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

As the Government is dutiful in serving the national interest, the local people will have to strive for their benefit, and that of the region and the nation, with loyalty to the State.

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

Lt-Gen Soe Win congratulates Dr Thaksin on re-election

YANGON, 9 Feb — Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, who has won the election held on 6 February 2005 in Thailand. — MNA

Main building of Government Computer College (Kengtung) inaugurated

YANGON, 9 Feb—The main building of the Government Computer College, constructed by the Advanced Science and Technology Department under the Ministry of Science and Technology in Kengtung, Shan State (East), was opened as a gesture of honouring Union Day at the building this morning, with a speech by Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Shan State (East) PDC Chairman Triangle Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, the deputy minister for Home Affairs, senior military officers, officials, departmental heads, local authorities, social organizations, the principal, faculty members, students and local residents.

Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung formally opened the main building.

The Secretary-1 formally unveiled the bronze inscriptions of the building and sprinkled scented water onto it.

(See page 6)

MEC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects classrooms of Government Computer College (Kengtung).— MNA

Endeavours to achieve all-round progress in all parts of country made simultaneously

As priority has been given to achieving national reconsolidation, peace and tranquility now prevail throughout the country, including the border areas. With efforts to achieve peace and stability bearing fruit, endeavours to achieve all-round progress in all parts of the country simultaneously have begun. A trio of major projects — the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special development zones project and the rural areas development project — are being implemented in a coordinated network covering the whole country.

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

(From the address delivered at the parade of 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day)
Try to boost production of quality goods

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by high-ranking officials, visited the township in Mon State from 4 to 7 February and inspected the factories and the work done and being done for regional development and gave guidance on increasing national wealth and boosting productivity.

On 7 February, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe visited the construction site of Mawlamyine Railway Station in Mawlamyine and Padonna Soap Factory in Paung Township. At the briefing hall of the factory, the Head of State said that it was necessary to establish a stable market and to produce soap of different kinds of quality to meet the needs of people from all walks of life and to try to produce various kinds of export-quality soap in the future.

The government is fulfilling all the requirements for the social, economic, health, education, transport and communication sectors for parallel development of all the regions in the Union. As transport plays a pivotal role in regional development, new roads and bridges are being built. The Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) linking Mawlamyine and Mottama, was inaugurated on 5 February. The bridge has a railway and two-lane motorway. The Ministry of Rail Transport and the Ministry of Construction are trying to complete the Mawlamyine Railway Station and the approach road in time. Out of the 15 bridges to be built on the approach road, six have been finished, and construction of the railway station is seventy-five per cent complete.

The government is taking measures not only for smooth and easy transport but also for food, clothing and shelter needs of the people. It also gives priority to the development of industries that produce consumer goods and import-substitute items. The soap factory in Paung Township, Mon State, produces soap in four colours and in four fragrances. It is necessary to try to produce various kinds of export-quality soap.

We would like to call on all those responsible to bear in mind the guidance by the Head of State and to complete their respective projects in time and boost the production of quality goods.

Qualitative improvement of USDA members under way

YANGON, 9 Feb — The USDA has drawn plans to enhance the capacity and capability of its members. The Paton of the USDA Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance for the USDA to change from quantity to quality, to build a firm conviction and to consolidate the association. In accord with the guidance, the USDA has been drawing plans to enhance the qualifications of its members. The National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map is going on. USDA members are playing a role in materializing the Road Map, he said.

Also present were USDA CEC members, members of the association and others. — MNA

Boosting industrial production coordinated

YANGON, 8 Feb — The Cottage Industries Department and industrial cooperative societies held a coordination meeting to boost products at the hall of the department in North Okkalapa Township this morning, attended by Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min.

Present were directors-general of Cooperative Department and CID, officials, the chairman and members of the board of directors of Central Cooperative Society, industrial cooperative societies of states and divisions and guests.

The minister gave a speech on the occasion. In the afternoon, the meeting to increase output of industrial products was held. Director-General of Cottage Industries Department U Sein Than gave a speech. Representatives of the societies and officials participated in the discussions. — MNA

USDA Secretary-General Maj-Gen Htay Oo addresses concluding ceremony of Public Relations and Information Management course No 4 of USDA. — MNA

New tube-well put into service in Pakokku

YANGON, 9 Feb — Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day, Director-General Col Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs attended the opening ceremony of a tube-well in Paunglaungkan Village, Pakokku Township, on 5 February.

Present on the occasion were Director of Magway Division Development Affairs Committee U Nyo Win Myint, Pakokku District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Htay Oo and departmental officials, social organizations and local people. The tube-well, 4-inch diameter and 300 ft deep, can pump out 1,000 gallons of water per hour. It cost over K 1.1 million in 2004-2005 financial year. As a result of sinking the tube-well, 200 houses and 1,365 people in the villages of Pakokku Township will have access to clean water.

The opening ceremony of tube-well in progress in Paunglaungkan Village of Pakokku Township.— MNA
Singapore PM stresses traditional role of family

SINGAPORE, 8 Feb—Singapore’s Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Tuesday underscored in his Chinese New Year message the important role the traditional extended family has been playing in Singaporeans’ lives. He encouraged young couples to have more children as birth figures in the city state have been declining since 1999, which threatens the country’s population replacement.

“ar as a resilient society, we need strong and close families. Ultimately, helping our relatives who are in need and bringing up children into upright, productive adults, are acts motivated by kinship bonds and emotional ties,” Lee said. He noted that to keep up with changing circumstances such as the prevailing nuclear families and globalisation, the government is taking pro-family measures and strengthening social safety nets to make Singapore a great place for families.

Indonesia unveils long-term economic targets

JAKARTA, 8 Feb—The Indonesian Government on Monday unveiled its development targets to be achieved by 2025, while emphasizing the need to provide opportunities for domestic industries to grow.

National Development Planning Agency head Sri Mulyani Indrawati said the Indonesian population is estimated to reach 300 million people in the next 20 years that will provide a huge market in the region. “But we must not become merely a market. We must provide opportunities for domestic industries to grow,” said Indrawati.

By 2025, per capita income in Indonesia is set to grow to 6,000 US dollars a year and the country must eliminate reliance on overseas debts to finance development, she said. — MNA/Xinhua

Susilo says China’s growing economy benefits Indonesia

JAKARTA, 8 Feb—Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said here Monday that Indonesia takes benefit from China’s rapidly growing economy as both countries now enjoy significant growth in bilateral trade volume.

According to the Central Statistics Agency, China was Indonesia’s fourth largest destination country for its non-oil exports in 2004 after Japan, the United States and Singapore. Indonesia’s non-oil export to China rose 25.5 per cent to 3.15 billion US dollars in 2004 against 2.93 billion US dollars a year earlier.

China last year also surpassed the United States as the third largest supplier for Indonesian import, grabbing 9.86 per cent of Indonesia’s 34.66 billion dollars non-oil import. — MNA/Xinhua

1,450 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb—As of Tuesday, 8 February 2005, at least 1,450 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 1,107 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include four military civilians.

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, 1,312 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 998 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

Official says 13,000-17,000 guerillas in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb—The US military faces between 13,000 and 17,000 guerrillas in Iraq, the large majority of them backers of ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and his Baath Party, a senior military official said Tuesday.

Those figures came to light the same day an apparent suicide bombing killed more than 20 people in central Baghdad as they waited in line to apply to be police officers, US and Iraqi officials said.

The bulk of the insurgency is made up of 12,000 to 15,000 Arab Sunni followers of Saddam’s party, the official told CNN.

Of those, the source said 5,000 to 7,000 are considered “committed” fighters, with the rest considered “fence-sitters,” criminals or “facilitators” who contribute material support or sanction to the guerrillas.

The official, who is familiar with the figures, said about 500 other fighters have come from other countries to battle the US-led forces in Iraq, while another group of fewer than 1,000 are believed to be followers of Jordanian-born Islamic terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

Members of Congress have been pressing senior officers for an assessment of the strength of the insurgency since Iraq’s 30 January elections.

India investing over $2b in defence projects

NEW DELHI, 8 Feb—The Indian Government is investing about over 2.2 billion US dollars in three major defence projects to give a fillip to research and development and in manufacturing new products, the Indo-Asian News Service reported Monday.

Inaugurating the international aerospace seminar in Bangalore in South India Monday, Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee said the investments were being made in projects such as the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), the Kaveri aircraft engine to power the LCAs and Early Warning Systems.

“Though these are ongoing projects being undertaken by the Defence Research and Development Organization, these projects are being developed indigenously,” Mukherjee told about 500 participants at the three-day seminar on “Aerospace Technologies—Developments and Strategies”.

Referring to the cost over-runs and time delays in such ambitious projects, Mukherjee said these factors were inevitable in the case of new products and efforts should be made to address the deficiencies.

“We learn through trial and error in this type of technology development. Such complex projects do take longer time. We try to avoid both cost overruns and time delays. They are being constantly addressed,” he said.

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Men carry an injured policeman on a stretcher inside Baquba hospital after an attack in the Sunni town 60 kilometres northeast of Baghdad on 8 Feb, 2005. —INTERNET
Ceremony to hail Union Day...

(from page 16)

Daw Thang Paing, member of Mindat Township USDA, submitted reports on rural development of the district, saying that thanks to endeavours of the Tatmadaw Government, the three-day Matupi-Pakokku route has been reduced to come the one-day trip. Furthermore, village-to-village roads have emerged in the region, and telecommunication facilities have been provided.

The district association could provide teaching aids and other materials worth K 4.65 million to Basic Education High Schools in Mindat, cash and furniture to BEPSs of rural areas for their renovation, a set of microwave oven to Rezwa BEHS and school equipment to basic education schools in Paletwa Township. Furthermore, the association had spent K 2.347 million on construction of village-to-village roads and bridges, K 3.71 million on power supply and K 0.84 million on renovation of the schools in the region. The association is carrying out agriculture and livestock breeding tasks.

Next, Mindat District USDA Executive U Kee Maung handed over documents related to rural development and donations of teaching aids to officials. Mindat District USDA Executive U Mong Mann seconded motions of three representatives. Before concluding the ceremony, all the participants approved to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention and rural development tasks. — MNA

People of Bhamo District honours Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 9 Feb — Over 1,550 local people including USDA members and other social organizations of Bhamo, Mansi and Shwegu townships attended the ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention near Sinkhan Bridge in Sinkhan Village of Bhamo Township on 4 February morning.

Bhamo District USDA Executive U Win Maung Thein, presiding over the ceremony, spoke on the occasion, saying that the national spirit based on the Union Spirit plays a significant role in building an enduring democratic nation. Therefore, the Government is forging national unity as well as relentlessly ensuring peace and stability of the State, strengthening of economy of the State and the people and promoting the education standard. In addition, the Government is striving for equitable development of all regions including border regions and rural areas throughout the country for emergence of a modern nation.

He added that the seven-step Road Map is being implemented one after another. The National Convention will resume soon. The national goal is emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Therefore, the USDA which is the national force, is to join hands with the entire people to implement the seven-step Road Map so as to meet the goal.

Next, Daw Htu Shan, Mansi Township USDA Executive, reported on matters related to honouring the Union Day, supporting the National Convention and rural development tasks. — MNA

Union Day honoured, National Convention supported at rally in Momauk

YANGON, 9 Feb — Ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention was held at BEHS (Branch) in Makhwe Village of Momauk Township, Bhamo District, on 5 February morning.

Bhamo District USDA Secretary U Aung Win Swe presided over the ceremony together with members of the panel of chairmen, gave a speech on the occasion.

Bhamo Township USDA Executive U Nan Zein Kwam Pham, Momauk Township USDA Executive U Thein Win and Bhamo Township USDA Executive Daw San San Oo tabled motions calling for honouring the Union Day, supporting the National Convention and carrying out rural development.

Bhamo District USDA Executive U Naw Rit handed over documents concerning donations of school equipment to rural BEPSs to Momauk Township Education Officer Daw Thaung Thaung; and Momauk Township USDA Secretary U Thein Lin Khaing, 200 corrugated iron sheets for the rural dispensary to Lwehse Village USDA Organizer U Khin Maung Zaw of Momauk Township. Next, Momauk Township USDA Executive U Dah Shik Tu Lwam seconded motions of three representatives. Later, the participants approved to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention and rural development tasks. — MNA
YANGON, 9 Feb — The CNG filling station No 006 of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy was commissioned at the station on No 2 Highway in Dagon Myothit Township this morning.

Director U Myint Htay of MOGE briefed those present on matters concerning the station. Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw formally opened the station.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe pressed the button to open the signboard of the station.

The commander, the ministers, the deputy ministers and guests inspected the CNG filling station. Director U Myint Htay conducted them round the station and explained gas storage system, functions of the compressor, the dispenser and the machine which calculates price of CNG. The commander and guests viewed filling of CNG to buses and departmental vehicles.

Also present on the occasion were the No 2 Military Region Commander, departmental heads, members of USDA and social organizations.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe formally opens signboard of CNG Filling Station No 006.

YANGON, 9 Feb — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and wife hosted a dinner to the Union Day delegates at the Head Office of Myanma Timber Enterprise in Ahlone Township yesterday evening.

It was also attended by directors-general and wives, the managing director and wife, general managers and directors of the ministry.

The minister and wife presented the gifts to the delegates after the dinner.

Similarly, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Thein hosted a dinner to the Union Day delegates at Thiri Annawa Hall of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation Office in Insein Township yesterday evening.

Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and wife, and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung hosted a dinner to the delegates in their residents on the same day.

Similarly, managing directors of the Ministry of Industry-1 also hosted a dinner to the Union Day delegates at their residents and presented gifts to them representatives.

MINISTERS & WIVES, MDs HOST DINNER TO UNION DAY DELEGATES

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 destructive 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

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— MNA

NCCWC MEETING HELD

YANGON, 9 Feb — The coordination meeting of the National Convention Convening Work Committee was held at Nyaungmyapin Camp in Hmawby Township this afternoon, attended by Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Secretary U Thaung Nyunt, joint-secretaries and committee members.

The chairman of NCCWC presided over the meeting, and Secretary-1 U Khin Maung Maung acted as master of ceremonies. First, the chairman of NCCWC extended greetings. Afterwards, the vice-chairman of NCCWC and Secretary U Thaung Nyunt gave supplementary reports of the work. Next, those present took part in the discussions. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the chairman of NCCWC.

— MNA

POET

Bee and Fly

* ‘Tis the nature of bees
To be found on high boughs.
The clean and sweet nectar
To collect and consume
Living in solidarity and love.
In a big bee-hive
These living be a hundred thousand or a million
And if one should be harmed
They form a pattern of strength
Exerting new strength to end strife
To be alert and to go on offensive
Overwhelmed by patriotism.

* ‘Tis the nature of flies
To dwell on low ground
And thrive on dirt and foul matter
Taking these for good.
There is no love between each other
One would grab another’s food
Another would grab one’s.
And thus bent on grabbing
They meet their death.

* Although they may have equal flying power
Their nature is as different as earth and sky
The natures of bee and fly
Is as different as can be
In the sunlight of the homeland
Drinking the clear water of the homeland
We thrived together.
Should we be like the bees?
Should we be like the flies?
Act like bees if you want to be like them.
Act like flies if you want to be like them.
With noble heart and appearance
Not to become losers
That should be our choice.

Mymun Maung Naing Moe (Trs)
Main building of Government Computer College

(from page 1)

Next, the Secretary-1 visited the students studying in the operation room and the lecture hall of the main building.

Principal Dr Daw Nan Hsai Mon Kham reported on the construction of the facility, courses, and academic and administration matters.

The Secretary-1 in his address said that Kengtung of Shan State (East) is located in the easternmost part of Myanmar. Shan State is indeed like a mini-union in which Bamar, Lahu, Akha and Wa nationals in addition to Shan nationals have been living in unity and amity sharing joys and sorrows for drinking water from the same source since aeons ago. However, the region lagged behind in development due to the many-years-long armed conflicts among the national brethren caused by the wedge driven and hatred and discord sowed by the colonialists. Since its assumption of the State duties, the government has given top priority to national reconsolidation. In consequence, the local people have enjoyed fruitful results of peace and stability along with prevalence of law and order and they can now earn their living with peace of mind.

Being well convinced that only when peace and tranquillity have been restored, can national development undertakings be carried out effectively, the government is implementing the border areas and national races development project, the 24 regions development project and the rural development project simultaneously for ensuring equal development of all parts of the nation. Now, the national people have enjoyed fruits of progress to a certain degree.

For instance, Shan State (East) has been facilitated with an airport, new roads, a 200-bed hospital, a technological college and a computer college.

As the Government is dutiful in serving the national interest, the local people will have to strive for their benefit, and that of the region and the nation, with loyalty to the State. Teachers will have to nurture their students to have moral conduct, and vitalize their Union Spirit and patriotism.

Nongton Construction Company presented commemorative gifts to the Secretary-1 and the minister.

The Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present at the ceremony.

The college is built on Kengtung-Mongla road four miles from Kengtung near Yanghla village. Its campus is 33.11 acres. It has a main hall and 28 lecture halls, two computer rooms, offices, a library and an assembly hall. The college has produced 537 diploma holders.

Measures for holding AGM of MWAF coordinated

YANGON, 9 Feb — Measures were discussed at the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation this afternoon for the holding of Annual General Meeting of the MWAF.

Present on the occasion were President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe, Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Myint, and members of the leading and work committees.

President of MWAF Daw Than Than Nwe made an opening speech and General Secretary Dr Daw Khin Mar Tun and leader of the subcommittees explained the organizational set-up and tasks of the federation. Afterwards, leaders of subcommittees took part in the discussions. Next, the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the MWAF president.
Perpetually flourishing of...

..., sharing real and woes. He cited the guidance given by Head of State Sen-
ior General Than Shwe at the meeting with the train-
cees of the BEd Course No 36 of the University for De-
velopment of National Races and in the guidance, the Senior General dealt with the essence of family type of the Union and fine characteristics as well as the importance of the na-
tional policy based on national necessities. The Sen-
or General in his speech said that it is important for the national races to be im-
bued with the spirit of na-
tional unity to cultivate good morality of mutual un-
derstanding, forbearance, help and reliance among the trainees to ensure oneness of more than 100 national races in the Union. Particu-
larly, the perpetually flour-
ishing of Union Spirit is a must among the national people, with which they will live in the Union for ever with the fraternal spirit shar-
ing real or woes and keep-
ing nest and eggs intact. It is also required to take all necessary measures to main-
tain the independence and sovereignty to be able to march on the correct path, which the people them-
selves chose after overcom-
ing the alien instigations and interventions. The trainees are therefore to be con-
vinced well of the na-
tional policy, Our Three Main National Causes.

The Secretary-1 contin-
ued to say that as the Union Day delegate has wit-
tessed that adhering to Our Three Main National Causes, the government has been able to rebuild national solidarity, which is the very first programme for the na-
tional progress. As a result, the internal armed conflicts among the national breth-
ren came to an end. And the national unity has brought the better transportation. Therefore, relationship and interdependence grew bigger and bigger and this con-
solidated national solidarity.

He said the government has been giving encourage-
ments to promotion and pres-
ervation of traditions and customs of all the national races. The national races have an opportunity to ex-
change traditions, culture, customs on such significant occasion as the Union Day and they can also enjoy similarity in culture, mu-
tual understanding and mu-
tual relationship among their tradition and culture in the Union. Friendship among them has also grown, he added.

Now is the most oppor-
tune time for all the national races in the Union to make combined and har-
monious efforts with added momentum for strengthen-
ing unity, peace and stabil-
ity and gaining better re-
sults in accord with histori-
cal traditions.

He pointed out the fact that the entire people with national awareness are to remove evil objectives of external and internal de-
structive elements who try to weake

3

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 10 February, 2005

Manday Division holds ceremony to honour Union Day, support National Convention

YANGON, 9 Feb — People and USDA members and social organizations totalling over 1,000 from Manday, PyinOoLwin, Kyunke, Myungyan, Meiktila, Yame Thin and Nguay U Districts joined the ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention at the National Theatre in Manday this morning.

Secretary of Manday Division USDA U Tin Maung Oo, presided over the ceremony and spoke on the occasion, Manday Division USDA Executives Daw Hla Hla Aye and U Thein Tun and Division Joint-
Secretary U Sein Myint submitted reports on honour-
ing the Union Day, supporting the National Conven-
tion and rural development tasks.

Manday Division USDA Executive U Mya Soe seconded the reports submitted by three representatives.

Before concluding the ceremony, the participants approved to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention and development tasks. — MNA
The nation-building task is a non-stop endeavor that should be handed down from one generation to another and should be implemented with all-out efforts. For a developing country like Myanmar, it is a colossal task covering every sector and corner of the nation.

The entire Myanmar community needs unity. In the same manner, the entire Union needs peace and stability, a strong national force, sound economic foundations in every sector, and assistance to enhance economic and social power. There was also the most dire need of all the needs the nation was facing in 1988.

During the time, the colonialist web was waiting for an opportunity to break up the Union into pieces, and the opportunists were ready to move in to exploit the nation. In the minds of the entire national people was none other than the Tatmadaw which constantly stood by them in times of emergency, and that was its fine historic role.

The Nation-building Task

Table A

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<td>2387736</td>
<td>149698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Therving double crops</td>
<td>622253</td>
<td>1510911</td>
<td>888585</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extented paddy cultivation</td>
<td>2019562</td>
<td>2560135</td>
<td>54073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per acre yield</td>
<td>65.43</td>
<td>69.52</td>
<td>4.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross production</td>
<td>131181</td>
<td>196655</td>
<td>65274</td>
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<td>Food sufficiency</td>
<td>272786</td>
<td>1285822</td>
<td>101306</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beans and pulses (acre)</td>
<td>11167</td>
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Table B

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<thead>
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Table D

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Table E

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Irrigation</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Hlaing, the 58th Anniversary Union Day: Bago Division marching to new golden land of unity and amity

Hlaing Aung

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

The Nation-building Task

The nation-building task is a non-stop endeavor that should be handed down from one generation to another and should be implemented with all-out efforts. For a developing country like Myanmar, it is a colossal task covering every sector and corner of the nation. In the minds of the entire national people was none other than the Tatmadaw which constantly stood by them in times of emergency, and that was its fine historic role. The entire Myanmar community needs unity. In the same manner, the entire Union needs peace and stability, a strong national force, sound economic foundations in every sector, and assistance to enhance economic and social power. There was also the most dire need of all the needs the nation was facing in 1988.

During the time, the colonialist web was waiting for an opportunity to break up the Union into pieces, and the opportunists were ready to move in to exploit the nation.

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Development in Bago Division after 1988

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day

Bawbin dam built across Thayet Creek in Gyobingauk Township, Bago Division, irrigates 30,000 acres of farmland. — MYANMA ALIN

Sittoung Bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk) is 1,500 feet long and it serves the local people enabling them to reach Shwekyin in a short period of time. — MYANMA ALIN

Emergency ward of 200-bed Specialist Hospital in Pyay, Bago Division. — MYANMA ALIN

New hospital in Pyay
Bago Division marching to...

(From page 8)

Swedawu Dam, irrigating 1,200 acres of land, in Swedawu Township, Singuchaung-gaung Dam, irrigating 1,500 acres of land, in Okpo Township, Taungseign and Kyayeyin dams in Padaung Township, two dams by the same name ‘South Nawin Dam’ irrigating 67,000 acres of land, in Padaung Township, Miney Dam, irrigating 2,000 acres of land, and Sittong Dam, irrigating 7,000 acres of land, in Otwin Township, Matinga Dam, irrigating 10,520 acres of land, in Pyay Township, Seikphantage and Kanni dams, each irrigating 2,000 acres of land, in Toungoo Township, Yebo Dam, irrigating 2,150 acres of land, and Taungnyo Dam, irrigating 50,000 acres of land, in Natallin Township, Zalew Dam, irrigating 6,000 acres of land, in DaikU Township, Fifty-five river water pumping stations, 12,063 small dams and 7,093 tube-wells have also been built in the division. The irrigation facilities have doubled the double-cropping of paddy to over 1.5 million acres. The division has put 55,000 acres of land under monsoon paddy cultivation and 175,000 acres of land under summer paddy. The division is now able to produce more than twice the amount of local consumption. It is distributing half the amount of its rice production to other regions.

Beans and pulses cultivation is showing encouraging signs. The division is cultivating about 1.3 million acres of land, in Pyay Township, gas-wip Dam, irrigating 6,000 acres of land, in DaikU Township, and Shwehla Dam, irrigating 35,000 acres of land, in Kawa Township, and Khawa Dam, irrigating 10,000 acres of land, in Bago Township, Gaman and Minhla dams, irrigating 15,000 acres of land, in Okpo, Chaukmaungyai (Myohla) Dam, irrigating 3,000 acres of land, in Yedo Township, Shwehla Dam, irrigating 35,000 acres of land, in Kawa Township, and, Khawa Dam, irrigating 10,000 acres of land, in Padaung Township. Their combined efforts are conserving and protecting our natural resources. In accord with the guidance, the division is developing its fish and meat sector. It is raising over four million heads of buffaloes, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, duck and chicken and extending fish and prawn farms. Table B stands witness to the progress of the live-stock and fisheries sector in the division. The Government has been providing all kinds of assistance to the private sector to participate in it. In accordance with the guidance, the division is developing its fish and meat sector. It is raising over four million heads of buffaloes, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, duck and chicken and extending fish and prawn farms. Table B stands witness to the progress of the live-stock and fisheries sector in the division.

Forestry conservation

Land, water and climate are the nation’s basic natural resources. In accordance with the guidance, which said, “We must conserve and protect our forests as their destruction will damage the soil and water that will cause adverse changes in the climate”, the division is conserving and protecting forests and establishing forest plantations. Local people are also conserving and protecting forests and planting trees in their communities. Table C indicates the development of the division’s forestry sector.

Road and transport sector

Although it is a central region, Bago Division lacked wide and smooth roads till 1988. The 354-mile six-lane Yangon-Mandala Highway Project covers Bago Division as the highway passes through the region. The Government has upgraded the Yangon-Pyay-Mawgaw road, Phayagyi-Thatan road and Pyay-Aunglan road, and expanded the Letpadan-Hinthada road and Pyay-Paukkhaung-Toungoo road.

Preparations have now started to lay the Asian, ASEAN and transnational highways that will pass through the division in the future. In addition to Ayeyawady and Sittoung rivers, other creeks and small rivers are also flowing in this region. Thus, a number of bridges large and small are being built under the division. The Nawade Bridge in Pyay is the first Ayeyawady River bridge built by the Government. Located on Pyay-Sinde road, the 4,183-foot facility was commissioned into service in 1997. The government used K 833.17 million and US $ 8.685 million to build the facility that is not helping develop the west Ayeyawady.

Nawade Bridge spanning Ayeyawady River was constructed in Bago Division. Likewise, the 1500-foot-long Sittoung Bridge spanning Sittoung River was also constructed to link the region with Nyaungelbin, Shwegyin, and Matana. A total of 16 bridges with the length of 180 feet were constructed across Bago Division.

(See page 11)
Bago Division marching to...

(From page 10)

Like motor roads, railroads are also being constructed and upgraded in the region. Now, the east Bago Yoma has been linked with the west Bago Yoma by railroad. A railroad is being built linking Pyay, Aunglan, Taungdwingyi, Kyaukpadaung, Bagan and Myingyan was also under construction. Therefore, its surrounding areas will soon boom in trade.

The new railroads constructed in Bago Division are shown in Table D.

Communication

With socio-economic life enjoying a quantum leap throughout the country, steps are being taken to ensure a parallel development in the communication sector. "Communication and transport are central to economic growth. A better transport system should be carried out to boost economy". They are the success achieved in the efforts to develop the communication sector of Bago Division. In Table E, figures are shown in comparison with the conditions in 1988 and those at the present.

Electricity

The Union of Myanmar did not merely bear over 100 National races. She also bequeathed her offspring with hilly regions, mountain ranges, valleys, coasts, rivers and creeks, wetland, with hilly regions, mountains, coastland and sea, and islands.

"The eldest son is responsible to assume the duty of father", so goes a Myanmar saying. Now, the Tatmadaw is assuming that duty and doing its best to preserve and better what has left on its shoulders.

Unharnessed energy is exploited and put into use. Thus, Zaungtu Hydel Power Project, came into being in Bago Division. There was no hydel power station in the region till 1988. Power Grid and diesel-powered factories were then the reliable things.

The Bago River is well-known because of Zaungtu multi-purpose project. And Zaungtu Dam can feed over 36,000 acres of farmland with irrigation water. It also can prevent the floods in Bago and its vicinity. It also generates 20 megawatts of electricity.

Another hydel power projects like Zaungtu are under way to place them in service of national interests. They are Shweygin (75 megawatts), Kun Creek (60 megawatts), Pyu Creek (40 megawatts), Khaubau (30 megawatts) and Yenwe (25 megawatts). They will produce 230 megawatts of electricity in total.

Sandalwood cannot be found in every forest, just as ruby cannot be found in every mountain, so goes a saying. In the time of the Tatmadaw government, arrangements are being made to establish at least one hydel power in every state and division. Now, Bago Division is in the prospect of producing more electricity. The construction of development between the past and the present can be seen in Table F.

Table-L

<table>
<thead>
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<td>333/7</td>
<td>597/1</td>
<td>263/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>- urban road miles</td>
<td>157/7</td>
<td>220/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>- miles of tarred road</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>44/7</td>
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<tr>
<td>- miles of gravel road</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>136/63</td>
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<tr>
<td>- earth road</td>
<td>1550</td>
<td>174/1</td>
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Table M

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<tr>
<td>- e-library</td>
<td>4</td>
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A total of 2,545 health staff including 399 specialists and assistant doctors have been employed in the region. In the past, the region had only two midwifery schools. Now, the region gets two more nursing schools. Table K indicates progress in the health sector.

Development affairs

Among the historic projects of the country are urban and rural development projects. Success has been achieved in these projects as a result of the combined efforts made by the government and the people.

In the past, rural areas lagged behind in development. Even cities lacked proper roads. However in the time of the Tatmadaw government, there emerged roads linking one village and the other, and one town and the other, and one district and the other. Table L shows the achievements gained in the urbanization tasks being carried out in Bago Division.

Information and public relations

In accord with the guideline— to make the general public realize the policies and objectives of the State, the information sector is being implemented to enable it to take full advantage of.

Efforts are being made for the extension of TV retransmission stations and the opening of libraries in all areas down to villages. The tasks being undertaken for the information sector of Bago Division are shown in Table M.

(Translation: TMT + KTY)
Israel to invest heavily in nanotech research

Jerusalem, 8 Feb — A new nanotechnology institute with an investment of $88 million US dollars will be set up at the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, in northern city of Haifa, the Haaretz newspaper reported on Monday.

Officials from the Technion and the Trade and Employment Ministry said the new institute will be the biggest university research centre established in the country dedicated to nanotechnology.

Nanotechnology is the science of building electronic circuits and devices from single atoms and molecules, where the scale used is one of nanometres (one millionth of a millimetre).

Analysts predict by 2015, nanotechnology will see an annual turnover of one trillion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Central Philippine region hit by middle-scale earthquake

Manila, 8 Feb — An earthquake measuring 4.8 on the Richter Scale hit the island of Samar in central Philippines on Sunday afternoon, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) reported.

This is the second time the Philippine archipelago was hit by earthquakes after a mild quake jolted the coastal areas of the southern cities of General Santos and Davao on Saturday.

The PHIVOLCS said the tremor was recorded at 5:28 p.m. local time with the epicenter located at 38 kilometres east of Catamaran, Northern Samar.

MNA/Xinhua

US forces abuse Kuwaiti prisoners at Guantanamo

Washington, 8 Feb — US forces abused several Kuwaiti prisoners now held at Guantanamo Bay by beating them with chains, and giving them electrical shocks, the detainees’ lawyer said on Monday.

Human rights lawyer Tom Wilner, who represents the 11 Kuwaitis locked up as foreign terrorism suspects at the US naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, described the abuses in notes after meeting with the men last month.

The notes—declassified by the US Government— detailed conversations with six of the men, and said the other five recounted similar treatment.

Major Michael Shavers, a Pentagon spokesman, would not offer a point-by-point rebuttal of the allegations.

The worst of the abuse, which Wilner labelled torture, took place at the hands of US forces at detention facilities in Afghanistan and Pakistan before the men were taken to Guantanamo, first used to detain terrorism suspects in January 2002, he said.

“All of them were hung from their wrists and beaten, sometimes beaten with chains. At least one was hung upside from his ankles and beaten. They were all beaten, they said, and they would pass out,” Wilner said.

“They were stripped naked and kept naked for extended periods of time. They were taunted while naked by female guards. At least two of them were subjected to electric shocks while hanging from their wrists,” Wilner added, with the shocks applied using metal paddles placed under the men’s arms.

Wilner said the Kuwaitis were chained in painful positions for such long periods of time that they would uri nate and defecate on themselves.

MNA/Reuters

Philippines discourages women from delivering babies at home

Manila, 8 Feb — A Philippine health official said on Sunday that 10 Filipino women die every 24 hours due to maternal complications caused by hemorrhage during delivery at home without proper medical and health facilities.

Dr Myrna Suratos, chief of the Department of Health (DoH) Family Planning and Maternal Health for the Bicol region in central Philippines, said that the DoH is discouraging pregnant women from giving birth in their homes to prevent any material complications.

“Home delivery is very crucial for women because not all deliveries are normal, that is why equipment and facilities are important,” Suratos said.

The DoH is encouraging mothers to avail of the services of facility delivery with complete equipment and well-trained personnel.

Suratos said that in Bicol region, common causes of maternal deaths are malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency which continue to endanger not only expectant women but their offspring as well.

She said that about 87 per cent of pregnant mothers practice home delivery through the so-called “manghihilot” in Bicol.

Surato said the DoH is promoting family planning and maternal care programme. Also included in the programme is the sustainability of contraceptive supplies following the pulling out of the United States Agency for International Development’s support for contraceptive supplies in the Philippines.

MNA/Xinhua

Diet rich in fiber vegetables lowers cholesterol

Washington, 8 Feb — A diet rich in fiber and vegetables lowered cholesterol just as much as taking a statin drug, Canadian researchers reported on Monday.

They said people who cannot tolerate the statin drugs because of side-effects can turn to the diet, which they said their volunteers could easily follow.

David Jenkins of St Michael’s Hospital and the University of Toronto and colleagues reported what they called a diet “portfolio” high in soy protein, almonds, and cereals fiber as well as plant sterols — tree-based compounds used in making fat-free margarines, salad dressing and other products.

They tested their diet on 34 overweight men and women, compared with a low-fat diet and with a normal diet plus a generic statin drug, Lovastatin.

Each volunteer followed each regimen for a month, with a break in between each treatment cycle.

MNA/Xinhua

One Egyptian twin to have skull reconstruction surgery

Houston, 8 Feb — One of a pair of formerly conjoined Egyptian twins underwent surgery on Monday to reconstruct his skull, in what doctors described as an important step to recovery after being separated from his brother in October, 2003.

Three-year-old Ahmed Ibrahim was reported in good condition following the four-hour operation, intended to close the hole left in his skull by the separation surgery. The twins had been joined at the head.

“The doctor says he is doing great,” said Susan McBeer, spokeswoman for Methodist City Hospital in Dallas, where the surgery was performed. “Everything went exactly according to game plan.”

Brother Mohamed will undergo the same operation next month, she said.

MNA/Reuters

Saudi Arabia calls for establishing anti-terror centre

Riyadh, 8 Feb — Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz recently called for the establishment of an international anti-terror centre to coordinate global cooperation against terrorism.

“I call on all countries to set up an international centre for combating terrorism. Those working in it would be experts in this field,” Abdullah said in his opening address to the four-day international anti-terror conference.

“Terrorism does not affiliate to any particular civilization, religion or race, said the Crown Prince.

“This conference, attended by countries affiliated to various civilizations, religions and systems, proves that terrorism does not differentiate between civilizations, religions and systems when it selects its victims,” he said.

“Have great hope that this conference will open a new page of effective international cooperation to establish an international community free of terrorism,” Abdullah said.

Delegates from some 60 countries attended the gathering. They will exchange experience and information on fighting terror, discuss the causes of terrorism, and ways and mechanisms on anti-terrorism combat.

MNA/Xinhua

Don’t smoke
Union Flag arrives in Dagon Myothit (South) from Hlegu Township

YANGON, 9 Feb — The Union Flag which spent overnight at the sports ground in Hlegu Township yesterday, was conveyed to Dagon Myothit (South) Township this morning by the Union Boat and flag relay teams.

Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein planted the flag in the silver bowl on the dais in the sports ground of Dagon Myothit (South) Township at 9.30 am.

The ceremony to carry the Union Flag to Dagon Myothit (South) Township from Hlegu Township was held at the sports ground in Hlegu this morning. The people together with the Guard of Honour of No 11 LID saluted the Union Flag.

The military band of No 11 LID played the national anthem. Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myat Min took out the Union Flag and carried it flanked by Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and Police Officers. At the archway of the sports ground, he handed it over to Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein who conveyed the flag again and planted it in the silver bowl on board the Union Boat. Afterwards, the flag was carried from Hlegu Township to Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

At 9.30 am, the flag was planted in the silver bowl at the sports ground in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. The people saluted the Guard of Honour of Yangon Command. — MNA

Pyapon District organizes ceremony to honour Union Day, support National Convention

YANGON, 9 Feb — A mass of people and USDA members totalling over 4,400 attended the ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention in Htinkwin Village of Kyaiiklat Township, Pyapon District, this morning.

Pyapon District USDA Secretary U Aye Kyaing, presiding over the rally together with members of the panel of patrons, gave an opening speech. Next, representatives of the rally submitted reports in honour of the Union Day and in support of the National Convention and rural development tasks.

Aftewards, the reports of the representatives were seconded by a representative. Later, all those present approved their reports. The meeting ended with chanting of slogans.— MNA

Doh Kyeywa Journal comes out

YANGON, 9 Feb — The Doh Kyeywa Journal, Vol II, No 4, came out today. The journal carries features on articles, short story, humour, cartoon, movies, prices of commodities, meteorology, astrology and others. Manuscripts and advertisements are to be sent to No 30-32, 10th Street, Lanmadaw Township, Tel: 371342, 252452 and 379768. — MNA
Robben to be out for 2 months due to foot injuries

LONDON, 9 Feb — Chelsea's Arjen Robben has broken two bones in his left foot and will be out for up to two months, the Dutch winger said on Tuesday.

An MRI scan on Monday confirmed that the damage sustained in a tackle by Aaron Mokoena in the League match against Ajax two weeks ago was as serious as first feared.

"Six weeks is the average time to heal this injury and then I need a few more weeks to be completely fit again," Robben, who scored the only goal at Ewood Park, told Dutch newspaper Algemeen Dagblad.

Hoyzer ashamed of himself for fixing matches for money

DUESSELDORF (Germany), 9 Feb — Disgraced German referee Robert Hoyzer said on Tuesday he was ashamed of himself for fixing matches for money and warned that the ongoing investigation would stir up a hornet's nest for many others.

"The German Football Association wasn't aware of the scope of it all," Hoyzer, the 25-year-old referee at the centre of the scandal, told ZDF television in an interview on Tuesday.

"They thought it would be limited to just one referee," he added in his first public appearance since the scandal erupted last month. "But they nailed the right one with me. It was like hitting a hornet's nest. I've got a lot of information."

Hoyzer, who has admitted fixing several matches last year and been in hiding at an undisclosed location since then, told ZDF's Johannes B. Kerner he had been seduced by money.

"I was pleased as punch — the great amounts of money blinded me," said Hoyzer, who had dropped out of university before recently resuming his studies.
Study finds worms squirming on fishhook feel no pain

OSLO, 9 Feb — Worms squirming on a fishhook feel no pain — nor do lobsters and crabs cooked in boiling water, a scientific study funded by the Norwegian government has found.

“The common earthworm has a very simple nervous system — it can be cut in two and continue with its business,” Professor Wenche Farstad, who chaired the panel that drew up the report, said on Monday. Norway might have considered banning the use of live worms as fish bait if the study had found they felt pain, but Farstad said “it seems to be only reflex curling when put on the hook... They might sense something, but they are not painful and do not compromise their well-being”.

The government called for the study on pain, discomfort and stress in invertebrates to help in the planned revision of Norway’s animal protection law. Invertebrates cover a range of creatures from insects and spiders to mollusks and crustaceans. Farstad said most invertebrates, including lobsters and crabs boiled alive, do not feel pain because, unlike mammals, they do not have a big brain to read the signals.

Some more advanced kinds of insects, such as the honeybee, which display social behaviour and a capacity to learn and cooperate, deserve special care, she said. — MNA/Reuters

Official says Kenyans need cheaper AIDS tests

Nairobi, 9 Feb — More than a million Kenyans infected with the AIDS virus cannot get anti-retroviral drugs due to the high cost of laboratory tests in public hospitals, local media reported Tuesday.

Only 28,000 out of the 1.4 million HIV-infected people are on the life-prolonging drugs, Kenya’s National AIDS Control Council (NACC) Director Patrick Orge was quoted by the Daily Nation as saying. Another 140,000 have undergone tests and certified eligible for the anti-retrovirus therapy (ART).

The rest have not been tested because they cannot afford the 2,000 shillings (26 US dollars) charged in selected government hospitals or cannot be put on the drugs because their health is not eligible for the therapy. “Many poor Kenyans seeking the drugs cannot afford them because they have to pay 2,000 shillings for the tests and another 2,000 shillings per month for the drugs,” Orge was quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

Some planets in galaxy could harbour unexpected treasure

WASHINGTON, 9 Feb — Some planets in our galaxy could harbour an unexpected treasure: a thick layer of diamonds hiding under the surface, astronomers reported on Monday.

No diamond planet exists in our solar system, but some planets orbiting other stars in the Milky Way might have enough carbon to produce a diamond layer, Princeton University astronomer Marc Kuchner said in a telephone news conference.

That kind of planet would have to develop differently from Earth, Mars and Venus, so-called silicate planets made up mostly of silicon-oxygen compounds.

Carbon planets might form more like some meteorites than like Earth, which is believed to have condensed from a disk of gas orbiting the sun. In gas with extra carbon or too little oxygen, carbon compounds like carbides and graphite could form instead of silicates, Kuchner said at a conference on extrasolar planets in Aspen, Colorado.

Any condensed graphite would change into diamond under the high pressures inside carbon planets, potentially forming diamond layers inside the planets many miles thick.

Carbon planets would be made mostly of carbides, although they might have iron cores and atmospheres. Carbides are a kind of ceramic used to line the cylinders of motorcycle engines among other things, Kuchner said. Planets orbiting the pulsar PSR 1257+12 may be carbon planets, possibly forming from the disruption of a star that produced carbon as it aged, he said.

Other good candidates for carbon planets might be those located near the galaxy’s centre, where stars have more carbon than the sun. In fact, the galaxy as a whole is becoming richer in carbon as it gets older, raising the possibility all planets in the future may be carbon planets, Kuchner said.

MNA/Reuters

13-year-old suspected car thief shot to death in LA

LOS ANGELES, 9 Feb — A 13-year-old suspected car thief was shot to death by police after he led them on a 3-1/2-mile chase and then backed into the cruiser, police said.

Friends and neighbours of Devin Brown said they could not understand why police opened fire on him early Sunday in South Los Angeles.

I know he was wrong for stealing a car, but what I don’t understand is the police have had so much training,” said Carmen Dorsey, who stopped by an impromptu memorial at the site where the teen was killed. “What happened to the rubber bullets they have? Why do they have to shoot to kill?”

A 14-year-old passenger was arrested after a foot chase, police said. Police declined to comment, but issued statements summarizing the shooting and identifying the officers involved. Nine-year veteran Steven Garcia, 31, who fired the shots, and six-year veteran Dana Grant, 26, have been assigned to desk duty during the investigation. — MNAAP

WEATHER

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Eastern Shan State and Yangon Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kayin, Chin, Northern Shan State and Bago Division, (5°C) above normal in Tanintharyi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State and upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Lashio (2°C), Namsham (3°C), Heho (4°C) and Pinlaung (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 8-2-2005 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 9-2-2005 was 56°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 9-2-2005 was 53%. Total sunshine hours on 8-2-2005 was (8.5) hours approximate. Rainfalls on 9-2-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total allfalls since 1-1-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 5 mph from North at (14:20) hours MST on 8-2-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-2-2005: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas.

State of the sea: Sea will be slight in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-2-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-2-2005: 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

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Perpetually flourishing of Union Spirit a must among national people

Secretary-1 meets Union Day delegates

YANGON, 9 Feb — Chairman of the Central Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein held a meeting with Union Day delegates at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thawunna this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Management Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Chairman Yangon Division PDC Chairman, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers,

(See page 7)

Ceremony to hail Union Day, support National Convention held in Mindat District

YANGON, 9 Feb — A ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention was held at Khwirein village, Mindat District in Chin State on 7 February morning.

Present on the occasion were secretaries, joint secretaries, executives and members of the township USDAs in the district, members of War Veterans Organization, Organizations for Women’s Affairs, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades, departmental personnel and locals totalling over 1,200.

At the ceremony, Secretary of Mindat District USDA U Thang Lein presided over the ceremony and Executive of Mindat District USDA Daw Hal Shein Hton acted as MC.

Next, Secretary of Mindat District USDA U Thang Lein delivered an address on the occasion.

Afterwards, Secretary of Kanpetlet Township USDA U Kee Aung presented reports on honouring the Union Day and then Joint-Secretary of Matupi Township USDA U Pan Thaung, reports on supporting the National Convention.

(See page 4)

INSIDE

In the minds of the entire national people was none other than the Tatmadaw which constantly stood by them in times of emergency, and that was its fine historic tradition. Hence, the Tatmadaw had to take over the State duties since then to attend to the many needs of the people in discharging this historic duty.

(Page 8) THIBA AUNG

A mass of people seen at the ceremony to honour Union Day and support National Convention in Khwirein model village of Mindat Township.— MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein extends greetings to Union Day delegates.— MNA

Union Day Chairman Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yagon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers,

(See page 7)