4) labour organization, cover the whole nation, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the said tasks.

Respected Chairman,

As the nation is rich in invaluable cultural items, the Union is required to continuously conduct research on them and to lay down and implement appropriate nationwide programmes covering the matter.

It should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning the matter “(a) ancient cultural or historical regions, edifices, monuments, records, stone inscriptions, handicap, inanimate objects, and archaeological research; and (b) Museums and libraries.”

I have already laid down a basic principle, saying, “The State shall help for development, consolidation and preservation of national culture.” If the region and state concerned are not able to provide the necessary tools for the cultural preservation program, the region or state legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning the matter.

Respected Chairman,

In addition to social organizations such as the Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Red Cross and Fire brigades, there may also be public welfare activities, which do not concern religion and politics at all, in the respective parts of the country. If the respective regions or states fix and supervise appropriate programmes concerning the activities, they will become more effective and achieve greater success. The matter should be included in the region or state legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning “fire prevention”. As the tasks concerning (1) working hours, break time and holidays; (2) labour disputes; (3) social welfare; (4) labour organization, cover the whole nation, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning “fire prevention”.

Respected Chairman,

I will now deal with the matters relating to the social sector that should be included in the Union Legislative list.

1. Curricula, syllabus, teaching methods, research, and projects and programmes
2. Courses of universities, degree colleges and institutes
3. Examinations designated by the Union
4. Private schools and courses
5. National sports
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I have explained the above-mentioned points so as to enable delegates to make discussion and give suggestions on whether or not the detailed principles are to be formulated to include those points in the Union Legislative list.

Respected Chairman,

I have already laid down a basic principle, saying, “The State shall help for development, consolidation and preservation of national culture.” If the region and state concerned are not able to provide the necessary tools for the cultural preservation program, the region or state legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the specific rules prescribed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Respected Chairman,

Just as there will be museums and libraries under the management of the Union, it will also be necessary to open museums and libraries under the supervision of the region or state concerned in the country.

Each of the national races residing in our country has their own cultures and traditions. Priceless are such kind of cultural heritage for our country, and they can be found in respective regions and states. The National Convention has already laid down a basic principle that goes, “The State shall help for development, consolidation and preservation of national culture.” If the region and state concerned are tasked to systematically supervise the perpetuation and development of cultural resources, the success can be achieved in such measures since the own cultural heritage of national races exist in respective regions and states.

Therefore, it should be included in the Legislative list of the region or state to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with (a) preservation of cultural heritage and (b) museums and libraries, for which the region or the state shall provide the necessary tools.”

Respected Chairman,

Myanmar citizens living in urban and rural areas across the country have a tradition of enjoying the entertainment such as movie, drama, and video shows in their free times to relax their mind and body. A variety of such entertainments are launched in respective


development, is specially required to build a modern and developed nation.

region or state legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning the matter.

Respected Chairman,

Registration of births and deaths, that has connections with health affairs, is important for the population statistics of the State. Lists showing the actual population will be available, only if birth certificates and death certificates are issued and kept systematically. Implementation of the registration of births and deaths is specially required in the regions and states, in order to inform the departments in the regions or states conduct the task in their respective provinces or states under their instructions. They are included in the region or state legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning the matter.

Respected Chairman,

The regions, districts and townships of the State have freight handling workers. Their main task in towns which have ports or jetties is to load and unload goods onto and from ships. They load and unload goods onto and from trains at places which have railway stations. They also carry out freight handling work in the loading centres and markets. Freight handling work will be smoother and achieve greater success if the respective regions or states make arrangements that suit, and supervise the work. Hence, it should be included in the region or state legislative list to enact laws concerning “freight handling”.

As freight handling concerns the labour affairs, the respective regions or states will have to look into the matter in accord with the specific rules prescribed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Respected Chairman,

In addition to social organizations such as the Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Red Cross and Fire brigades, there may also be public welfare activities, which do not concern religion and politics at all, in the respective parts of the country. If the respective regions or states fix and supervise appropriate programmes concerning the activities, they will become more effective and achieve greater success. The matter should be included in the region or state legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, concerning the matter.

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Uplift of morality and ... (from page 7)

regions all the year round according to their seasons. Not

for the purpose of supervising the organizing of such entertainments systematically in connection with the law, the security conditions and health condition of the region or the state concerned. Therefore, it should be included in the Legislative list of the region or the state to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the matters mentioned above.

Respected Chairman,

What I have dealt with so far is the matters that should be included in the Legislative list of the region or the state to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the matters mentioned above. The delegates to the National Convention are to be included in the Legislative list of the region or the state to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the matters mentioned above.

Clarifications of National Convention Convening Work Committee Member Supreme Court Justice U Tin Aye

Management Section

Respected Chairman,

I will continue to explain the findings of the National Convention Convening Work Committee. They are of the following: The intention to manage and supervise what sort of legislative power should be distributed to Union legislative bodies, and what sort of legislative power should be distributed to legislative bodies of the region or state in their exercise of the power-sharing policy by the legislative bodies of Union and the region or state.

The matters involved in the management sector are: general administration, rural and urban area management, housing, land and land use, building and construction, social or religious matters, the issuing of land grant to set up businesses, and so on. These organizations and others are formed at various levels, except for the instance of law enforcement.

The matters related to general administration included in the management sector are especially numerous and vast. Administration, it seems, has different dimensions. Just as there are urban administration and rural administration, there are also administrations regarding the forestry, land, agriculture, mineral, and water and air transport, those concerned in Myanmar society have to carry out administrative jobs within the frame of the laws enacted by legislative bodies in connection with the matters involved.

The principle meaning of general administration is that the government workers working in provincial townships, districts, divisions or states are to exercise the authority vested in them in accord with the laws enacted by legislative bodies. The service personnel taking charge of general administration are: the general administrative commissioner, city commissioner, district commissioner, and so on. These positions are appointed by the authority of the General Administration Department at central level. The service personnel of general administration are also to carry out their responsibilities within the frame of the authority vested in them in accord with the laws and regulations.

The robust, swift, smooth, continuous and systematic movement of administrative machinery is crucial for the establishment of a modern and developed nation. Only then will a modern and prosperous nation we all desire be established. To carry out their responsibilities within the frame of the laws enacted by legislative bodies, the service personnel of general administration are also to carry out their responsibilities within the frame of the authority vested in them in accord with the laws and regulations.

Respected Chairman,

The matters which I will continue to explain are those relevant to urban and rural management, settlement and housing development and development and development affairs. Village area is referred to an area which is located out of urban area and which is not under government control as to law by the authority concerned. Urban area is referred to either a certain area which is established according to law or a certain area which is designated as city according to the development affairs act. Only the officially authorized person can create a certain area for the purpose of the urban area. It is unallowable to establish an area as village or urban area on one’s own account although there settle a number of people collectively. It is incumbrant upon those residing in rural or urban areas to be in harmony with the rules and regulations prescribed according to the existing laws. Special care must be taken to implement the tasks concerning the village and urban area management after taking into account the social, health and security points of view of the people living there. If the people of our country establish a place of their choice as a village or an urban area by the act of the authority and settle there, it will amount to violation of laws.

In the place which has been designated as village area in accord with the law, permission must be sought from the authority concerned on the matters of building houses, to fence in and out, to keep in and out of them and to dwell in them. As for the people residing in places designated as village areas, it is also necessary for them to be in harmony with the standards set by the authorities concerned on hygienic points of view and the health points of view when they build houses on the plots allotted to them. In case of the need to enact laws, measures should be taken for the designation of a certain village area which has been designated by the government for the shifting of the people from the village to a suitable place in view of public interest. Designating it as a new village area, the extension of its area, the collection of the expenditure; and for the designation of a new urban area, land lease for plots in the designated village area, the issuing of temporary license, the issuing of tax-exempt land grant for use in social or religious matters, the issuing of land grant to set up urban area, the extension of urban area, and the designation of land for lakes and graveyards. Therefore, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the village and urban area management.

Respected Chairman,

Among the people living in urban areas, there are those who live in houses of their own. On the other hand, there are those who cannot afford such accommodations. As for them, they have to live places rented from landlords and house owners. Moreover, accommodations are also rented for economic reason. A study of the course of history of Myanmar shows that before 1948 and land rental was in development, there will indicate that those trying to escape the scourge of war re-entered the urban area after the Second World War. In the wake of the war, Urban Rent Control Order 1946 and Urban Rent Control Act 1948 were introduced with the aim of protecting those who were in difficulty to find accommodations from being bullied by landlords and house owners. Those laws were just enacted on a temporary basis in time of emergency. As for Urban Rent Control Act, it expired in 1958. Urban Rent Control Law was enacted in 1960. Though not much different from Urban Rent Control Order, Urban Rent Control Law is in connection to now as there is no limitation for its duration.

As the country has become modernized and developed, population, businesses and industries are on the rise in the urban area. It is necessary for those coming to form a society more than that. The consequence of increasing economic undertakings and industries and a large number of people moving to urban areas for business reason. There are house rent and land rent in the urban area. The rise in the demand for accommodations, undertaking of businesses and construction of factories and workshops. Only when measures are taken for such matters on a national scale in connection with harmony with the law, the development of the economy in the urban area.

Therefore, it should be included in the list of Union Legislation to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with “house rent and land rent”.

Respected Chairman,

It is found that in the times of our own rule, Myanmar people were not in the habit of growing poppy, a major substance of narcotics. After encountering our country...
Respected Chairman,

I will now continue to explain matters related to prisoners and prisoners. The State building places to house those who got jail term as they were found guilty after the courts concerned in the country had heard the case according to the law; offenders out of those on trial at the courts concerned who were detained in jail by order of the court while the case is still pending; and those detained by order released according to the law concerned. Moreover, it also issues orders relevant to prisoners and prisoners. The prison department is responsible to choose the prisons for detainees by taking into account the duration of prison term they receive and their age. Responsible officials have to take charge of inspection and supervision at times to ensure the systematic arrangement and management of the prisoners. Therefore, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with all the matters related to prisoners.

Respected Chairman,

I am going to explain in border area issues involved in the management sector. While Union of Myanmar was under the colonialists’ rule, all-round development of our national races residing in border areas was ignored. Their reason was that there was no condition beneficial to them in those areas. Also in the post-independence period, the border areas and the national races living there were not in frequent contact with other areas and the national races living there on account of the geographical condition, difficult accessibility and internal instability. As a result, the border areas lagged behind in all aspects such as economy, social affairs, education, health and transport, when compared to other areas of the country. The development of economy, transport, education, health and social affairs in border areas will bring prosperity to there. The National Convention has laid down a fundamental principle: “The State shall help promote socio-economic development including education, health, economy, transport and communications of less developed national races.”

Regional development measures are being taken all over the country including border areas, upholding our three main national causes—non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuity of sovereignty. In this regard, the Central Development Committee of Border Areas and National Races and the Work Committee were formed, and efforts are being made to implement border area development tasks effectively and systematically by laying down projects. The Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, which had not existed before, was formed. Now, the ministry is implementing the projects relating to development of border areas, joining hands with local national races. Of the border areas, some had suffered the scourge of internal upheaval for many years. It being the areas out of the stretch of Government’s administrative power and with little contact with government service personnel, the language, literature and culture of neighbouring countries exerted an influence on them.

In a bid to enable social, economic and administrative sectors crucial for the State and development of border areas to take shape as early as possible, efforts are under way to implement infrastructure such as road, telecom, energy, construction and communication; social infrastructure such as education, health and public relations; and economic activities such as agriculture, meat and fish, forestry, mining and trade. Thanks to assiduous efforts made by the Government, border areas are now undergoing unprecedented development. There should be coordinated efforts among related departments so that tasks for development of border areas can be carried out successfully in respective border areas in a harmonious way. Thus, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the matters mentioned above.

Respected Chairman,

Now, I am going to explain matters relevant to citizenship, the naturalization and revocation of citizenship, citizenship scrutiny, national registration, and census, which are covered under the management sector. One of the principles formulated by the National Convention is: All persons born of parents both of whom are nationals are citizens; all persons who have become citizens in accord with law on the date the State Constitution comes into force are citizens; and citizenship, naturalization and revocation of citizenship is prescribed by law.

Absolutely imperative for the country are such matters as citizenship, and the naturalization and revocation of citizenship. Special care must be taken in dealing with them. Should a person whose application for citizenship proved unsuitable be granted citizenship, it would produce dangerous and fruitless consequences in the long run for the country. Similarly, should a person whose citizenship proved not to be revoked be deprived of his or her citizenship, it is likely that he or she would suffer losses. Moreover, were he or she beneficial to the country, the country would also suffer losses. It is necessary to have precise and correct censuses of the people residing in our country when it comes to drawing plans needed for establishing the State into a modern and developed one. Only when the plans drawn on the ground of the precise and comprehensive population records are implemented will success be achieved.

For population data to be precise and correct, the State conducts population inquests and takes census at times. In doing so, census is taken by fixing date and time for the population record of a country. As it is natural that people are born and dead, the comprehensive population records are to be compiled through a calculation of the annual population record with the rate of annual population growth. In doing so, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities provides necessary assistance. Based on the official population records collected by the Immigration and Population Department, the rate of annual population growth is figured out and fixed in line with the internationally accepted methods in cooperation with invited experts of relevant fields. Among the people residing in our country are citizen by birth, those who are granted citizenship and foreigners. The Immigration and Population Department is now taking charge of carrying out the management of registration and census.

Now, I have presented the matters relevant to citizenship, the neutralization and revocation of citizenship, census, national registration, which are involved with all the people residing in the country. Therefore, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the said matters.

Respected Chairman,

I will continue to clarify matters related to titles and honourary awards, which are included in the management sector. Since the time when we, Myanmar people, lived under our own rule, the kings, heads of State, praised those from ministers and commanders down to servants by conferring appropriate titles, honourary awards on them for their excellent service to the country. Religious titles were also conferred on members of the Sangha who deserved them. Rules are promulgated regarding honourary titles and medals in every independent and sovereign nation. It is usual that the leadership of a country decorates appropriate persons on great occasions and on days of great significance.

Also in our country from the post-independence period to date, the Government designates honourary titles and medals depending on time and condition in order to award those for their excellent performance in administrative or social or economic spheres. The leadership of the State has a tradition of decorating appropriate persons with honourary titles and medals on days of great significance. Religious titles are also designated and conferred on appropriate members of the Sangha and lay persons. As for military titles and medals, the honourary titles and medals to be decorated by Head of State himself, are also awarded by the President.

The President of the State will assume the responsibility as the Head of State when the new Constitution has been formulated in our country. Therefore, it should be included in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, in connection with the honourary titles and medals to be awarded by the President.

Respected Chairman,

Matters covered by the Management Sector that should be included in the Union Legislative list may be put together as follows:

1. General administration
2. Management of village and urban areas
3. House rent and land rent
4. Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances
5. State secrets
6. Associations
7. Prisons
8. Border area development
9. Census
10. Citizenship, naturalization, revocation of citizenship, citizenship scrutiny and registration
11. Titles and decorations

I have clarified the above matters for the National Convention delegates to discuss and make suggestion on whether to lay down the detailed basic principles to include in the Union Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary.

Respected Chairman,

I will now explain the management matter that should be included in the Region or State Legislative list to enact laws, if necessary.

I will clarify the human settlement and housing development matters and development affairs covered by the management sector. Human settlement and housing development and development affairs are related to each other. Their functions take care of the way of living, welfare, convenience and physical and spiritual well-being of the people residing in the development area. So, their tasks require to keep in touch with the public daily. These tasks include development of the human settlements; building, repair, maintenance and demolition of houses; removal, shifting and settlement of squatters, building, repair and maintenance of roads and bridges; establishment, repair and maintenance of parks, gardens, playgrounds and rest and recreation centres; street lights, water supply and sanitation; building, repair, maintenance and management of markets; and enforcement of discipline to be followed by motor vehicles and slow-moving vehicles and roadside shops. These tasks can be speedily, effectively and successfully carried out if permission is granted to do so according to the time and circumstances within the officially designated development areas in the Regions or States. Hence, it should be included in the Region or State Legislative list to enact laws, if necessary, in connection with these tasks.

Respected Chairman,

I will clarify the honorary titles and decorations included in the management sector. As I have explained above, there will be honourary titles and medals awarded by the President or the Head of State. Similarly, the respective Prime Ministers of the Region or State will also occasionally confer titles and medals on whom honour is due. It should be included in the Region or State Legislative list to enact laws, as necessary, to enable the Prime Ministers of the Region or State concerned to do so under the topic, ‘titles and decorations’.

Respected Chairman,

Management matters that should be included in the Region or State Legislative list may be put together as follows:

1. Development affairs
2. Human settlement and housing development
3. Honourary titles and medals

Hence, National Convention delegates are to discuss and make suggestions on whether to lay down the detailed basic principles to include in the Region or State Legislative list concerning the above matters. — MNA
It is necessary to build ... 
(a page 16)

Based on the results of this success-
tive teachers, engineers at the REAC,
ological framework. Getting the uni-
and their counterparts.

Thus the Higher Education Sector, in conformity with the Higher Education Sector for its achievement in "accessibil-
bility", quality and unification with the aims and objectives of the Special Four-Year Plan for enhancing educa-
tion and those of the Long-Term Thirty-Year Plan, which is now in the process of being implemented.

To establish such a university, we must develop up opportu-
nities for the nurturing of human resources, the number of universities and colleges has been increased and set up in almost all capital towns and Divisions. At the same time standards have been raised with comprehensive teaching programmes and curricula that offer not only post-
graduate doctorates and master of research degrees, but also other kinds of educational courses.

Moreover, Centres for Human Resource Development have been established, which offer undergraduate and post-
graduate diplomas and other vocational and professional training courses. Some of these centres have been set up such as the New Century Resource Centre, the Resource Centre for Ancient Myanmar Manuscripts (RCAMM) and the New Century Biotechnology Develop-
ment Centre. We have been able to open not only these new centres which are the foundation for advanced studies, but have also been making preparations to open up an Online education system—that is a Web-based Teaching System for some Master of Science degree courses.

But this is not all. Research studies of the scientific research departments and research laboratories have accelerated so that its results can be applied with fruitful results.

If we should review what has been done to raise the quality of education, it will be seen that syllabi have been revised and new syllabi provided to enhance teaching and learning in post graduate masters and master of research courses and in doctoral degree programmes. In addition, both the equipment and facilities for IT are provided for application. Moreover international research seminars and international education seminars are regularly held. Scholars and academics are given opportunities to attend seminars abroad to present their papers and research work is being carried out in collaboration with other international think tanks and research organiza-
tions.

Moreover to provide choices and opportunities to study many disciplines as well as to enable specialization in sub-
jects of a particular field, a new elective system has been introduced in the country's future education. There are also multidisciplinary studies for post-graduate courses and many research opportunities for regional development and for fulfilling regional needs. Curricula and syllabi have accord-
ingly been revised and refurbished.

For the smooth and systematic functioning of these innovative programmes workshops and seminars on educa-
tion, as well as conferences and implementation centres, of the plans and programmes for Promotion of National Education are held regularly. The fact that we have been able to hold such forums where thorough discussions take place with a free exchange of ideas and the cooperative efforts in their implementation and the results have been rewarding. The successes achieved are there for all to see.

To look forward to the development of univer-
sities and colleges, it will be seen that 13 new universities were established in the post 1988 period and 17 others were upgraded. So the number of universities in the country today is thirty and the Nor of all universities and colleges in education in higher studies now totals 154 in country today.

Due to the increase in the number of universities and colleges there are over six hundred thousand students who now have access to higher education compared to the 130,000 students in the period before 1988.

In the effort to raise the quality and standard of the education sector, it was considered not enough to enhance education only in the states and divisions where there were already established centres of higher education. There was still gaps in some regions, which were still in need of development. So in order to fill these gaps in progress and growth throughout the country, 24 special regions were demarcated for further development. The development of regional universities, colleges and vocational institutes and colleges the young people of all national race groups living across the country now have opportunities to continue their studies in higher education without leaving their native lands.

Then, a study of the courses available in universities and colleges will also show that in the period before 1988, there were only 50 different undergraduate and post graduate classes, whereas there are now 157 courses including those for the doctorate degree. If we should add the 40 different undergraduate and postgraduate diploma courses that are now offered by the Centres for Human Resources Development, there are now a total of nearly 160 different courses on offer today.

In order to enhance the quality of teaching and learning and to provide opportunities to continue their education irrespective of their age, or educational level of the Higher Education Department in collaboration with universities and colleges has established teaching and learning centres based on distance learning, open learning, and distance education technology and through the use of the computer network.

Firm foundations have also been laid for widespread use of Information and Communications Technology with the establishment today of three learning centres, 143 computer training centres, 49 e-Education resource centres, many Multi-media lecture rooms, conference rooms and ComputerAided language learning Centre.

Furthermore, because VSAT Networks have been installed in 56 locations in the education departments and universities and colleges, there is now access to e-mail, internet, multimedia and video conferencing.

So, because the Higher Education Sector’s goal for “ac-
ceptibility, quality and diversity” is now a reality, we should take advantage of the favourable time and conditions to move the momentum achieved so far forward and to strive for further promotion in the Promotion for National Education by successfully fulfilling the goals of the Long Term Thirty Year Plan.

The world today is a rapidly changing one, where we will have to face and overcome many challenges and at the same time protect and enhance our national interests for now and for the future. To face and overcome these challenges and to protect our national interest we require educational pro-
grammes that are broad enough to encompass all fields of knowledge and advanced technology.

But at the same time we should all be aware that it is most vital in confronting and overcoming these problems is a positive and-resolute national outlook.

I most sincerely wish for the learned scholars and teachers present to do their best for the development of an education system that is firmly based on the requirements of our country and which will be of serious consideration to the welfare of all of our peoples. In other words it must be an education system, which is in accord with our national policy and is capable of realizing our national objectives and laying the foundation for an absolutely secure future for our country and our people to stand shoulder to shoulder with other nations with pride and dignity as a sovereign and independent country.

Moreover, the promotion of the development of science and technology in the country; to constantly nurture human resources of high calibre in all regions and sectors and to strive for the successful achievement of the targets of the Thirty Year Thirty Year Education Plan.

To look forward to the establishment of a Learning Society will be realized in Myanmar.

The National Convention is now in process. So the country has systemically embarked on the first stage of the Seven-stage Road Map for the emergence of a democratic state and a firm and sound government that will ensure a stable future State; a State that will respect each one's principles and policies. Therefore with a view directed to-
towards the emergence of a modernized and developed state in the future I would like to urge the members of the education sector to do their duty and contribute to the successful conduct and outcome of the National Convention.

In conclusion, I would like to call upon all present: To make every effort to enhance the quality of National Education, so that the Union of Myanmar can stand shoulder to shoulder with other nations with pride and dignity as a sovereign and independent country.

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NCCC Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents a gift to a delegate undergoing medical treatment. — MNA

NCCC Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein asks after delegates undergoing medical treatment

YANGON, 20 May—Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Than Huy of the Ministry of Defence and officials, asked after the condition of delegates to the Convention who are undergoing medical treatment at the hospital at Nyaungnapin Camp, Hmawby Township, this evening.

On arrival at the hospital, NCCC Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party were welcomed by Director (Treatment) of Health Department Dr Tin Win Maung, Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint, hospital in-charge Dr Khin Khin Yi, specialists and health staff.

NCCC Chairman Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party enquired after the condition of delegates undergoing medical treatment.

Delegates seen at the National Convention. — MNA

Delegates sign attendance at the National Convention. — MNA

NCCC Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects welfare shops at the National Convention. — MNA

Delegates enter the National Convention. — MNA

National Convention Plenary ...

(from page 16)

People’s Liberation Organization (Ya La La Pha), New Mon State Party, Democratic Kayin Buddhist Association (DKBA), Haunghayaw Special Region Group, Phayagon Special Region Group, Shan State National Army, Burma Communist Party (Rakhine Group), Homein Region Welfare and Development Group, Shwepyiaye (MTA) Group, Maapan Regional Militia Group, Mon Armed Peace Group (Chuangchi Region), Mon Splinter Nai Saik Chan Group and Arakanese Army (AA) which exchanged arms for peace.

Before the plenary session of the National Convention, the delegates signed in the attendance registers. NCC Commission Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein chaired the National Convention Plenary Session and Secretary of the NCC Commission Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Huan emceed it.

The emcee announced the start of the meeting as there were 1,072 out of 1,088 listed accounting for 98.53 per cent. The National Convention Convening Work Committee clarified matters concerning the detailed basic principles for the management sector. The Plenary Session went into recess later in the morning. (The sector-wise clarification of the National Convention Convening Work Committee is reported separately.) The Plenary Session continues tomorrow. — MNA

Principles and detailed basic principles laid down in plenary meetings of National Convention clarified

YANGON, 20 May—The Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee clarified the principles and detailed basic principles laid down in the plenary meetings of the National Convention till 30 March 1996 to delegates to the National Convention at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township at 2 pm today. Also present on the occasion were members of National Convention Convening Work Committee and Management Committee and the delegates.

Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung and Secretary U Thaung Nyunt presided over the meeting and Director (Meeting) U Than Aung acted as master of ceremonies.

Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung explained 104 basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down in the plenary meetings of the National Convention till 30 March 1996. Later, Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe gave the concluding remarks. — MNA

NCCWC Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung and Secretary U Thaung Nyunt preside over the meeting. — MNA

Delegates arrive at the National Convention. — MNA

Sein and Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin clarified the social sector, and the meeting went into recess. The meeting resumed at 10:25 pm. Member of the Work Committee Supreme Court Justice U Tin Aye made clarification to the matters concerning the detailed basic principles for the management sector. The Plenary Session went into recess later in the morning. (The sector-wise clarification of the National Convention Convening Work Committee is reported separately.) The Plenary Session continues tomorrow. — MNA
### UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Solar Generator, Under Ground Signalling Cable, and Glass Fibre Insulation Rail Joint 75 Lbs which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr No.</th>
<th>Tender No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>14/T/MR(S&amp;T)</td>
<td>Solar Generator 19.8 V, 55 W</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>Nos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>14/T/2/MR(S&amp;T)</td>
<td>Under Ground Signalling Cable (25 mm x 19C)</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>Meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>14/T/1/MR(S&amp;T)</td>
<td>Under Ground Signalling Cable (25 mm x 27C)</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>Meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>14/T/4/MR(S&amp;T)</td>
<td>Glass Fibre Insulation Rail Joint 75 Lbs</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Sets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closing Date: 23.6.2004 (Wednesday) (12.00) Hours
Opening Date: 23.6.2004 (Wednesday) (14.00) Hours
For Sr. No. (1.2.3.4)

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51 Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 20.5.2004 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 201555 Ext: 602, 605, 612.

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon.

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### Trade Mark Caution

**THAI** NG OY RY (19) 1855/TREMCOR INCORPORATED a Company incorporated in United States of America, of 3735 Green Road Beachwood, Ohio 44122. U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

M O N O
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in respect of "Sealing compositions for channel glassing, bedding, coating and the like, the sealing compositions containing organic acrylic polymer having enduring elasticity."

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 TREMCO INCORPORATED
P. O. Box 60, Yangon.

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### Thailand opens fruit, vegetable export centre

**BANGKOK** 19 May — A fruit and vegetable export centre has been launched in Thailand to become an international point to distribute local vegetable products, said Deputy Commerce Minister Pongsak Ruatkopan.

Pongsak was quoted by the Thai News Agency saying Wednesday that the so-called ‘One-Stop Service Export Centre, or POSSEC, was considered the most modern export centre in the region.

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### Japan aims to bolster 7 promising industries

**TOKYO** 20 May — The Japanese government plans to boost the development of seven industries to increase the size of their markets to about 300 trillion yen (2.65 trillion US dollars) by 2010, the major newspaper, Yomiuri Shimbun, said Tuesday.

To reach this goal, the Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry has come up with an economic programme known as “Strategy for Creating New Industries,” designed to make the seven sectors a driving force for the economy in the 21st century, the paper said.

The spectrum encompasses digital home appliances, fuel cells, robots, entertainment software, the health and welfare fields, environment and energy fields as well as business services. The total market value currently stands at 205 trillion yen (1.81 trillion dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

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### Thai MP calls for more parliamentary support to “IT” development

**BANGKOK** 20 May — President of the National Assembly of Thailand Uthai Pimchaisong on Monday called on world parliaments to give more support to the development of global information and communication technology (ICT).

Parliaments of different countries should build up related ICT networks to exchange information and data, which can overcome language problems and obstacles posed by different communication systems, the MP said at the opening ceremony of the second General Assembly of the International Parliametnarians’ Association for Information Technology.

He said the meeting itself should serve as a driving force for governments to strengthen information infrastructure both at national and international levels, so as to achieve the ultimate goal of providing people with equal access to the technology.

Uthai also noted that there is a growing “digital divide” between developed and developing countries that threatens to undermine the shared goal of a truly interdependent information society.

MNA/Xinhua

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### Shanghai to expand rail transport networks

**SHANGHAI** 20 May — City design officials in Shanghai said that the traffic management department was considering a plan to connect Shanghai with the neighbouring cities in the Yangtze River delta through rail transport systems.

Lu Ximing, president of the Institute of Shanghai City Transport Research, said the planned rail transport will cover areas within 150 to 200 kilometres from Shanghai. Suzhou, a famous tourist resort some 100 kilometres west of Shanghai, was likely to be the first city connected to the rail transport system, said Zhu Husheng, board chair of Shanghai Subway Construction Co., Ltd.

MNA/Xinhua
A US study finds sodas raise cancer risk

WASHINGTON, 20 May — A new study suggests that drinking carbonated drinks may raise the risk of esophageal cancer.

Several studies presented at a meeting of cancer and gastrointestinal experts in New Orleans showed that what people eat and drink could affect a range of cancers.

This research supports the widespread medical recommendations for healthy eating,” said Dr. Lee Kaplan of Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston. A team at Tata Memorial Hospital in India found a strong correlation between the rise in per capita consumption of carbonated soft drinks in the past 50 years and a documented increase in rates of esophageal cancer in the United States.

Team members studied US Department of Agriculture data to find that per capita consumption of carbonated drinks rose by more than 450 percent, from 10.8 gallons on average in 1946 to 49.2 gallons in 2000. And over the past 25 years, the number of esophageal cancers have risen by more than 570 percent in White American men and women, and 13,900 US men and women in 2003 — more than 10,000 men — and killed almost all of them, according to the American Cancer Society.

The number of esophageal cancer cases clearly followed the rise in intake of carbonated soft drinks, the researchers found. That could be coincidental, but they also found research that showed a possible biological basis for the effect. Carbonated soft drinks cause the stomach to distend, which in turn causes the gastric reflux associated with esophageal cancer.

The researchers found similar trends worldwide.

Arctic temperatures warming rapidly

OTTAWA, 20 May — Summer temperatures in the Arctic have risen at an incredible rate over the past three years and large patches of what should be ice are now open water, a British polar explorer said on Monday.

Ben Saunders, honorary research fellow at the University of Westminster, said he had been amazed at how much of the ice had melted.

“It’s obvious to me that things are changing a lot and changing very quickly,” Saunders told The Globe and Mail. “It’s not just that the ice is melting, but there are changes to the weather patterns, including more storms, less wind, and the overall warming of the Arctic.”

A feeding ship collapses in Shanghai

Shanghai, 20 May — Three people were killed and five others injured in a feeding ship collapse that occurred on Monday in a foundry in east China’s Shanghai Municipal, a local government official confirmed Tuesday.

A feeding ship of the Dongfang 800, based in the Jinshan District, suddenly collapsed at 2:30 Monday in the course of trial production, destroying several workshops and burying three workers on duty.

Bodies of the three killed workers had been recovered.

A team of experts has been formed to investigate the cause of the accident.

Greece’s tourist arrivals forecast to drop significantly this year

ATHENS, 20 May — Tourist arrivals are expected to decline by 5-8 percent this year, the Hellenic Telecommunications Organization (POET) said on Monday, while its members predicted an even larger decline in tourist foreign exchange revenues.

An annual general assembly held by POET members is expected to consider a new packing measure to improve coordination between state authorities and services.

Tourism Deputy Minister Anastasios Liakos reiterated the government’s willingness to promote tourism as a way of counteracting growth and added that authorities were currently drafting a new tourist development policy.

Japan rejects Peru’s request on Fujimori

LIMA, 20 May — Japan rejected Peru’s request Tuesday that former Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori should testify through teleconference as a witness in a trial against Vladimir Montesinos.

Such an interrogation was an interference in Japanese sovereignty, Nita Gamas, a Japanese official was quoted as saying.

Montesinos, jailed at El Callao, was Fujimori’s former aide and chief of the defunct National Intelligence Service (SIN).

He had requested Fujimori to declare as a witness in a trial on payments to former owner of television channels, who backed Fujimori’s reelection in 2000.

The Peruvian Anti-Corruption Chamber accepted the request and asked the Peruvian Government to take steps to interrogate Fujimori, who has been in exile in Japan since 2000 and was charged with corruption and illegal association.

57th World Health Assembly Conference opens in Geneva

GENEVA, 20 May — The 57th conference of the World Health Assembly (WHA) opened at the Palais des Nations here on Monday.

The WHA is the supreme decision-making body of the World Health Organization (WHO), which has a total of 192 members.

The conference is scheduled to end on Saturday.

Key issues including HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, road safety, a proposed strategy on diet, and physical activity and health will top the agenda of the conference.

WHO Director-General Lee Jong-wook, former South Korean president Kim Dae-jung and former US president Jimmy Carter will address the conference.

A Chinese delegation, led by Vice-Minister of Health Gao Qiang, also attended the six-day conference.

China to build “underground city”

BEIJING, 20 May — Shanghai will build a 60,000-square-metre “underground city”, the Jiefang Daily reported Monday. The Shanghai-based newspaper said that the multi-level “underground city”, four-storey high in some places, will be equipped with stores, garages, restaurants and all kinds of entertainment centres and facilities.

The “underground city”, to be completed in 2006, has been listed as a major scientific and technological programme by the Shanghai Municipal Government and is inviting public bidding, the paper said.
Leeds reject two Man Utd bids for Smith

**LONDON, 20 May —** Leeds United have rejected two offers from Manchester United for striker Alan Smith, the relegated club said on Tuesday. Manchester United bid 3.5 million pounds (6.2 million US dollars) and 5.5 million pounds for the player who has scored 10 league goals this season, the Leeds web site said.

Leeds turned down both bids because they did not meet their valuation of Smith, who has made it clear he will leave his home town club following their relegation from the English Premier League. “He is worth far more than what Manchester United are prepared to pay for him and both offers were rejected immediately,” a Leeds statement said on their web site. Media has reported Smith as saying he would like to play in Italy or Spain but had not discounted the possibility of joining Manchester United, one of Leeds’ biggest rivals. Smith missed out on a place in Sven Goran Eriksson’s 23-man squad for Euro 2004 named on Monday but has been told to stay on stand-by in case of injuries. Manchester United were not available to comment. — MNA/Reuters

Eriksson voices England shortcomings

**LONDON, 20 May —** England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson says his squad for next month’s European championship in Portugal has shortcomings in goal and up front.

“David James has done well and I have great faith in him but we don’t have a Gordon Banks figure in goal,” Eriksson was quoted as saying in British newspapers on Wednesday. Banks was the goalkeeper when England won the 1966 World Cup on home soil.

The Swede said there was a gap in class between first choice James and his deputies, Paul Robinson and Ian Walker. “Beyond James there isn’t a whole lot of a void in the position, which is unusual for England, who have a tradition of great goalkeepers,” added Eriksson.

Eriksson, who named strikers Michael Owen, Wayne Rooney, Emile Heskey and Darius Vassell in his Euro 2004 squad on Monday, also believes England lack depth up front. “It’s our attack which is our weak point. We don’t have as much cover as in other positions,” he said.

“Owen is our top man. He’s had injury problems and was not scoring for a while but he has recovered and he’s at his best in the big games.”

“When we have Rooney, with his imagination and intelligence. But apart from those two, we don’t have world class strikers,” Eriksson said.

However, Eriksson said his squad was strong in defence and midfield. “Our defenders are strong and our midfielders brave and skilful,” he said.

Steven Gerrard is an excellent left-sided midfielder and we have selected him on his merit. England, who fell at the first hurdle at Euro 2000 but reached the World Cup quarter-finals two years later, open their campaign in Euro 2004 Group B as holders against holders France on June 13 before facing Switzerland and Croatia.

Eriksson must submit his official squad for Portugal by June 2. — MNA/Reuters

Blatter honoured by Chirac

**PARIS, 20 May —** FIFA President Sepp Blatter has been named a Knight of the French Legion of Honour by the President Jacques Chirac, soccer’s governing body said on Tuesday.

Chirac bestowed the title upon Blatter at a ceremony held in the Elysee Palace in Paris.

Napoleon Bonaparte created the French Legion of Honour in 1802 to reward military achievements or other forms of extraordinary service to the State.

Knight is the leading rank. — MNA/Reuters

Bayern coach to leave at the weekend

**BERLIN, 20 May —** Bayern Munich coach Ottmar Hitzfeld will leave the 2003 German champions at the end of this season after a last-minute campaign in which they failed to win a trophy, the club said on Tuesday.

Germany’s most successful club ended weeks of speculation with a statement saying Saturday’s game against SC Freiburg, which wraps up the team’s Bundesliga season, would be Hitzfeld’s last as Bayern’s coach.

The decision follows a disappointing season in which Bayern were knocked out of the Champions League and domestic cup but still won the league title.

Hitzfeld, Germany’s most successful club coach ever, said he would have to stay until his contract expired at the end of the 2004/05 season but realized after talking with executive director Uli Hoeness that it was impossible. “Uli Hoeness told me the club had decided otherwise,” he told German television following a friendly match in Hungary.

“I have always been a fighter and would have liked to carry on, even though there would have been a lot of pressure. But the club didn’t want it because the pressure would have been immense,” he added.

“Maybe if we’d won against Bremen and Stuttgart, the situation would have been different.”

Hitzfeld, 55, has been at Bayern since 1998 and led the club to four Bundesliga titles and two German Cups as well as a Champions League triumph in 2001 after they lost the final in a dramatic finale to Manchester United 2-1 in 1999. — MNA/Reuters

West Ham to play Crystal Palace in playoff final

**LONDON, 20 May —** West Ham United will face Crystal Palace in an all-London first division playoff final at the Millennium Stadium this month after a 2-0 win over Ipswich Town on Tuesday night put them through to the Premier League after second-half goals from midfielders Matthew Etherington and defender Christian Dailly gave them a deserved victory in a tough battle with their Suffolk visitors.

“The players’ performance tonight was exceptional and I don’t think anyone would want to be in our position,” West Ham manager Alan Pavard said as he looked forward to battling with Palace manager Ian Bowes’ team on May 29.

“The prize is probably the biggest in English football right now,” he added. “There are two good teams in the final and they will put on a great show.”

West Ham took control after a goalless first half in which Steve Lomas clipped the Ipswich bar with a fierce first-time effort and Town’s goalkeeper Kevin Davis made impressive saves from a Bobby Zamora header and a long-range Dailly free-kick.

The home side took the lead five minutes after the break when Etherington fired a left-foot shot into the top corner from the edge of the 18-metre box giving Davis no chance. — MNA/Reuters

Sparta Prague win Czech Cup to deny Ostrava double

**PRAGUE, 20 May —** Petr Jihoka scored six minutes from full time to give Sparta Prague a 2-1 win against league champions Ostrava in the Czech-Moravian Cup final on Tuesday.

Jan Rezek also scored for the Prague side in the first ever cup final between teams placed first and second in the Czech league.

It was Sparta’s first cup win since 1996, and their 15th overall including results from the former Czechoslovakia.

Ostrava, who trailed 1-0 until Mario Licka’s 56th minute shot drew his team level, won the league title by five points over Sparta, who had won the title in 10 of the previous 11 seasons.

Ostrava had been looking to become the first club to win a Cup-League double since Sparta accomplished the feat in 1989. — MNA/Reuters

Arsenal's Thierry Henry, of France, poses with his Golden Boot trophy (L) and the Player of the Year award, ahead of the Martin Keown testimonial soccer match between Arsenal and an England Selected XI at Highbury, on 17 May, 2004. — INTERNET

Marcel Desailly, Robert Pires, Patrick Vieira, Zinedine Zidane, and Claude Makele, from left, jog during a training session in Clairefontaine, west of Paris, on 18 May, 2004. France will play a friendly soccer match against Brazil on 20 May. Others are unidentified. — INTERNET

Sylvain Wiltord will leave this month after a 2-0 win over the former Czechoslovakia. — MNA/Reuters

West Ham's Ireland striker David Connolly has announced that the club has signed a 12-month deal with the striker over the next season. — MNA/Reuters

Sparta Prague's Petr Jihoka, left, celebrates with teammates after scoring against Ostrava during the Czech Cup final at the Ostravar Arena, Ostrava, on 17 May, 2004. — MNA/Reuters
Wellwishers invited for sinking tube-wells

YANGON, 20 May — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-24542 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaying Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Myagway Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division Development Affairs Committee) (Tel: 02-546657).

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**WEATHER**

**Thursday, 20 May, 2004**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, southwest monsoon has advanced into the central Myanmar areas. Rain has been widespread in the whole country with isolated heavyfalls in Shan, Chin, Kayah States, Bago and Tanintharyi Divisions, locally heavyfalls in Rakhine State, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions. The noteworthy amount of rainfalls recorded were Puning (7.56 inches), Homalin (5.94 inches), Ann (5.94 inches), Minsud (5.51 inches), Thandwe (5.39 inches), Kale (5.04 inches), Tanzang (3.90 inches), Pyinmaw (3.35 inches), Dawei (3.23) inches and Loikaw (3.07) inches.

Maximum temperature on 19-5-2004 was 30.0°C (86°F). Minimum temperature on 20-5-2004 was 20.0°C (68°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 20-5-2004 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 19-5-2004 was nil. Rainfall on 20-5-2004 was 15mm (0.58 inches) at Yangon Airport, 24 mm (0.95 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 46 mm (1.81 inches) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 263 mm (10.35 inches) at Yangon Airport and 260 mm (10.24 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 314 mm (12.36 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from West at (08:00) hours MST on 20-5-2004.

Bay inference: Yesterday’s severe cycloidal storm over North Bay has crossed Rakhine coast near Sittwe and weekend. Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 21-5-2004: Rain will be scattered in Kachin, Chin States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Shan States, Manda-
lay and Tanintharyi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (100%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Deltaik and Rakhine coast. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent days: Decrease in rain in upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-5-2004: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%). Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-5-2004: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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Significant Water Level Bulletin

(Issued at 1200 hours MST on 20-5-2004)

According to the (063) hrs MST observation today, the water level 804 cm of Ayeyawady River at Myitkyina shows a sharp rise of 259 cm (about 8.5 feet) within 24 hours. The water level will rise sharply about 270 cm (about 9 feet) along the upper Ayeyawady downstream during the next 3 days and about 240 cm (about 8 feet) along the middle Ayeyawady reach during the next 6 days commencing noon today.

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**Don’t smoke**

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**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

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**Minister Maj Gen Hla Tun meets with ADB Chairman Mr Tadano Chino. — FINANCE**

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**Donations**

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**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 21 May, 2004**
It is necessary to build the country’s future with the support of an educational system that is directed towards national development.

MEC Chairman Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses opening of Conference on Promotion of National Education of Higher Education Sector

YANGON, 20 May—Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address at the Conference on the Promotion of National Education of the Higher Education Sector at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road at 8 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, members of MEC, presidents and members of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science and Myanmar History Commission, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, directors-general and chairmen of departments and boards under the Ministry of Education, rectors and faculty members of universities, degree colleges and colleges and librarians.

At the ceremony, Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address. He said:

We are in the age in which advances being made in science and technology internationally, and these advances have...