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

Nationalities have lived together through thick and thin

The nationalities who had descended from the same ancestors have lived together through thick and thin in this country. For thousands of years all our nationals have lived together as equal citizens from the moment of their birth.

All our nationals have the same virtues of truthfulness, honesty, uprightness and straightforwardness, of being hospitable, generous, considerate and sincere. These are in fact our national characteristics.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From the address delivered at the graduation parade of 47th Intake of Defence Services Academy)

Thai Supreme Commander concludes visit

YANGON, 1 Feb—Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand General Chaisit Shinawatra and party left here for home this morning after completion of an official visit to Myanmar. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar (See page 6)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye bids farewell to Royal Thai Armed Forces Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra at the airport. — MNA

IDC doing utmost for development of private industries

Industrial Development Committee holds Meeting No 1/2005

YANGON, 2 Feb—The Industrial Development Committee held coordination meeting No 1/2005 at the Ministry of Industry-1 on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Committee Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Committee ministers and the mayor, members of the (See page 6)

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win addresses coordination meeting No 1/2005 of Industrial Development Committee. — MNA
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

MINISTER RECEIVES

GUESTS: Industry-1

Minister U Aung receives
Chairman of Acras Co of Russian Federation
Mr Kirill A Neklyudov and party at his office on 2-2-2005.

INDUSTRY-1

EP Minister inspects Yeywa Hydro-electric Power Project

YANGON, 2 Feb — Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, accompanied by Director-General of the Hydro-electric Power Department U Win Kyaw and officials, arrived at Yeywa Hydel Electric Project site being implemented in Kyaukse Township, on 31 January and inspected fixing the valves at the diversion tunnel, constructing the foundation of the main dam, construction of the retaining walls, building the hydro-electric power plant and construction tasks of reinforced concrete mixer. The minister gave instructions on meeting the set standard, minimizing loss and wastage and proper use and maintenance of heavy machinery.

Afterwards, the minister and party proceeded to the quarry and inspected construction of the tarred road to Yeywa Project.

Next, the minister and party arrived at Shwesayan Sub-power Station in Pathinpyai. The Minister gave instructions on earlier completion of the tasks than the scheduled time. — MNA

Tatmadaw Medical Conference 9-11 Feb

YANGON, 2 Feb — The 13th Myanmar Tatmadaw Medical Conference will be held at Defence Services Orthopaedic & Reconstructive Surgery Hospital (500-bed) in Mingaladon from 9 to 11 February.

Physicians, house surgeons, cadets of Defence Services Medical Academy, nursing cadets and other interested persons wishing to attend the conference may contact the Academic director of DSMA (Tel: 03135063), the record officer of 1,000-bed Defence Services General Hospital (Tel: 03135079), the record officer of 500-bed No 2 Military Hospital (Tel: 03131253) or the record officer of 500-bed DSORSH (Tel: 03135109) beginning 1 February to the date before the start of the conference. — MNA

UMFCCI President meets Israeli Ambassador

YANGON, 1 Feb — President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and General Secretary U Sein-Win Hlaing met Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ruth Schatz at the UMFCCI Building yesterday morning. At the meeting, enhancement for exchange of economic information between the two countries, providing assistance on economic technologies concerning agricultural service, sending private entrepreneurs to Israel for studying and joining training courses, exchange of trade delegations and their participation in trade fairs were cordially discussed. — MNA

All this needs to be known

- Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- Do not be bothered whenever flattered
- Do not be softened whenever appeased
Indonesia, Japan FTA to boost ASEAN-Japan free trade

JAKARTA, 1 Feb.—“The bilateral trade agreement (between Indonesia and Japan) would accelerate the trade process in establishing ASEAN-Japan FTA,” the Ministry of Trade’s director-general for international cooperation Pos Hutabarat was quoted Tuesday by The Jakarta Post newspaper as saying.

Officials from both countries met here Monday to hold preliminary talks on bilateral FTA, whereas the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is scheduled in April to start trade liberalization talks with Japan.

Monday’s meeting, discussed among other things, the cost and benefits of establishing an Indonesia-Japan FTA, Pos said, adding that he has yet to make a formal calculation on how the FTA would boost trade between the two countries. The meeting is the first of three scheduled sets of talks ahead of formal negotiations for a preferential trade agreement. The preliminary talks will produce a full-scale assessment on FTA in mid-April to be submitted to relevant ministers of the two countries, Pos said.

Afterward, the ministers will determine whether or not an Indonesia-Japan FTA is needed, and if it is deemed necessary, they will decide when negotiations will start, he explained.

The meeting is expected to explore import duties, labour regulations, immigration, taxation, trade facilitation and investment issues in both countries.

A bilateral trade agreement is considered a faster measure than FTAs in establishing trade between nations compared to deals involving more than two countries. According to Pos, neighbouring countries are ahead of Indonesia in establishing FTAs with Japan. Singapore and the Philippines have already signed such agreements, but only the city-state has implemented the deal as the Philippines is still straightening out several technical details.—MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia reports increase in natural gas reserves

JAKARTA, 1Feb.—Indonesia’s natural gas reserves have risen by 7.45 trillion standard cubic feet (TCF) thanks to new reserves found in either new sites or existing fields, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has revealed.

The ministry’s director of natural gas Novian Thaib was quoted Monday by The Jakarta Post newspaper as saying that the new findings were discovered during exploration operations in a number of fields across the country. “With the new findings, gas reserves in the country stand at 188.34 TCF,” Novian said.

However, he fell short of providing details as to which fields have additional reserves, saying the data is still being drawn up by the ministry.

Separately, the oil and gas upstream regulatory agency (BP Migas) deputy director Zamal Achmad said that among the revised reserves is the Masela field in Maluku Province, currently operated by Japanese company Inpex Corporation.

“It is not a new gas field, but we have found substantial additional reserves other than that which we certified,” he said.—MNA/Xinhua

Philippines to prepare for illegal workers deportation from Malaysia

MANILA, 1 Feb.—The Philippine Government has deployed a repatriation task force to Malaysia to prepare for the mass deportation of some 500,000 illegal Filipino workers from Sabah, eastern Malaysia, on Tuesday.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Jose Brillantes said on Monday that former Philippine lawmaker Nurhaq was designated as special representative to Kuala Lumpur and head of the inter-agency task force contacting Malaysian officials for the possibility of a one-month extension of amnesty for those illegal Filipino workers.

Brillantes said that the Philippine Government will give an “orderly repatriation of all undocumented migrants in Malaysia upon the expiration of the amnesty programme”.

“But all measures are now in place in order to ensure that all Filipinos are going to be received properly. The government has adequately prepared for this and has come up with measures to anticipate the expected influx of Filipinos in Malaysia,” Brillantes said.

He also said that those who will be deported could go back to Sabah provided that they have the necessary work permits and travel documents.

Most of the Filipinos working without permits in Malaysia are from the poor areas of Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi.—MNA/Xinhua

1,434 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 1 Feb.—As of Tuesday, 1 February, 2005, at least 1,434 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,096 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said.

The AP count includes four military civilians and is three higher than the Defense Department’s tally, last updated at 10 am EST Tuesday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,296 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 987 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 10,770 US servicemen have been wounded in hostile action, according to a Defence Department tally released Tuesday.—Internet

US soldiers plead guilty to Iraq abuse

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb.—Two US soldiers have pleaded guilty to charges of abusing Iraqi inmates at Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad.

Sgt Javal Davis on Tuesday admitted to stomping on the fingers and toes of a group of seven bound and hooded prisoners in November 2003. Other guards then undressed the prisoners and stacked them into a naked human pyramid.

In a separate case also heard at the military base in Texas, military intelligence soldier Spec. Roman Krol pleaded guilty to pouring water on prisoners as they crawled naked on the floor and throwing a football at them.

The military judge sentenced him to 10 months in prison, reduced his rank to private and gave him a bad conduct discharge.

HKUST,USTB strengthen ties

HONG KONG, 1 Feb.—The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) and the University of Science and Technology Beijing (USTB) on Monday signed an agreement to promote academic exchange and research collaboration.

HKUST President Paul Chu and USTB President Xu Jinwu sealed the agreement at a ceremony held at HKUST.

Under the agreement, HKUST and USTB will collaborate in teaching and research in various fields, including materials science and engineering, mechanical engineering, computer science and engineering, electronic engineering, civil and environmental engineering, chemical engineering and bio-engineering.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan’s electronics giant Sharp unveils the world’s largest 65-inch sized LCD television set Aquos last October in Tokyo. Sharp said it posted record sales and profits in the nine months to December on continued robust demand for liquid crystal display (LCD) televisions and camera-equipped cellphones, despite slower exports.—INTERNET
Saudi Arabia to host first global anti-terror conference

ABU DHABI, 31 Jan— Saudi Arabia is to host the first global anti-terror conference in the capital Riyadh on February 5-8, the Arab News reported on Saturday.

Delegates from 49 countries, including the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Russia, as well as representatives of several international organizations will participate in the four-day event.

The conference will discuss ways to eradicate the root cause of global terrorism and measures to help tackle money laundering as well as drug and arms smuggling.

Official sources said the conference will underline the Saudi Government’s call for joint international efforts to confront and root out terrorism and address reasons that lead to the spread of the dangerous phenomenon and freeze its financial sources.

The discussions will focus on four topics — roots of terrorism, relations between terrorism and drugs, culture of terrorism and relations between terrorism and arms smuggling and money laundering, according to the report.

The participants will also include 14 Arab countries, including Egypt, Yemen, Syria, Morocco, Jordan and Algeria and 14 non-Arab Asian countries, including Japan, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Iran and the Philippines.

Leading international organizations to participate in the event are the United Nations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Arab League, the European Union, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the African Union, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Makkah-based Muslim World League.

MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabwe, South Africa to set up one-stop border post

HARARE, 2 Feb — Zimbabwe and South Africa are soon going to implement a one-stop border post at Beitbridge, The Herald newspaper reported on Tuesday.

The two countries’ immigration authorities are waiting for the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority and the South African Revenue Authority to harmonize their operations in line with the new development, said the paper.

The necessary infrastructure at the entry and exit points was available needing only minimal additions, Beitbridge principal immigration officer Dennis Chitsaka was quoted as saying. Under the new order, travellers will be cleared just once for passage into either country. — MNA/Xinhua

Mexico, Peru become tourism destinations for Chinese citizens

BEIJING, 31 Jan — Mexico and Peru gained Approved Destination Status (ADS) from the Chinese Government, allowing Chinese tour groups to visit, said an official with China National Tourism Administration on Sunday.

Mexico and the two Latin American nations signed a relevant tourism agreement.

So far, there are six American nations which have gained ADS, with Cuba being the first one in 2003, Brazil, Argentina and Chile followed in 2004.

There are no direct flights between China and the Latin American nations. Passengers have to transfer via North America or Europe.

Chinese airline companies hoped to open direct flights this year by code-sharing cooperation with Latin American carriers.

More than 28.5 million journeys were made by Chinese citizens abroad in 2004. China has become the world’s fastest growing outbound tourism source nation in the world. Chinese group travelers can now visit 63 nations and regions.

MNA/Xinhua

US-led authority did not properly safeguard Iraq’s money

WASHINGTON, 31 Jan— The US-led authority that governed Iraq after the 2003 invasion did not properly safeguard 8.8 billion US dollars of Iraq’s own money and this lack of oversight opened up these funds to corruption, said a US audit released on Sunday.

The US Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction was scathing in criticism of how the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) handled Iraqi money until it handed over power last June to Iraq’s interim government.

“The CPA provided less-than-adequate controls for approximately 8.8 billion US dollars in DFI (Development Fund for Iraq) funds provided to Iraqi ministries through the national budget process,” said the report, released on the same day Iraqis voted in elections.

“We believe the CPA management of Iraq’s national budget process and oversight of Iraqi funds was burdened by severe inefficiencies and poor management,” he said.

DFI is made up of proceeds from Iraq oil sales, frozen assets from foreign governments and surplus from the UN Oil for Food Programme. Its handling has already come under fire by several UN-mandated audits. The report said the CPA failed to ensure funds were not used to pay “ghosts” employees and cited one example where CPA officials authorized payment for about 74,000 guards but only a fraction of theses guards could later be validated. — MNA/Reuters

Fresh foreign investment in Vietnam soars in January

HANOI, 2 Feb — Vietnam licensed 56 foreign-invested projects with aggregate registered capital of 375 million US dollars in January, posting respective year-on-year rises of 12 per cent and 210 per cent.

Vietnam is likely to attract 1.3-1.4 billion dollars in registered capital of new foreign-invested projects and additional capital of existing ones in the first quarter of this year, according to the Ministry of Investment and Planning on Tuesday.

To realize the target of luring 4.5 million dollars worth of foreign investment this year, Vietnam will allow investors to establish capital management firms and partnership companies on a trial basis, shortly publicize the national list of projects calling for foreign investment by 2010, permit localities to license bigger projects, and intensify investment promotion with focus on its key partners and multinationals.

MNA/Xinhua

A British soldier looks on as a Hercules C-130 taxis across the runway at Basra Airport recently. An investigation is underway into the cause of a British military transport plane in Iraq which killed 10 people, in Britain’s biggest single loss of life since the invasion of Iraq.—INTERNET
Chinese scientists grow embryonic stem cells to motor neurons

LOS ANGELES, 1 Feb — Scientists reported Sunday that they coaxed human embryonic stem cells to become spinal motor neurons, critical nervous system pathways that relay messages from the brain to the rest of the body.

The new research, published in the on-line version of the journal Nature Biotechnology, was conducted by Chinese scientists working at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Motor neurons can transmit messages from the brain and spinal cord, dictating almost every movement in the body from the wiggling of a toe to the rolling of an eyeball.

The development is important because it provides critical guideposts for scientists trying to repair damaged or diseased nervous systems, said research leader Su-chun Zhang. One day it may help victims of spinal-cord injuries, or pave the way for novel treatments of degenerative diseases such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease, Zhang said.

Scientists have long believed in the therapeutic promise of embryonic stem cells with their ability to replicate indefinitely and develop into any of the 220 different types of cells and tissues in the body, but they have failed to convert embryonic stem cells into motor neurons.

The goal proved elusive even in mice, whose embryonic stem cells have been available to scientists for decades. One reason may be that they are one of the earliest neural structures to emerge in a developing embryo, Zhang and colleagues said. With the ticking clock of development in mind, Zhang and his team deduced that there is only a thin sliver of time, roughly the third and fourth week of human development, in which stem cells could be successfully prodded to transform themselves into spinal motor neurons.— MNA/Xinhua

Philippines protests US authorities’ ill-treatment of Filipino seamen

MANILA, 1 Feb — The Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Monday protested the American authorities for their ill-treatment of 13 Filipino crewmen working in a US ship when they were taken to a criminal court to testify against the captain.

DFA spokesman Gilbert Asuque said that the 13 Filipino crewmen from the ship MV Katerina were handcuffed and shackled with leg irons after being sub-porned by the United States Attorney’s Office, Central District of California, as material witnesses for the criminal case.

“These are not defence witnesses. These are government witnesses. They invited these people and they still cuffed them. They should show them some courtesy,” he said in a radio interview.

Asuque said that the Filipinos were shackled on November 23, 2004 when they were transported from the Holiday Inn in San Pedro, California, to the US District Court in Los Angeles.

“The Attorney General’s Office said this is standard procedure during criminal cases. We are protesting this,” he said, adding that the Philippine Embassy in Washington D.C. has sent a note to the US Department of State on the ill-treatment.

According to the DFA, the 13 Filipinos earlier agreed to testify against officers of the MV Katerina after being ordered to dump oil waste and garbage at the Port of Long Beach, California, last year.

The vessel was later charged of illegal discharge of oil-contaminated wastes into the ocean and falsification of pollution prevention records. DFA said.— MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to export less coffee this year

HANOI, 1 Feb — Vietnam is expected to export 800,000 tons of coffee this year, down 11.7 per cent over last year, according to the Ministry of Trade on Monday.

The country’s coffee output of the 2004-2005 crop is estimated at around one million tons, lower than that of the previous crop.

The prices of coffee beans in Vietnam now stand at around 637 US dollars per ton, slightly lower than that of the European Union, according to the Ministry of Trade.

The country’s coffee exports to the US are the European Union, Canada, and China are the biggest importers of coffee in Vietnam, mainly robust strain. — MNA/Xinhua

Iraq should build security capacity as soon as possible

BRUSSELS, 31 Jan — Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said here Sunday that Iraq should build its capacity to provide security in the country as soon as possible.

In a statement issued immediately after his coming month’s visit to Iraq, he said: “Iraq’s general elections, the NATO chief said: “They must also develop, as quickly as possible, the capacity to provide for their own security. The international community must do its full part to help.”

“NATO has already begun, by responding to the Iraqi request to train and equip Iraqi security forces, and the alliance will increase that support in the personnel on board. If the casualties are confirmed, it would be the biggest loss of life for British forces since they joined the US-led war against Iraq in March, 2003.

According to the British military, 76 service personnel have been killed in Iraq since the start of the Iraq war.— MNA/Xinhua

Intelectuals, artists call for Denmark to pull its troops from Iraq

COPENHAGEN, 31 Jan— Around 300 intellectuals and artists, including film director Lars von Trier, called for Denmark to pull its troops from Iraq on Saturday on the eve of elections there and just days ahead of a Danish poll. The artists, whose call echoed a demand from a Muslim leader, urged the pullout of Denmark’s about 500 troops in an advertisement in the newspaper Politiken, and called for a demonstration next week.— MNA/Reuters

Japanese woman shovels snow on 1 Feb, 2005 to make a path through the temporary housing complex in the northern Japanese city of Nagaoka where people take refuge after evacuating from their houses severely damaged by a magnitude-6.8 earthquake in October, 2004 and a series of large aftershocks, that killed 29 people and injured over 2,000.— INTERNET

Close-up of a melting glacier on 1 Feb, 2005. Scientists at a global warming conference say they see potential triggers for runaway climate change but admit that when and how these notional doomsdays may be unleashed are debatable or quite unknown.— INTERNET

Nepali PM appreciates Nepal-China cooperation

KATHMANDU, 31 Jan — Nepali Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba spoke highly of the Nepal-China friendship and cooperation here Sunday while inaugurating the new building of Nepal Television that was granted by the Chinese Government.

“The new building of Nepal Television indicates that a new milestone of friendly relations between the governments and peoples of our two countries is being said,” Deuba said.

The Prime Minister also praised the Chinese Government for its incessant generous assistance provided to Nepal, including 77 projects regarding highways, bridges, factories, hospitals, stadium and conference centre, which are in value of 185 million US dollars.— MNA/Xinhua

At least ten British service personnel killed in Iraq plane crash

LONDON, 31 Jan — At least 10 British military personnel were believed to have been killed on Sunday when a Royal Air Force transport plane they were on was shot down and crashed in northwest of Baghdad, the British Press Association reported.

The figure of those killed was around “10”, with it “highly unlikely” to be more than 15, the news agency quoted military sources as reporting.

British Sky TV earlier quoted military sources as reporting that up to 15 British military personnel could have been killed in the crash.

The British Ministry of Defence confirmed earlier in the day that a C-130 Hercules crashed at around 17.25 local time (1425 GMT) some 30 kilometres northwest of the Iraqi capital.

However, it could not provide details on the cause of the crash and the extent of causalities among personnel on board.

If the casualties are confirmed, it would be the biggest loss of life for British forces since they joined the US-led war against Iraq in March, 2003.

According to the British military, 76 service personnel have been killed in Iraq since the start of the Iraq war.— MNA/Xinhua

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 3 February, 2005
Thai Supreme Commander…

Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, Military Attaché Col Prissapa Suvanatat and officials. Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand General Chaisit Shinawatra and delegation arrived at the airport at 9:45 am. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted General Chaisit Shinawatra at the special lounge of the airport. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented documentary album and video tape to the General. Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Chaisit Shinawatra and party left for home and they were seen off by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party.

IDC doing utmost…

Committee and the Work Committee deputy ministers and the vice mayor, officials of respective subcommittees and the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, the chairman of the Industrial Zone Supervisory Committees and members, chairmen of the Industrial Zone Management Committees and members, officials of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, industrialists and guests.

The Prime Minister in his speech said that the Industrial Development Committee has exerted efforts and played an active role in translating the guidance of the Head of State into reality for development of the industrial sector since 2004-2005 fiscal year.

In that regard, success has been achieved to a certain degree, but there remained many things to accomplish, he noted.

The industrial sector has gained growth rate of more than 20 per cent annually in implementing the five-year plan. However, the industrial sector contributes only over 10 per cent to the GDP of the nation. Continued efforts are thus to be made for increasing the rate of the industrial sector, he said.

The private sector is made up of many small scale industries, but constitutes the largest number of the factories and plants as well as the largest volume of output of the items. The private-run factories and mills make up more than 90 per cent in the nation, he said.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon all responsible persons to the industrial sector on the development trend in terms of upgrading small and medium private industries with extended application of modern technologies and helping them to manufacture quality items, he stressed.

The IDC is doing its best to ensure development of the private industries after forming the sub-committee for development of small and medium industries.

The Ministry of Cooperatives is to take measures for improvement of small industries based on the private industrial zones. And it is to give encouragement to all the industrial zones depending on the financial power and standard for ensuring simultaneous development of the zones, he said.

He called on the sub-committees to take steps effectively for the development of the industrial zones through constant review of prevailing situations.

Now, modern foundry plants, forging shops, and forging machines are being constructed in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi Ayethaya industrial zones with the assistance of the government, and they will be put into service at the end of this April.

Preparations are also to be made for improvement of the industrial research and dissemination of techniques and methods. He pledged that the IDC will render necessary assistance for development of the industrial research in the interests of the nation in the long run.

Overall, it is required to pave the correct way for industrial development through brilliant ideas, and only when the industrial sector makes progress at the highest rate in a short time, will it be able to shape the brighter future of the nation, he said.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called for step-by-step upgrading of the industries, needed for the nation, through the powers of technology, innovation, diligence, perseverance and coordination.

Now, modern foundry plants, forging shops, and forging machines are being constructed in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi Ayethaya industrial zones with the assistance of the government, and they will be put into service at the end of this April.
The 58th Anniversary Union Day objectives

- For all national races to safeguard the national policy—non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
- To keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people
- For all national people to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence
- To prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development, and
- For all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme

Minister for Information tours Gangaw Township

YANGON, 2 Feb — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gave a speech to over 1,800 rural people at Mandaing Library in Gangaw Township.

In Kyaw Village of Gangaw Township, he joined local people. At 4.30 pm, he attended the ceremony to open Pyinya Beikman village library in Mezayat Village of Pale Township.

During his inspection tour, USDAs Secretariat and Ministry for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported on progress of building of the factories and plants in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi Ayethaya industrial zones, and in arrival of machines; and Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, on progress of construction of the mould and die making plant, and installation of gas-engines in automobiles.

In response, the Prime Minister gave instructions on coordination of the ministries for further effective implementation of the tasks for speedy development of the industrial zones.

Those in charge of respective industrial zones, Minister U Aung Thaung, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Ministers for Rail Transport Maj-Gen Aung Min, Min. for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Min. for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Min. for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Min. for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported on the needs of respective ministries for further deal with and to give encouragement to the industrial zones. Industrialists also reported on work done for industrial development and requirements. Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Min. Maj-Gen Tin Htut and Minister Brig-Gen Luoi Thi presented sector-wise reports.

Next, the Prime Minister delivered concluding remarks.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister and party viewed the booths on research and technology for industrial development. They also observed industrial zones and factories and received reports, and gave advice and made suggestions. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects... (from page 16)

He joined departmental staff and local people. In Paigkyon, he saw over construction of Paigkyon Monastery and Parahita School, the building of IT companies.

At Kyargale Village of Hpa-an Township, he attended the ceremony to inaugurate the Kyargale-Kyoindy-Zathabyin rural road. Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyaw presented commemorative pennants to Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung.

Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Col Khin Kyu formally opened the road. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went from Kyargale-Kyoindy-Zathabyin (Thanhle section) to (Khaya Atwin section). In Khaya Atwin Village, he paid homage to members of the Sangha from six monasteries and supervised on construction of the road. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected wooden bridges along the road.

The road from Zathabyin Bridge to Kyargale Village via Eindu Village was 36 miles long in the past. Kyargale-Kyoindy-Zathabyin Road is 20 miles and five furlongs shorter than the former road. Therefore, the new road can contribute towards better transport for the local people and enhancement of education, health, social and regional development. — MNA
A mini Union where na-
tionalities including Kayin, Pa-O, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine and Shan are liv-
ing in unity and amity, Kayin State lies in the south-eastern sector of Myanmar. With its popu-
lation of 1,653,000, the population density of 11,730-square mile is 145
per square mile in Kayin State covering 11,730 sq
miles.

Kayin State is a land of plains, mountains and forests. In the east are the mountain ranges run-
ning from north to south, and plains are located in the west of the mountain ranges. Major rivers flow-
ing in the state are the Thanlwin, the Thaungyin, and plains are located in
the mountain ranges run-
land of plains, mountains

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:
Kayin State marching to new golden land
of unity and amity

Table A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>12.2.05</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land resource</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sown acreage</td>
<td>666194</td>
<td>726662</td>
<td>60468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acres of vacant and virgin land</td>
<td>370924</td>
<td>232964</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dam, reservoir, lake, canal</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water pumping station</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>damming creeks</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>348</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefited acre</td>
<td>34202</td>
<td>95205</td>
<td>61003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thriving double crops</td>
<td>19537</td>
<td>100469</td>
<td>80932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended paddy cultivation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acres of monsoon paddy</td>
<td>383009</td>
<td>431121</td>
<td>48142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>per acre yield*</td>
<td>42.97</td>
<td>54.61</td>
<td>11.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acres of summer paddy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>per acre yield*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gross production</td>
<td>16019</td>
<td>31284</td>
<td>15265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food sufficiency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans and pulses (acre)</td>
<td>7809</td>
<td>66456</td>
<td>58647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugarcane (acre)</td>
<td>2923</td>
<td>7459</td>
<td>4536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize (acre)</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>6085</td>
<td>6041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber (acre)</td>
<td>9510</td>
<td>41911</td>
<td>32401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea (acre)</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepper (acre)</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>2282</td>
<td>1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>2504</td>
<td>6923</td>
<td>4419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edible Oil crop (acre)</td>
<td>16411</td>
<td>25172</td>
<td>8761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundnut</td>
<td>8867</td>
<td>20565</td>
<td>11698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sesame</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Livestock and fisheries
The Government is de-
veloping the livestock and fisheries sector together with agriculture. The state has doubled its livestock from 1,413,000 heads of animals in 1988 to
2,664,000 per acre.

-Fish-plus-paddy farming has been con-
ducted on 240 acres of

From various kinds of trou-
bles caused by insurgency, to enjoy a better life.

It is the sincere

goodwill of the Tatmadaw
Government to build devel-
opment infrastructures in
all regions with ardent ef-
forts as soon as it achieves
peace and stability. The
Government is gaining
ground in overcoming the
backwardness the nation faced in the past, despite the riches in natural re-
ources, with the power of
the heightening development
drive. The past back-
wardness was due to weakness in unity.

Thanks to the Govern-
ment’s endeavours, Kayin State has been achieving harmonious progress as a place where love and unity of the national races is pre-
vailing. I will now present
the situation of the state in 1988 and at present.

Agriculture
The fertile soil, the as-
}

in the past, summer paddy was not cultivated in the
state. As the state can dou-
tle its paddy production, it can now enjoy surplus food.

The table A shows the sustainable development in cultivating beans, puis oil crops, rubber, coffee and, in
addition to paddy
land in the state. A total
120,000 fish fries were put
into the paddy fields. The state has 274.09 acres of fish farms, up from 95.95 acres in 1988 or almost
tripled. It has now 80 acres of

The rail-cum-road
Donthami Bridge linking Kayin and Mon states was inaugurated in 2002. The
bridge is 600 feet long.
The Myawady-Kawkareik-

(See page 10)
Development in Kayin State after 1988

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day

Hpa-an University

National race youth living in Kayin State are now able to pursue higher education in their own region as a university has been built in Hpa-an. — MYANMA ALIN

No-1 Cement Plant (Hpa-an) provides job opportunities to locals living in Kayin State. — MYANMA ALIN

Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an) linking Myainggalay and Hpa-an in Kayin State was commissioned into service on 3 August, 1997. — MYANMA ALIN
Kayin State marching to...

(from page 8)

Electricity

The Government has been applying innovative means to fully tap the country’s rich water resources for serving the interest of Myanmar and her national races till posterity.

Kayin State had only one hydel power station in Papan before 1988. It was a 0.164-megawatt facility. The power consumption of the state then was only about 10 million units. The Tatmadaw Government built 10 diesel power stations and linked the electricity generated by them to the national grid. Thus, Kayin state’s power consumption has increased to nearly 180 million units. But it is only one step of development drive. The Government is implementing two major hydel power plant projects in the state to significantly increase its power consumption. One national races till posterity.

Table E

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>maximum electricity consumption load*</td>
<td>10.274</td>
<td>178.852</td>
<td>168.608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of generating power</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- hydel power station</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- project</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- diesel-fired power station</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- generating capacity</td>
<td>1.909</td>
<td>2.658</td>
<td>0.659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>target capacity*</td>
<td>1.999</td>
<td>627.658</td>
<td>625.659</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table F

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kayak</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table G

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kayak</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table H

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kayak</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kayak</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**POEM**

**Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:**

"Marching to new golden land of unity and amity"

- Our nation, its resources
- Naturally they get in hand quickly
- Quickly distributed are teak and oil
- Precious gems, agricultural produce
- Many are they, and plentiful.

- Resources
- Rich and varied, Nation became independent
- However...
- After regaining independence
- One went his way, another his,
- There was turmoil
- They had their stakes, grudges
- No peace, several steps we were left behind
- Far from the golden land.

- To repay this debt of history
- Union citizens, in solidarity and capable
- Brethren of era that of one mind
- Satisfied and peaceful with equal strides
- Modern and developed, progressive and strong
- In earnest our nation
- Let us all lay the foundation for the New Nation.

U Aung Mon (M.A.) (Trs)

**Yangon, 2 Feb —**

Yangon East District Union Solidarity and Development Association organized the ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention at the sports ground in Laydauntkan Village of Yangon East District this morning.

Present on the occasion were Secretary of Yangon Division USDA U Aye Myint, Joint-Secretary U Tha Win and executives, secretaries, and members of Yangon East USDA members and villagers of column No 2 marching to the sports ground to hail Union Day and to support the National Convention. — MNA.

**USDA members and villagers of column No 2 marching to the sports ground to hail Union Day and to support the National Convention. — MNA.**

**Yangon East District USDA Secretary U Tin Aung. — MNA.**

**Dagon Myothit (East) Township USDA Secretary U Myint Khaing. — MNA.**

**Yangon East District USDA Executive U Ko Ko Latt. — MNA.**

**Yangon East District USDA Executive U San Maung. — MNA.**

**Yangon East District holds ceremony to hail Union Day and support National Convention in Laydauntkan village, Thingangyun. — MNA.**

Yangon East District and Tamway, South Okkalapa, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), (South), (North) and (East) Townships, Dawbon, Pazundaung, Botataung, Mingala Taungnyunt, North East District MCWA Daw Khin Swe Oo and village elder U Myint Htoo of Laydauntkan Village, Dagon Myothit (South) Township USDA Joint-Secretary Daw So Su Hlaing acted as MC and Dagon Myothit (North) Township USDA Executive Daw Thida Nwe as co-MC.

Those present saluted the Union Flag.

Next, Meeting Chairman District USDA Secretary U Tin Aung gave an opening speech.

He said it was a significant day to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention which is important to the citizens who shape the future of the State. In the course of the history the country was a sovereign one where over 100 races lived together sharing weal and woe.

They lived in unity under mutual assistance for thousands of years. The colonialists annexed Myanmar after invading her three times during the 19th century.

They enslaved Myanmar over 100 years.

He said patriotic Myanmar national people fought against them at the risk of their lives. Despite making instigations among the people, national races were united. They built national solidarity with patriotism and (See page 15)
Ugandan Attorney General defends death penalty

KAMPALA, 31 Jan — Ugandan Attorney-General Kiddu Makubuya has defended death penalty, saying that Uganda is not ready for the abolition of the death penalty.

A team of four state attorneys headed by Principal State Attorney Michael Chibita was quoted on Saturday by The New Vision newspaper as saying that the attorney general is against a petition to abolish the death penalty in the East African country.

Representing the attorney general, the team told the Constitutional Court that abolition demanded a long process and serious sensitization before it could be abolished.

The team said even in countries where the punishment was abolished, it was not done overnight, that it was after public debates had been held on this issue.

Over 400 condemned prisoners recently petitioned the court seeking to abolish the death penalty, arguing that the punishment was cruel, inhuman and degrading. They said it was unconditional because it deprived them of the right to life.

The government team submitted that the death penalty was incorporate justifiably in the Constitution through the Constitutional Assembly, which was the voice of the 26 million Ugandans who approved it as a legitimate and appropriate punishment.

MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED INVITATION TO TENDER

Supply of Explosives and Related Services

Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Company Limited (MICCL) hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Supply of Explosives and Related Services for MICCL 70 (1), Bo Chen Street Pyay Road, Haing Township Yangon, Myanmar.

Interested companies may contact our office where a complete set of bidding documents can be obtained on payment of US $ 300 from the following address during office hours between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Bids should be on company’s letterhead and signed by the authorized person. Bids should be submitted in duplicate, in sealed envelopes addressed to -

General Manager
Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper 12

OPEC producers agree to keep output limits on hold

VIENNA, 31 Jan — OPEC producers agreed on Sunday to keep output limits on hold, convinced that oil prices near 50 US dollars a barrel are not stifling world growth.

The Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries took little time to settle on no change in supply quotas, despite worries among consumer nations about inflated fuel costs.

Gone are the concerns that dominated OPEC last year about the impact of rising crude prices on the economic growth that drives demand for its oil.

With inflation in the world’s big economic powers in check and low interest rates still generating above trend growth, cartel ministers see no reason for cheaper oil.

“Fifty dollars oil will not play a big role in slowing up growth of the economy. Some analysts say even 60 US dollars oil will play a small role in affecting growth,” said OPEC President Sheikh Ahmad al-Fahad al-Sabah.

“I am comfortable with the market between 45 US dollars and 55 US dollars,” said Edmund Daukoru, Nigeria’s Presidential Adviser on energy.

OPEC now appears ready to defend oil prices at a floor of about 40 US dollars a barrel for US crude, or 30 US dollars for 35 US dollars for a reference basket of cartel crudes.

Ministers agreed to officially set aside their old US dollars-28 US dollars range for the basket, set in March 2000, but are in no hurry to set a new target, saying prices are too volatile.

“We have to wait until the second quarter of this year to know exactly where the price indicator will head,” said Sheikh Ahmad. “But believe that 35 US dollars is a suitable price as an average price for the OPEC basket of crudes.”

“Somewhere between 30 US dollars-40 US dollars,” said Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Zanganeh.

Economists agree there is little sign yet of an energy price shock, partly because the US dollar’s decline on currency markets has protected non-dollar importers from the rise in dollar-denominated oil prices.

“Yes, oil prices are high but the US economy hasn’t skipped a beat and the weaker dollar has insulated many growing economies from a shock,” said Yasser Elgindi, analyst for Medley Global Advisers.

Bus accident kills 25 in Colombia

BOGOTA, 31 Jan — A bus fell into a river in northwest Colombia, killing at least 25 people, the Civil Defence Department said on Saturday.

The accident occurred Friday night in San Luis, some 120 kilometres northwest of the capital Bogota. Rescuers from Medellin, 120 kilometres northwest of the venue of the accident, rushed to the scene and transported several injured passengers to hospitals.

A visitor passes next to an art installation displayed during the First Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art in a park outside Moscow recently.

INTERNET
Scientists say calling people “birdbrains” is a compliment

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb—Birds are not stupid and their brains are not primitive so it is about time the scientific world gave them full credit, experts said on Monday.

The slow-moving world of scientific nomenclature, calling for a new map of the avian brain that reflects its true structure.

The current system dates back 100 years and suggests a bird’s brain is mostly basal ganglia, and that this area controls primitive brain function and instinctive behaviour.

The avian brain more closely resembles human brains and even so, the basal ganglia is not a primitive region, said Erich Jarvis of Duke University in North Carolina, who led the study.

“Stop calling people birdbrains meaning stupid. Take it as a compliment,” Jarvis said.

Jarvis, who studies how birds learn vocalizations such as songbird songs and imitated speech in parrots, said their behaviour can be surprisingly complex. They can use tools, they can use songs and imitate human language to communicate and they can count.

“If we should be able to get more insight into how the human brain works, too,” he said.

For instance, “primitive” regions of avian brains are actually sophisticated processing regions that similar to those in mammals, the group said.

“There is strong interest across neuroscience in using birds as models for learning and development, and migratory and social behaviour.” He said some birds have evolved cognitive abilities that are far more complex than in many mammals.

Adults with manic depression found to have been abused in childhood

LONDON, 1 Feb—Nearly half of patients suffering from manic depression, or bipolar disorder, may have been abused as children, scientists say in a report. Emotional, physical and sexual abuse, or a combination of them, are linked with the condition, which causes dramatic mood swings and changes in behaviour.

“Our results suggest that a history of severe childhood abuse is to be found in approximately half of adults with bipolar disorder,” said Dr Joseph Goldberg, of the Zucker Hillside Hospital in Glen Oaks, New York.

About a third of patients in his study, which is reported in the British Journal of Psychiatry, had suffered multiple episodes of abuse. Goldberg and his colleagues interviewed 100 patients who were being treated for manic depression about their childhood experience. Patients who had been abused suffered from bipolar disorder earlier and had more severe symptoms than other sufferers.

Sexual abuse was also linked to a higher risk of attempted suicide, according to the researchers.

Bipolar disorder usually develops in late adolescence or early adulthood. It involves recurrent episodes of mania and depression throughout life. More than 2 million Americans suffer from the ailment in any given year, according to the National Institute of Mental Health.

Overweight women twice as likely to die of breast cancer

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb—Women who are overweight when diagnosed with breast cancer or who become overweight after learning of their condition are more likely to die or have the disease come back, US researchers reported on Monday.

The effect is particularly strong among non-smokers, the team at Boston’s Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School found.

They found women who had never smoked and who were overweight were nearly twice as likely to die of breast cancer than non-smokers who were normal weight.

And breast cancer patients who gained more than an average of 17 pounds (8 kilos) were 1.5 times more likely to have a cancer recurrence or to die, the researchers found.

Although other studies have linked fat mass with breast cancer risk, this one teased out more

US researchers find new genes necessary to make embryo

LOS ANGELES, 1 Feb—US researchers reported Monday that they identified new genes necessary for embryonic development, stepping toward a complete map of which parts of the genome are required for embryonic development.

The research team led by biologists studied the genome of the Caenorhabditis elegans (C. elegans), the first animal species whose genome was completely sequenced and a model organism to study how embryos develop.

Using RNA interference (RNAi), a method for identifying the function of genes, the researchers almost double previous estimates of how many genes are required to make an embryo. Their study focused on the genes expressed by the mother and imparted to the egg, ready to be used during the earliest stages after fertilization.

Scientists discovered that more than 150 additional genes are required to make an embryo beyond what was previously known, leading them to conclude that many more genes will be found in the future. They estimate that at least 2,600 genes are required for embryonic development in C. elegans, of which about 70 per cent are currently known.

The majority of genes required for embryogenesis in C. elegans have counterparts in humans whose roles are often unknown, scientists said.

Singapore’s unemployment rate drops in 4th quarter of 2004

SINGAPORE, 1 Feb—The unemployment rate in Singapore in the fourth quarter of last year was preliminarily estimated at 3.9 per cent, 1 percentage point lower than that of the corresponding period of 2003.

According to the figures released by the Ministry of Manpower (MoM) on Monday, the drop reflected the strongest quarterly employment increase of 27,500 in the past four years.

23,300 more workers found jobs in the services-producing industries in the last three months of 2004, while the manufacturing employment rose by 5,700 in the same period. A total of 66,200 employees added last year, which was much more than the 35,900 job losses over the preceding three years, brought Singapore’s employment level to a new high of 2.2 million as at the end of 2004.

The preliminary estimates also showed that 9,900 workers were retrenched last year, which marked a decline of 40 per cent as compared to the retrenchment of 16,400 in the previous year.

Overweight women twice as likely to die of breast cancer

Women who are overweight when diagnosed with breast cancer or who become overweight after learning of their condition are more likely to die or have the disease come back, US researchers reported on Monday.

The effect is particularly strong among non-smokers, the team at Boston’s Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School found.

They found women who had never smoked and who were overweight were nearly twice as likely to die of breast cancer than non-smokers who were normal weight.

And breast cancer patients who gained more than an average of 17 pounds (8 kilos) were 1.5 times more likely to have a cancer recurrence or to die, the researchers found.

Although other studies have linked fat mass with breast cancer risk, this one teased out more

US researchers find new genes necessary to make embryo

US researchers reported Monday that they identified new genes necessary for embryonic development, stepping toward a complete map of which parts of the genome are required for embryonic development.

The research team led by biologists studied the genome of the Caenorhabditis elegans (C. elegans), the first animal species whose genome was completely sequenced and a model organism to study how embryos develop.

Using RNA interference (RNAi), a method for identifying the function of genes, the researchers almost double previous estimates of how many genes are required to make an embryo. Their study focused on the genes expressed by the mother and imparted to the egg, ready to be used during the earliest stages after fertilization.

Scientists discovered that more than 150 additional genes are required to make an embryo beyond what was previously known, leading them to conclude that many more genes will be found in the future. They estimate that at least 2,600 genes are required for embryonic development in C. elegans, of which about 70 per cent are currently known.

The majority of genes required for embryogenesis in C. elegans have counterparts in humans whose roles are often unknown, scientists said.

Singapore’s unemployment rate drops in 4th quarter of 2004

The unemployment rate in Singapore in the fourth quarter of last year was preliminarily estimated at 3.9 per cent, 1 percentage point lower than that of the corresponding period of 2003.

According to the figures released by the Ministry of Manpower (MoM) on Monday, the drop reflected the strongest quarterly employment increase of 27,500 in the past four years.

23,300 more workers found jobs in the services-producing industries in the last three months of 2004, while the manufacturing employment rose by 5,700 in the same period. A total of 66,200 employees added last year, which was much more than the 35,900 job losses over the preceding three years, brought Singapore’s employment level to a new high of 2.2 million as at the end of 2004.

The preliminary estimates also showed that 9,900 workers were retrenched last year, which marked a decline of 40 per cent as compared to the retrenchment of 16,400 in the previous year.
FIFA to launch beach soccer World Cup

GENEVA, 2 Feb— FIFA planned to launch a beach soccer World Cup, with the first edition likely to be held in Brazil in May, the soccer's world governing body said on Monday.

Together with Spanish-based group Beach Soccer World Wide, FIFA has created a subsidiary known as FIFA Beach Soccer S.L., with offices in Barcelona to organize an annual beach soccer World Cup.

"Beach soccer is an immensely attractive and exciting variation of association football. Since being introduced just over a decade ago, the sport has grown steadily in terms of popularity and sophistication," said FIFA president Sepp Blatter.

"It is therefore absolutely logical for FIFA, the governing body of football, to extend its reach into beach soccer and to look forward to bringing all of the knowledge and expertise that FIFA has to improving beach soccer, whilst being careful to preserve the sense of spontaneity and fun that are essential to the sport."

Luis Felipe Tavares, president of Beach Soccer World Wide, said: "We are delighted with this announcement. We have worked hard for many years to build up the reputation and quality of beach soccer.

"Now, by joining forces with FIFA to create the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup, we aim to help push the sport to the next level in terms of quality, recognition and prominence."

Twelve nations, from across FIFA's member confederations are expected to take part.

Anelka, Bojinov take big-money moves as transfer window closed

LONDON, 2 Feb— French international Nicolas Anelka and Bulgarian teenager Bojinov made big-money moves on the final day of trading in the January transfer window on Monday.

Anelka tied up a seven million pound (13.17 million US dollars) switch from Manchester City to Turkey's Fenerbahce and Fiorentina bought Bulgarian striker Bojinov from Lecce for a fee reported by the Italian media to be 13 million euros (16.95 million US dollars).

If confirmed, the deal for 18-year-old Bojinov would be the biggest of a relatively quiet January transfer window.

In other moves finalized just before the midnight CET deadline, English club Tottenham Hotspur spent eight million pounds on second division Nottingham Forest pair Andy Reid, an Ireland international, and Michael Dawson.

Scotland midfielder Barry Ferguson returned to Rangers from Blackburn Rovers for a 4.5-million-pound fee that should be boosted by another half million on appearances, while Newcastle United's unsettled Wales striker Craig Bellamy went to their Glasgow rivals Celtic on loan until the end of the season.
Entire people to take part . . .

—from page 11—

Union spirit and democracy. National solidarity could be built firmly after holding Panglong conference on 12 February 1947.

That was why 12 February was designated as the Union Day. The day showed the solidarity of the national people and Myanmar regained her independence in January 1948. He said the State Peace and Development Council government is making endeavours to enable the Union of Myanmar to keep abreast of international communities and it is also making efforts for emergence of a modern developed nation day by day.

He said it is important to draft the State Constitution. The government announced the seven-point Road Map on 30 August 2003. As a first step, the National Convention that had been adjourned reconvened from 17 May to 9 July 2004, he added. The National Convention will resume on 17 February. The National Convention will make a decision on establishment of democratic state. Only when the convention is successful, will a democratic State emerge. Therefore, all the people have to support the National Convention which is the key step for the emergence of a new democratic State. With the efforts of the government upholding the national policy of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty all-round development has been made in the country. The government’s efforts are for emergence of a peaceful, modern discipline-flourishing democratic State which the people desire.

He urged the entire people to take part in the tasks for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map with patriotism, the Union spirit and national solidarity spirit. Executive of Yangon East District USDA U Ko Latt said that Myanmar’s people had made lots of sacrifices to regain independence. The Union Day falls on observed on 12 February this year with the following five objectives:

—and for all national races to safeguard the national policy of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

—to keep the Union spirit alive and dynamic among the national people.

—for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union spirit for its perpetual existence.

—to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development and

—and for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven point future politico-economic programme.

All-round development undertakings of the Panglong, where the Union Spirit was conceived, in southern Shan State, are under way at present. Panglong region now has better roads and education facilities. The Panglong University, Panglong Government Computer College and Loylem Hospital stand as symbols of regional development. The USDA strives to cement Union Spirit in hailing the Union Day.

Executive of Yangon East District USDA U San Maung said that the association has already made a resolve to play a role in developing rural areas. The Yangon East District USDA has laid down a work programme to materialize the objectives and future programmes of the USDA Annual General Meeting 2004. It has laid 2,983 feet of pipelines to supply drinking water for Pyayegon ward in Taromyaw Township. In South Okkalapa Township, the association has tared 15 streets, sunk five tube-wells, erected 53 hand-pumps and built two sports grounds. Its accomplishments in Dagon (Seikkan) Township include drilling of two tube-wells. The association also paved roads, built water tanks, laid pipelines and sunk tube-wells in Dagon (North), Dawbon, Pazundaung, Bohataung, Mingala Taungnyunt North Okkalapa, Yanik and Thingangyun townships.

In addition, it has also built drains, launched public health care movement and anti-dengue fever campaigns, conducted free school education courses and vocational education courses, renovated schools and held sports events in towns and villages. It will extend its public welfare activities and continue to implement the five rural tasks with might and main.

The association has already contributed K 17 million for construction roads and K 9 million for sinking tube-wells and K 6 million for the education sector in the district. At the meeting, the association presented K 15 million for all-round development of the district.

Secretary of Dagon (East) Township U Myint Hlaing said that the National Convention will resume at Nyaungmyan Camp in Yangoon Division, on 17 February. The delegates of the Convention will be Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Ltd, —

Mr. K Ranga —@ Joseph Age 81

National Health Laboratory Deaconess Myanmar Baptist Church Son of late Mr. K. Kutu + Mrs. Sanbayung of No.27 Su Pyap Ein Ya, Hupayone ward 1, Thakayta Township, devoted husband of Mrs. Esther Mary, beloved father of Rev. Pastor Joseph (Pastor, Immanuel Telgu Baptist Church) + Ms. Julie, U John Joseph, (U Victor Joseph), Daw Margaret Joseph, U H.X. David + Daw Elizabeth Joseph, U Paul Joseph, beloved grandfather of Ann + David Alisa, Olivia, Diana, Daphene, Alan and great grandfather of Isabella Alisa passed away at 6:13 am on 2-2-2005, Tuesday at Acadamy Clinic. Funeral service will be conducted at Immanuel Baptist Church. In not 10 am, it will be followed by a service at Christian Cemetery at Yayway on 4-2-2005. Bereaved Family

WEATHER

Wednesday, 2 February, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the light rain has been isolated in upper Sagaing Divi- sion and weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (4°C) below normal in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and Kachin State and Tanintharyi Division and above normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Namsahm and Pinlaung (5°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 1-2-2005 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 2-2-2005 was 64°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 2-2-2005 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 1-2-2005 was (8.3) hours approx. Rainfalls on 2-2-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from Northeast at (11:15 hrs) MST on 1-2-2005.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the Myanmar and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 3-2-2005: Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather will be generally fair in the remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%) 10%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated light rain in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-2-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-2-2005: Fair weather.
## Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

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

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

### Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects development tasks in Kayin State

**Yangon, 2 Feb** — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu and officials, on 30 January, arrived at Kamamaung jetty in Papun Township via Myainggyingu special region through Hpa-an Shwegun Road. Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the combined office in Kamamaung and Kamamaung Hospital. At Kamamaung Basic Education High School, he met departmental personnel and local people. They proceeded to Paingkyon through Myainggyingu-Shwegun-Hlaingbdwe-Paingkyon Road. At the hall in Paingkyon Police Station, (See page 7).

### Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attends BEHS (Central Level) Extempore Talks

**Yangon, 2 Feb** — Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005 Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attended the Basic Education High and Middle School (Central Level) Extempore Talks Contest to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day at the hall of Yankin Educational High School this morning. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Management Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, member of the Leading Committee Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Aung Aung Kyi and officials.

Chairman of the Work Committee for Observance of the University/College/Institute Professional Level and Basic Education Level Literary, Arts and Extempore Talks Competitions Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Aung Aung Myo Min gave a speech. Chairman of Organizing Sub-committee for Extempore Talks Contest Director-General U Bo MNA explained the rules of the contest and marking system.

After the contest, Ma Phyu Wint Thaw of Latha BEHS No 2 won the first prize, Maung Soe Paing of Mottama BEHS of Paung Township, second, and Ma Yadana Myo Win of Magway BEHS No 2, third, in the basic education high school (central level).

Deputy Minister Brig-Aung Aung Myo Min presented prizes to first, second and third winners. Afterwards, the Deputy Minister and party posed for a documentary photo with the students.

The basic education middle school (central level) contest will be held tomorrow. — MNA

### Drilling of new test wells urged

**Yangon, 2 Feb** — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspected seismic survey work of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise in Kawkhmu and Kungyangon townships, Yangon Division, today.

Officials briefed the minister on progress of work, and drilling of Sabagyisan test wells No 1 and No 2. The Minister spoke of the need to complete seismic survey work before the onset of monsoon, to keep data systematically and to drill more test wells.

He also heard a report on seismic survey work, Kungyangon Township in Yangon Division, and Dedaye Township in Ayeyawady Division, and the drilling of a test well in Dedaye.

The minister urged them to extend the seismic survey and drilling work systematically and to drill new test wells in Nyaungdon, Maubin and Dedaye regions after surveying their geological conditions. — MNA

**Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects seismic survey work. — MNA**