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

**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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**Yangon, 7 March** — The plenary session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township this morning.

The clarifications of the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission concerning detailed basic principles to be laid down for power sharing of executive and judicial sectors to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution were read out.

Present at the plenary session were Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and members, chairman of subcommittees and officials, representatives of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, National Unity Party, Union Kayin League, Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization and independent representatives, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of State service personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President’s Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General’s Office, the Auditor-General’s Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the Civil Service Selection and Training Board.

* (See page 7)
PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 8 March, 2005

Work in concert for rural development

The Union of Myanmar is an agricultural country and seventy per cent of the nation’s population of over 54 million live in rural areas. Livestock breeding and agriculture are the main industries of the rural populace. The more developed their industries, the higher their living standard. And development of livestock breeding and agriculture can lead to national economic growth.

In its effort for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the government has placed a special emphasis on parallel development of all regions in the Union and bridging the development divide between the rural and urban areas. With this end in view, it is translating the five rural development tasks into action. The five rural development tasks are development of transport in rural areas, water supply projects, enhancement of rural educational standard, enhancement of rural health care service and development of livestock breeding and agriculture.

Out of the five rural development tasks, the tasks for developing rural transport and water supply projects are being carried out by the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs with active and enthusiastic cooperation of well-wishers and various organizations.

Transport and water supply projects are important for rural development. Roads linking rural areas and urban areas are being built and water supply projects are being carried out for supply of water for drinking and agricultural purposes. In this way, health, education, social and economic affairs of the rural people will develop. Moreover, dams and river-water pumping stations have been built in rural areas. As a result, local farmers are in a position to be able to extend their livestock breeding and agricultural works. They can now carry out double or multiple cropings.

Development of the nation depends on rural development. Only with the development of rural areas will the development of townships, districts, states and divisions be possible. Therefore, we would like to call on all those responsible and the local people to work in concert for rural development.

Provisions presented to Tatmadaw members participating in railroad construction

YANGON, 7 March — Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Provisions worth over K 500,000 donated by Thanlwin Taungdan Co were presented to Tatmadaw members, serving personnel of Myanmar Railways and staff of company participating in construction of Seikhaung-Namhsam railroad at the project office in Shan State (South) on 4 March.

Provisions were Brig-Gen Thaung Aye of Mongnaung Station, senior military officers, officials and well-wishers. Brig-Gen Thaung Aye spoke on the occasion and presented provisions to those participating in project. —MNA

Tiger-Myanmar Amateur Open 2005 Golf Tournament commences

YANGON, 7 March— Organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, a ceremony to open Tiger-Myanmar Amateur Open 2005 Golf Tournament was held at Yangon Golf Club, Danyin Kyun morning.

During the opening ceremony, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Member Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairman of Myanmar PGA and MGF Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), General Manager of Myanmar Brewery Ltd David Teng, Secretary of Yangon Golf Club U Aye Cho opened the tournament event, Myat Htut led the tournament with 71 strokes, followed by Khin Zaw Win, Zaw Zin Win and Bo Bo with 72 strokes each, Thein Zaw Myint with 73 strokes and Khin Zaw Myint with 75 strokes.

The tournament was mainly sponsored by Myanmar Brewery Ltd and its co-sponsors are Air Mandalay Ltd, Dust Inya Lake Hotel, Ping Srixon and Accel International Co Ltd (Canon).

Han Event Management is organizing for successful realization of the tournament. The tournament continues at the same venue tomorrow.—MNA

Prizes for Crops Production, Crops Competition awarded

YANGON, 7 March — A ceremony to award prizes to winners of Excellent Performance in Crops Production and Crops Competition in Baingda Region, Nyaunglaybin Township, Bago Division during 2004-2005 was held at Baingda model village on 2nd March.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Secretary Lt-Col Then Lwin and members, officials at division, district and township levels, members of social organizations and local peasants.

First, the commander delivered an address on the occasion.Division Manager of Myanna Agriculture Service U Win Maung reported on crops production to the minister. Next, the commander and officials presented prizes to winners of competitions and a local peasant expressed gratitude. Afterwards, the commander and party viewed booths of vegetables in Vegetables Farm Zone (Baingda). So far, over 8200 acres of vegetables were cultivated in the vegetables farm and over 15,000 tons of crops could be produced. —MNA

Sri Lankan delegation returns home

YANGON, 7 March— At the invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Win, visiting Sri Lankan delegation led by Speaker of Parliament of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Mr WJM Lokubandra left here for home by air this morning.

The Sri Lankan delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lankan Ambassador of Myanmar Mr DMM Ranaraja and embassy staff.

The Sri Lankan delegation paid visits to Taunggyi, Inlay, Kakku and Pintaya from 4 to 6 March and paid homage to ancient famous pagodas there. Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint hosted dinner to the delegation.

U Aung Mon (MA) (Trs)
Putin to fly to Ukraine later this month

Moscow, 6 March — Russian President Vladimir Putin will fly to Ukraine later this month in his first visit to the former Soviet state since pro-Western Viktor Yushchenko beat a Moscow-backed rival in presidential polls.

Putin will visit Kiev on 19 March after a meeting with President of France, Germany and Spain in Paris. "Talks with President Viktor Yushchenko and meetings with other Ukrainian officials are planned," a Kremlin statement said on Friday. Putin visited Ukraine twice during the Ukrainian election campaign to support Yushchenko's rival — the then prime minister, Viktor Yanukovich. Yanukovich's victory in the initial vote in November fuelled popular protests dubbed the "orange revolution". The Supreme Court later scrapped the results of the poll as fraudulent and called a new vote, which Yushchenko won a month later.

In a clear bid to win over Russia, Yushchenko visited Moscow in January, describing Russia as Ukraine's "eternal strategic partner".

But Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, dispatched to Kiev last month to pave way for Putin's visit, has failed to remove mutual bitterness and shape new ties. On Friday, the secretary of the Kremlin's Security Council, Igor Ivanov, held talks with Yushchenko and other Ukrainian officials in Kiev. — MNA/Reuters

China sets targets for eco, social development in 2005

BEIJING, 6 March — China's tentative overall requirements and targets for economic and social development in 2005 was revealed here Saturday in a report submitted to the National People's Congress (NPC), the top legislature, to be examined and approved by NPC deputies.

The report on the implementation of the 2004 plan for national economic and social development and on the 2005 draft plan for national economic and social development, done by the National Development and Reform Commission, set the following requirements and targets:

— GDP growth around 8 per cent. The target of around 8 per cent is for China's overall economic growth. Local authorities should set appropriate targets based on local conditions.

— Creating nine million more jobs for urban residents and confining the registered urban unemployment rate to 4.6 per cent.

— It says as China will basically incorporate subsistence allowances for workers laid off from state-owned enterprises into the unemployment insurance system this year, the registered unemployment rate at the end of 2005 is expected to be somewhat higher than last year.

— Keeping the rise in the consumer price index below 4 per cent.

— Increasing the total volume of imports and exports by 13 per cent and basically balancing imports and exports.

The global economy and global trade are set continuing growing in 2005, the report notes. Moreover, China has now lifted all controls over the right to engage in foreign trade. This should inject new vitality into China's exports and increase export volume. The domestic economy will keep growing rapidly, so demand for imports should also continue to expand.

— Continuing to increase urban and rural incomes. The per capita disposable income of urban residents and the per capita net income of rural residents are expected to increase by about 6 per cent and 5 per cent respectively in real terms this year.

— Continued improve in the pattern of consumption and the consumption environment this year should also contribute to steady and rapid growth of consumption demand, resulting in an expected 12.5 per cent increase in retail sales of consumer goods for the whole country, says the report.

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore to maintain moderate but sustainable growth

SINGAPORE, 6 March — Economists estimated that the Singapore economy will maintain a moderate but sustainable growth rate of 4.3 per cent in 2005, according to the result of a survey released on Friday.

The professional forecasters expect the growth rate of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) to slow down to 4.7 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

The estimated increase rates for the following quarters of the year are 3.7 per cent, 4.6 per cent and 4.4 per cent respectively.

Forecast for the manufacturing sector is optimistic with a 7.5 per cent increase, while the private consumption growth is expected to moderate to 4.2 per cent from 8.6 per cent last year.

Both the unemployment rate and the consumer price index are expected to drop this year, according to the quarterly survey conducted by the Monetary Authority of Singapore, to which 21 economists responded. MNA/Xinhua

Nine ministers to attend ASEAN-EU meeting in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 6 March — Nine ministers from Europe and Southeast Asia have confirmed to attend the 15th ASEAN-EU ministerial meeting to be held between 10-11 March here, spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Ministry Marty Natalegawa said Friday.

The nine ministers are from the European Commission, Estonia, Czech Republic, Sweden, Cambodia, Laos, Singapore, Malaysia and Luxembourg.

Scores of representatives on ministerial level from Britain, Ireland, Denmark, France, Poland and other countries will also participate the meeting, the spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua

British opposition party demands withdrawal of troops from Iraq

LONDON, 5 March — British Prime Minister Tony Blair faced renewed criticism over his Iraq policy on Saturday when the leader of the opposition Liberal Democrats Charles Kennedy urged him to withdraw British troops from Iraq.

"Britain should honour its legal and moral responsibilities with regard to the situation in Iraq. But we need to focus on a proper exit strategy, as we warned at the outset," Kennedy told his supporters at his party's spring conference.

"That should mean a phased withdrawal of British troops to coincide with the end of the United Nations mandate this year," Kennedy said.

In his keynote speech at his party's spring conference, which came two months before Britain's general elections expected on 5 May, Kennedy stressed that the Iraq war was one of several reasons that the British public could no longer trust Blair as their prime minister.

Kennedy urged voters to choose his party over Blair's Labour Party and Britain's largest opposition group, the Conservative Party, saying his party would present itself as "the real alternative" to another Labour Party government in the forthcoming general election campaign.

The ruling Labour Party had abused the public's trust and the Conservative Party had failed to oppose them, Kennedy told party activists.

The Liberal Democratic Party was the only major political party in Britain to oppose the Iraq war and the decision by Blair's government to make British forces a key part of the US-led coalition. "People want a credible, principled political party which offers a different vision of what Britain can be," he said.

All three parties are campaigning hard for the expected election in May, but Blair has not confirmed any timing.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. 
The second best time is now.
Venezuela, India sign MoU on oil exploration

NEW DELHI, 7 March — India and Venezuela signed a framework agreement here on Saturday to boost cooperation in the exploration and refining of oil.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed for cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector and another for oil exploration and production between India’s ONGC Videsh Limited and Venezuelan Petroleum State Company PDVSA.

“We have come to offer India friendship and cooperation, specially in the field of hydrocarbons,” said Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, who is on a four-day visit to India starting on Friday.

“We are impressed with the strong resolution of the Prime Minister to strengthen our relationship,” said Chavez, who met Manmohan Singh here Saturday.

He also met the ruling United Progressive Alliance chairperson and Congress President Sonia Gandhi.

“We will help India to increase its oil production. If all goes well, India will be self-sufficient soon in oil exploration and production,” Chavez told reporters here.

He also passionately expounded on the growing friendship with India and its spiritual roots in affection and mutual regard for each other.

Venezuela is the world’s fifth largest oil producer and an active member of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Four other MoUs were signed regarding establishment of a joint commission; cooperation in bio-technology; cooperation in space science and technology, and technology sharing in building and maintaining railways.

The joint working group will meet periodically to assess and review projects of energy cooperation, alternatively in New Delhi and Venezuelan capital Caracas.

Chavez will pay a visit to Kolkata and Bangalore, the country’s IT hub.

British firm seeks to explore gas in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 6 March — A British firm is seeking to invest in gas exploration in Cambodia, local media reported on Saturday.

Representatives from British Gas Group Plc met with Prime Minister Hun Sen and Deputy Prime Minister Sok An on Thursday.

The delegation was led by David Robert, BG Group’s executive vice-president and managing director for the eastern hemisphere, The Cambodian Daily reported.

The British firm was really interested in the exploration, according to the government. Cambodian officials could not say whether the BG Group was interested in onshore or offshore explorations.

Philippine Congress web site hacked

MANILA, 6 March — A notorious hacker defaced the House of Representatives’ web site of the Philippine Congress on 27 February and was not repaired until Friday night, the Philippine Daily Inquirer reported Saturday on its online site.

The web site congress.gov.ph was hacked after Batistuta, a notorious hacker known for engaging in mass defacements of web sites around the world, according to zone-h, an online repository of web defacements.

Batistuta managed to deface the guestbook section of the Congress website, zone-h said.

The Philippine Congress was using a Linux-based system running the widely used Apache web server.

Internet security expert Wilson Chua of Bitstop Inc said he suspects that the hacker exploited a “PHP” vulnerability on the site.

US, Italy face worst falling out after agent’s death

ROME, 7 March — The United States and its staunch Iraq war ally Italy face their worst falling out in years after US troops killed an Italian secret service agent and wounded an Italian reporter.

The shooting in Iraq on Friday, as the reporter was being whisked to freedom after being held hostage for a month, was sure to fuel anti-war activists in Italy and put pressure on Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

Berlusconi, who defied widespread public opposition to the Iraq war and sent 3,000 troops, took the rare step of summoning US Ambassador Mel Sembler to his office.

He demanded the United States “leave no stone unturned” in investigating the incident. US President George W Bush was quick to call Berlusconi and promise a full investigation.

The shooting was the worst diplomatic incident between Italy and the United States since 1998, when a US Marines jet flying recklessly low and fast cut a ski lift cable, killing 20 people.

US troops at a check-point shot and killed agent Nicola Calipari and wounded journalist Nicola Sgrena as they rushed to Baghdad Airport.

The agent had helped free Sgrena a month after she had been kidnapped and held hostage. Sgrena returned to Rome on Saturday. Calipari’s coffin will follow.

“The hardest moment was when I saw the person who had saved me in my arms,” Sgrena’s long-time companion quoted her as saying on her flight back to Rome.

Such poignant words are fueling national rage.

Berlusconi, whom the opposition accuses of taking orders from Washington, put on a brave face but leading newspaper Corriere della Sera cited political sources as saying he was furious.

Zeng exchanged views with the deputies on diverse issues including China’s macro-economic control, boosting of central China regions, building of a national innovation system, support for agriculture, farmers and the rural areas as well as in-depth reforms of state-owned enterprises.

He praised Premier Wen’s report as holistic, systematic, practical and inspiring, adding that the year 2004 witnessed advances in the building of a well-off society.

He said the great achievements were made in social and economic development in Jiangxi over the past year.

Chinese regions urged to follow “scientific outlook on development”

BEIJING, 7 March — Vice-President Zeng Qinghong has encouraged China’s central regions to follow the “scientific outlook on development” and build a harmonious society in order to further their economic and social advancement.

The scientific outlook on development is a “momentous strategy and guiding principle” of the Chinese Communist Party in social and economic development, while building of a harmonious society is an important objective of the Party, Zeng said while joining deputies to the National People’s Congress from Jiangxi Province in their deliberation of Premier Wen Jiabao’s work report on Saturday.

Jiangxi, a relatively underdeveloped revolutionary base, is one of the six provinces included in China’s ongoing campaign to prosper the central regions. The other five are Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Shanxi and Anhui.

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China proposes $1.3b on reemployment in 2005

BEIJING, 5 March — The Chinese Government has proposed to allocate 10.9 billion yuan (1.3 billion US dollars) on reemployment work this year, 2.6 billion yuan (313 million US dollars) more than last year, said Premier Wen Jiabao in the government work report to the top legislature on Saturday.

The government plans to include for the first time workers laid off from collectively owned businesses into its reemployment programme in 2005, Wen said in the government work report to the third annual session of the 10th National People’s Congress that opened here Saturday.

The programme used to target only workers laid off from state firms. In 2004, it helped 5.1 million laid-off workers find new jobs, including 1.4 million people who are aged above 40 and are considered the least advantaged group on the job market.

Rich world urged to slash subsidies for farm goods

MONBASA (Kenya), 5 March — Poor countries demanded the rich world take concrete action to slash subsidies for farm goods at a meeting in Kenya on Friday, buoyed by Brazil’s victory over the United States in a row over cotton.

The World Trade Organization’s (WTO) top court said on Thursday it had upheld core findings by trade judges that ruled last year that US subsidies to cotton farmers broke trade rules, depressed world prices and hurt Brazilian producers.

Calls for cuts in cotton subsidies echo a wider outcry among poor countries who say trade barriers in industrialized nations are strangling the only chance their people have of escaping poverty by exporting their produce to rich consumers.

“We shall be much more demanding on them to meet the deadlines to end subsidies and to tell us by how much,” Rwandan Trade Minister Manasse Nshuti told Reuters at the Indian Ocean resort hosting the talks.

“It is not just to say ‘okay, we’ll remove subsidies,’ we need to go beyond that and say by how much and when will they be removed,” said Nduati currently chairing the trade committee of the 53-member African Union.

Some 20 ministers from WTO countries including top US and European Union representatives are due to discuss complex rules on farm trade at the second day of their two-day meeting south of the Kenyan port city of Monbasa on Friday.

WTO officials are not expecting big breakthroughs but hope the talks — which have also covered trade in services and industrial tariffs — will provide impetus for negotiations in Geneva ahead of a July deadline for a draft deal on new trade rules.

The European Union promised in July to stop directly subsidizing agricultural exports to give poor farmers a better chance in world markets, although the offer is conditional on other rich nations making comparable concessions.

The United States has proposed several investment promotion missions to China, India and South Africa, the country’s current major source markets.

“Our countries have been chosen on the basis of previous performance and also in view of the government’s Look East Policy,” he said.

China was the biggest investor in Zimbabwe in 2003 with projects worth 903,226 US dollars followed by India with projects valued at 725,806 US dollars.

Statistics for the first half of 2004 further show that China was the second biggest investor in the country after Australia with projects worth 2.26 million US dollars.

Zimbabwe to embark on investment promotion missions in Asia

HARARE, 5 March — The Zimbabwe Investment Centre (ZIC) said on Friday it will this year embark on several investment promotion missions outside the country, with particular focus on Asia.

“The ZIC, as the country’s premier investment promotion agency, will continue to undertake both reactive and programmed investment promotion missions in 2005,” ZIC acting director Richard Mbaiwa said.

He said the ZIC would conduct at least three outward investment promotion missions to China, India and South Africa, the country’s current major source markets.

“These countries have been chosen on the basis of previous performance and also in view of the government’s Look East Policy,” he said.

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Statistics for the first half of 2004 further show that China was the second biggest investor in the country after Australia with projects worth 2.26 million US dollars.

Freed hostage says US troops deliberately targeted her

ROMA, 7 March — Italian hostage Giuliana Sgrena, shot and wounded after being freed in Iraq, said on Sunday US forces may have deliberately targeted her because Washington opposed Italy’s policy of dealing with kidnappers.

She offered no evidence for her claim, but the sentiment reflected growing anger in Italy over the conduct of the war, which has claimed more than 20 Italian lives, including the secret agent who rescued her moments before being killed.

Friday evening’s killing of the agent and wounding of the journalist, who worked for a Communist daily, has sparked tension with Italy’s US allies and put pressure on Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi to take a hard line with President George W. Bush.

The United States has promised a full investigation into incident, in which soldiers fired on the Italians’ car as it approached Baghdad airport on Friday evening.

The US military says the car was speeding towards a checkpoint and ignored warning shots, an explanation denied by government ministers and the driver of the car.

Speaking from her hospital bed where she is being treated, Sgrena told Sky Italia TV it was possible the soldiers had targeted her because Washington opposed Italy’s dealings with kidnappers that may include ransom payments.

“The United States doesn’t approve of this (ransom) policy and so they try to stop it in any way possible,” she said.

According to Italy’s leading daily Corriere della Sera, the driver, an unidentified Italian agent, said: “We were driving slowly, about 40-50 kilometre/hour (25-30 mile per hour),”

Four US soldiers killed in Anbar Province

BAGHDAD, 6 March — Four US soldiers were killed in action on Friday in Iraq’s western Anbar Province, the US Central Command said on Saturday.

The soldiers, assigned to 1 Marine Expeditionary Force, were carrying out security and stability operations in Anbar, the Command said in a statement, without giving any further details.

The deaths brought to at least 1,506 the US military death toll in Iraq since US-led forces invaded the country in March 2003.

Siberian birds take flight from a lake in the northern Indian city of Allahabad on 6 March, 2005. These migratory birds travel thousands of kilometres to reach Sangam in north India, where they shelter from the chill of Siberia’s winter. —互联网
Mandalay, the royal city of Myanmar, established by King Mindon in Konbaung Era, is the nation’s archaeological showcase for local and foreign visitors. With the well-thriving traditional fine arts and the industry of the ten traditional arts and crafts, Mandalay attracts a large number of tourists.

Bagan, the ancient city, teeming with pagodas, stupas and ancient cultural edifices, makes Myanmar well known to the world as the land of pagoda. The city has been civilized since thousands of years ago. A great number of the still existing pagodas, stupas, temples, repositories of Buddhist scriptures and ordination halls stand a tangible proof to the well-thriving of religious affairs, literature, culture and fine arts of the city.

With an area of 16 square miles, the fascinating ancient city has more than 2,000 pagodas and stupas, drawing the attention of historians and tourists. Bagan is located in Mandalay Division. So the Myanmar fine arts of Bagan era can be compared with that of Konbaung era. The tourism industry is making progress cumulatively in Bagan-NyaungU region enjoying regional development. Being globally well known, Bagan is making progress in services and raising the living level of its local people.

Now, all most of the infrastructures needed in the agricultural, transport and social sectors have been built the length and breadth of the nation. A total of 12 electric power projects, one of which is Ye Ywa Hydroproject Project in Mandalay Division, are on their way to satisfy the electricity demand.

On 18 December 2004, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe made an inspection tour of Ye Ywa Hydroproject Project that was undertaken by the Ministry of Electric Power on Myitnge River, 31 miles south-east of Mandalay, and gave guidance and provided necessary assistance for the project.

There have been 287 concrete dams all over the world. The Ye Ywa Hydroproject Project is of roller compacted concrete dam, and on completion, it will be one of the largest concrete dams in the world. In compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, Kyaukse-Ye Ywa-Hsinmin Cement Plant road is under construction for transport of cement and raw materials. Dokhtawady river bridge (Ye Ywa) was necessary for the project was put into commission on 31 July 2004. At the opening ceremony, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that efforts were to be exerted for ensuring completion of the project ahead of schedule so as to fulfil the nation’s electricity demand.

Emphasis was to be placed on systematization in order to meet the set standards in implementing the construction tasks. He stressed the need for the officials concerned to pay greater attention to the implementation of the project as it was a large one. Those responsible at all levels were to supervise the construction tasks for minimizing loss and wastage, he noted.

From 1988 to date, the government has made a total investment of some K 7,000 million on the construction of 34 small, medium and large dams in Mandalay Division, thereby benefiting more than 320,000 arable acres of land.

The purpose of the government’s pouring of a huge sum of funds on a large number of irrigation and transport facilities and regional greening projects is to bring economic development to the rural areas and to raise the living standard of local people and to ensure equitable development of all parts of the division.

Growing a variety of crops, Mandalay Division has stood a reliable region in the agricultural sector of the nation.

The five rural development tasks are under way across the nation under the guidance of the Head of State. The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs is putting into motion the rural road project and the water supply project in rural areas. Up to now, the government has spent more than K 2,381 million — more than K 1,583 million contributed by the government and the Development Affairs Funds and more than K 797.86 million by the wellwishers — on supply of clean water in the three and a half zones: Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions.

The water supply project has benefited 5,405 out of 8,042 villages throughout the nation and 3,183 out of 4,119 villages of 26 townships in Mandalay Division.

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Myanmar Alin + Kyemon: 5-3-2005
(Translation: MS)

Super Power Engine Oil awards sales promoters

YANGON, 7 March — Nat Daham Aljanahi Trading of UAE has appointed Myanmar New Star Group as a sole agent for distribution of Super Power brand engine oil and lubricants.

The third ceremony to award prizes to Super Power engine oil sales promoters took place at the Traders Hotel this evening. Managing Director U Aye Win (a) U Ba Gyan extended greetings and presented first prize to Sayaygyi auto parts shop, second prize to Ko Soe Myint Tun (Tamway auto parts shop) and third prize to Myanmar Golden Crown Co Ltd. — MNA

Pre-primary Teachership course opened

YANGON, 7 March — Pre-primary teachership course No-6 conducted by Myanmar Education Research Department under the Ministry of Education opened this morning at the department on Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, with an address by Minister for Education U Than Aung. In his address the minister said pre-primary education is the most important part for children in their life and they are to be nurtured in pre-primary schools and trainees are to strive for human resource development.

The course will be conducted daily from 9 am to 4 pm except Sundays till 31 March. Lectures and practical works are included in the course.

Similar course will be opened from 25 April to 20 May and those wishing to attend the course may contact MERD. — MNA

Myanmar-Japan Volleyball Friendly Meet

Moe Htet Myint (Delta)

Mandalay, archaeological hub of Myanmar

The Myanmar-Japan Volleyball Friendly Meet held in Thuwuna Stadium-1 yesterday, Myanmar Volleyball Federation team beat Japan’s Kinki University team (31-27, 25-25, 14-25, 26-24).

The purpose of the government’s pouring of a huge sum of funds on a large number of irrigation and transport facilities and regional greening projects is to bring economic development to the rural areas and to raise the living standard of local people and to ensure equitable development of all parts of the division.

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thien Lin watched the third match of Myanmar-Japan Volleyball in Thuwuna Stadium-1 yesterday.

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The third ceremony to award prizes to Super Power engine oil sales promoters took place at the Traders Hotel this evening. Managing Director U Aye Win (a) U Ba Gyan extended greetings and presented first prize to Sayaygyi auto parts shop, second prize to Ko Soe Myint Tun (Tamway auto parts shop) and third prize to Myanmar Golden Crown Co Ltd. — MNA

Pre-primary Teachership course opened

YANGON, 7 March — Pre-primary teachership course No-6 conducted by Myanmar Education Research Department opened this morning at the department on Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, with an address by Minister for Education U Than Aung. In his address the minister said pre-primary education is the most important part for children in their life and they are to be nurtured in pre-primary schools and trainees are to strive for human resource development.

The course will be conducted daily from 9 am to 4 pm except Sundays till 31 March. Lectures and practical works are included in the course.

Similar course will be opened from 25 April to 20 May and those wishing to attend the course may contact MERD. — MNA

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Before the plenary meeting of the National Convention, NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and members, Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe and members, Chairman of NCCMC Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and members, chairmen and officials of the sub-committees, representatives of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel and other invited delegates signed the attendance registers at the Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall for the National Convention delegates.

At 10.30 am, the plenary session resumed. On behalf of the Work Committee Chairman, Secretary of the Work Committee U Thaung Nyunt submitted matters relating to powers and functions of the President concerned the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution.

First, the master of ceremonies announced the validity of the meeting as 1,072 out of 1,081 delegates attended the meeting, accounting for 99.17 per cent. Chairman of the Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe explained the matters relating to powers and functions of the President of the State concerning the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution.

On behalf of the Work Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman of the Work Committee Attorney-General U Aye Maung read out matters relating to powers and functions of the President of the State concerning the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution.

Next, the plenary meeting went to recess for lunch break.
The New Light of Myanmar  Tuesday, 8 March, 2005

Work Committee's clarification concerning detailed ...  
(from page 7)  
(The presentation will be reported later.)

The plenary session resumed at 1 pm.

Member of the Work Committee Deputy Attorney General Dr Tun Shin, on behalf of the Work Committee Chairman, submitted matters relating to the executive power of the Union Government concerning the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution.  
(The presentation will be reported later.)

Afterwards, Dr Tin Aung Aye, Supreme Court Judge and Member of the Work Committee, read out matters relating to the executive power of the Union Government concerning the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution.

(The presentation will be reported separately.)

Member of the Work Committee Supreme Court Judge U Tin Aye continued to read out matters relating to the executive power of state or region governments concerning the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution.  
(The presentation will be reported later.)

At 2.15 pm, the plenary session resumed. On behalf of the Work Committee Chairman, member of the work committee Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun read out matters relating to the executive power of state or region governments concerning the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution.

(The presentation will be reported later.)

Later, today's plenary session of the National Convention concluded at 3.15 pm. The plenary session continues at 9 am tomorrow.

NCCC Secretary for Information
Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan acts as emcee.
MNA

NC delegates arrive plenary session of National Convention.

NC delegates attending plenary session of National Convention.

NC delegates arrive plenary session of National Convention.

NC delegates attending plenary session of National Convention.

Winners of military code of conduct and extempore talks contests announced

YANGON, 7 March —  Winners of military code of conduct and extempore talks contests at central level in commemoration of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day were announced today.

In military code of conduct contests at officer level, Capt Kyaw Zaw Lin of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was first, Capt Daw Phy Phyu Phwe of Yangon Command second and Capt Zaw Moe Lwin of Camp Commandant’s Office of the Ministry of Defence third. At the WO level, WO II Kyaw Htay of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was first, WO II Tun Win of Central Command second and Navigator-1 Maung Htay of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) third.

At the corporal level, Flight Sergeant Khin Zaw Lwin of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was first, Sergeant Aung Thu Aye of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) second and Sergeant Than Zaw Oo of South—West Command third. At private level, Pvt Aung Myint Zaw of Yangon Command was first, Pvt Kaung Myat Htwe of Yangon Command second and Pvt Myint Zaw Oo of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) third.

In the extempore talks contests at officer level, Capt Thein Aung of 55 LJD was first, Capt Thein Shwe Win of Camp Commandant’s Office of the Ministry of Defence second and Lt Thein Zaw of Coastal Region Command third. At the WO level, WO II Myo Win of Southern Command was first, WO II Soe Thein of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) second and Navigator-1 Aung Zaw Oo of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) third.

At the corporal level, L/cpl Lwin Aye of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was first, Sergeant Aung Myint of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) second and Sergeant Win Htet of Yangon Command third. At the private level, Pvt Myo Nyunt Htwe of No 55 LJD was first, Pvt Myo Nyunt of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) second and Pvt Aung Zaw Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) third.—MNA
According to already-laid down basic principles,...

(from page 16)

his own initiative involve the matters to be performed in coordination with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the respective institutions formed in accordance with the Constitution, and the advisers in addition to those exercised on his own initiative.

The National Convention Convening Work Committee has studied the powers and functions involved in the various powers and functions of the institutions of the respective world nations. In doing so, the Committee has found the following points:

— constitutions of some nations which entrust the duties of the Head of Government to the President in addition to the duties of the Head of State;
— constitutions of some countries in which the President has to assume only the Head of State duties, and the Prime Minister has to undertake Head of Government duties.

The Work Committee also studied the powers and functions entrusted to the President in the 1947 Constitution of the Union of Myanmar and those vested in the Council of State in the 1974 Constitution of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

According to the already-laid down basic principles, the President will have to undertake the duties of both the Head of State and the Head of Union Government. Thus, as a range of necessary powers and functions should be entrusted to the President to enable him to carry out the executive duties speedily and effectively.

Based on the above-mentioned facts, the Work Committee formulated that the executive powers and functions he shall exercise on his own initiative, “the executive powers and functions he shall exercise on his own initiative and shall seek the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw”, and “the executive powers and functions he shall exercise only with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw” to be included in the detailed basic principles for the Constitution. Now, I will continue to present the Work Committee’s study.

In the Union of Myanmar, the President would be fully entrusted to the President as he will have to act as the Head of State as well as the Head of the Union Government of the Union of Myanmar according to the already-laid down detailed basic principles. Only then will be able to speedily and effectively implement all-round national development tasks in the interest of the State and the people.

But he should not have the absolute power in exercising the powers involved, instead, he should take the responsibility for his actions. In electing the President, the presidential electoral college organized with three groups of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives shall elect three vice-presidents. Of the three vice-presidents, the highest electoral college shall elect one of them as the President. In this regard, the term “The President shall be responsible to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw” should be stipulated in the Constitution. As the Vice-Presidents are also elected by the representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the term “The Vice-Presidents shall be responsible to the President and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw through the President” should also be contained in the Constitution.

Concerning the matter, delegates will have to give suggestion on whether or not the detailed basic principle “The President shall be responsible to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The Vice-Presidents shall be responsible to the President and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw through the President” should be laid down.

According to the basic principles and the detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention, the Head of State is the President of the Union. The President represents the State, and is the Head of State and the leader of all citizens. As the President is the Head of State, he will have to make decisions on the nation’s affairs covering politics, administration, economy, etc. after various angles.

In some nations, the national security councils led by the President have been formed under various names to advise and assist the President. In the Article 54 (b) of the 1974 Constitution of Myanmar, it was stated that “...Pyithu Hluttaw shall in accordance with law constitute a National Defence and Security Committee consisting of a suitable number of members of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers”.

The then Pyithu Hluttaw approved the formation of the nine-member National Defence and Security Committee with the Prime Minister as the Chairman on 5 March 1974.

According to the Constitution that will emerge in line with the basic principles and detailed basic principles that have already been laid down, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will elect the President without the inclusion of the Prime Minister.

As the President is the Executive Head of the State, he will have to carry out the political, administrative, economic, and social affairs of the State. Some security and defence issues of the State involve the cases that need immediate and prompt decisions in time. In such a circumstance, collective decisions after due consultations will be more comprehensive and appropriate than individual decisions.

To be able to discharge the duties assigned in accord with the Constitution or any of the laws well, the President-led National Defence and Security Council should be formed with the following persons:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Vice-President
4. Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw
5. Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw
6. Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
7. Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
8. Minister for Defence
9. Minister for National Security Affairs
10. Minister for Home Affairs
11. Minister for Border Affairs

Here, delegates will have to discuss and suggest whether or not a detailed basic principle should be laid down to form the President-led National Defence and Security Council comprising above-mentioned persons.

Now, I will discuss whether or not the duties and rights concerning the granting the right of amnesty to the President. In the world nations, the Head of State usually has the right of granting pardons or commutes the sentences of those serving prison terms in the country on significant days including the Independence Day, the National Day, the Armed Forces Day, etc. In some other times, the amnesty orders are issued on condition or without any conditions to enable the armed insurgents to lay down their guns and return to the legal fold.

When we study the post-independence history of Myanmar, we will find that the Head of State issuing various decrees including amnesty and commutation orders on significant days of the nation, on the days to mark the completion of a national task, in view of the stability of the State, in the interest of peace, or during the times issuance of such orders are deemed necessary.

When the Work Committee studies the constitu- tions of numerous nations where the President is the Head of State, it finds that the power is vested in the President to grant the right of amnesty or pardon on his own initiative.

Section 60 of the 1947 constitution of Myanmar states “The right of pardon shall be vested in the President.” But in the para (a) of Article 73 of the 1974 Constitution, it states that the right of pardon or amnesty was entrusted to the Council of State instead of the President.

In the section 401 of the existing criminal procedures code of Myanmar, it can be found that the President has been given the right of the suspension of the term of imprisonment on condition or without condition. The section also states that the President has the right to pardon the entire term of imprisonment. The President himself or the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Justice exercising the President’s rights issued amnesty or pardons in line with the section 401.

The constitutions of world nations use various terms for the word “amnesty”. Generally, they use the words “amnesty” and “pardon”. The word “amnesty” carries a wider meaning than the word “pardon”.

Because its definition covers a wide array of sectors from the task of inviting armed insurgent organizations opposing the government to the legal fold, with promises to grant amnesty for them forgiving all the crimes they have committed, closing the cases under trial and granting amnesties to the offenders, declaring amnesty for personnel facing departmental action for breaking of service rules to granting amnesty to persons who are serving imprisonment for various offenses.

The word “pardon” covers the words commutation, remission, suspension, reprieve and restoration of right. In view of the above-mentioned issues, the Work Committee assumes that the right of pardon on own initiative should be vested in the President in the Consti- tution.

But the delegation of the right of granting Am- nesty on own initiative to the President should be dis- cussed in all seriousness, as the amnesty has much broader meaning than pardon. The issuance of amnesty will require the views from political and national solidar- ity angles. Moreover, the declarations of the amnesty by insignificant organizations and members, taking the armed struggle line against the nation, to come back to the legal fold, is required to assess and analyze the prevailing political, economic, social and other situations of the nation of that particular time.

In the Work Committee’s view, the right of grant- ing amnesty in accord with the endorsement of the National Defence and Security Council, formed in line with the Constitution, should be vested in the President to make decisions concerning the amnesty and other related issues.

Here, delegates will have to discuss whether or not to lay down the following basic principles for the powers and functions of the President concerning the pardon and amnesty:

The President shall have
(a) the right of pardon
(b) the right of amnesty in accord with the endorsement of the National Defence and Security Council.

Now, the Work Committee will present its finds to discuss whether or not to form the President-led National Defence and Security Council comprising above-mentioned persons. The Presi- dents are also elected by the representatives of the Union of Myanmar and those vested in the constitu- tions of some nations which entrust the Head of State, and the Prime Minister has to undertake Head of Government duties.

In world nations, the Head of State usually presents titles, honours and awards to the persons who honour us for significant performances. The right of conferring titles, honours and awards is delegated to the President, who is the Head of State, in the constitutions of most of the nations. But generally, the right to create and prescribe titles, honours and awards is not vested in the President.

The stipulations contained in the 1947 constitu- tion did not include the institution of the titles, honours and awards. But the para (n) of Article 73 of the 1974 Constitution says “The Council of State shall institute, confer or revoke titles, honours and awards.” The constitu- tions of most of the nations state that the President shall confer titles, honours and awards on persons who honour us for significant performances such as the Independence Day and Armed Forces Day.

It is needed to prescribe the types of titles, honours and awards and the required qualifications for the candid- ates designated and the Head of State. The rights of conferring titles, honours and awards is delegated to the President, who is the Head of State, in the constitutions of most of the nations. But generally, the right to create and prescribe titles, honours and awards is not vested in the President.

Concerning the matter, delegates will have to give suggestion on whether or not to entrust the President with the right to grant the title, honour or award in accord with the provision stipulated in the law.

The right to confer or revoke titles, honours and awards on own initiative should be delegated to the Presi- dent in accord with the law. A detailed basic principle has been laid down for delegating the right to conferring titles, honours and awards to the President, who is the Head of State, in the constitutions of most of the nations. But generally, the right to create and prescribe titles, honours and awards is not vested in the President.

The Work Committee observes that it is more appropriate to invest the right to confer or revoke titles, honours and awards, within the framework of the laws enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in the President. Hence, concerning the institution of the Honours and the Presidents of the Wophone Hluttaw, the delegates will have to discuss whether or not the following detailed basic principles should be laid down:

“The President shall have
(a) the right to institute, confer or revoke titles, honours and awards
(b) the right to institute, confer or revoke titles, honours and awards in accord with the law.” (See page 10)
The Work Committee will now present its finds to discuss whether or not the powers and functions on establishment and severance of diplomatic relations with foreign nations should be vested in the President.

Since gaining of independence in 1948, the Union of Myanmar has been extending relations with sovereign nations, especially the neighbouring countries, the UN agencies and international organizations. In doing so, she has to set up proper diplomatic channels, and in some cases, sever diplomatic relations for certain reasons.

In the constitutions of most of the nations, the authority to establish diplomatic channels and cutting off diplomatic relations rested in the President. Only the duties covering the appointment or recall of ambassadors, ministers or consuls, and agreeing on the appointment of foreign diplomats and acceptance of their credentials, are entrusted to the President.

The President of the State, in accord with law, …

The Work Committee found that the 1947 Constitution had no special stipulations concerning the delegation of the duties and rights in connection with the establishment or severance of diplomatic relations to the President. Only in the sub para (1) of the para (2) did the Constitution stipulate the term “diplomatic, consular, and trade representation” in the Union Legislative List.

The sub para (f) of Article 73 of the 1974 Constitution states, “The Council of State shall make decisions concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations with foreign nations or international organizations. Each such relations are subject to the President’s appointment and recall of diplomatic representatives.”

The responsibility concerning the matter had been delegated to the chairman of the Council of State acting as the President in accord with the decision of the Council of State itself.

The task concerning the establishment or severance of diplomatic relations with foreign nations or international organizations is a delicate matter giving priority to extended relations and maintaining the cordial ties between nations, in addition to its foundation that is whether or not to recognize a nation. Hence, the Work Committee has found that the task should be carried out only with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, instead of entrusting the right to make decision to the President alone. Only then will there be check and balance between the President and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and such a practice will lead to serving the Union’s interest better. But concerning a case which needs immediate and prompt action, the President should coordinate with the National Defence and Security Council to address it, and should seek the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Hence, the powers and functions of the President concerning the establishment or severance of diplomatic relations, the delegates are urged to discuss and suggest whether or not to lay down the detailed basic principle — The President shall establish diplomatic relations with foreign nations, and he shall seek the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw concerning the matter.

The President of the State, in accord with law, …

I would like to continue to present the Work Committee’s find of the designation of powers and functions of the President of the State in connection with the appointment and dismissal of departmental heads.

It is common practice in most countries that the President of the State is vested with the power to appoint and dismiss departmental heads. The study of Myanmar Constitutions shows that although the 1947 Constitution does not prescribe the President and dismissal of departmental heads by the President of the State, it is stated as the duty of the Council of State in the paragraph (1) of Article 73 of 1974 Constitution that “the Council of State shall appoint or dismiss heads of Bodies of Public Services”.

In the constitution that will come into existence in the future, the President of the State, as the Executive Head of the State, should be vested with the power that enables him to appoint and dismiss heads of bodies of public services.

In connection with the duty and power of the President of the State to appoint and dismiss heads of bodies of public services, it is necessary to discuss and suggest as to whether or not a detailed basic principle should be laid down as follows:

“The President of the State, in accord with law, shall appoint and dismiss heads of bodies of public services.”

I will continue to present the Work Committee’s find as to whether the President of the State should be vested with the powers and functions to sign international agreements, to implement or annul them, and withdraw from them with the approval of the legislature concerned. It is found that only a few nations have vested the President of the State with the power to do so of his own volition.

It is found that the Legislative Rights of Union Parliament constitute the right “The entering into and ratification of treaties with other countries” as mentioned in paragraph (5), List II of the Union Legislative List of the third schedule of 1947 Constitution. However, it is not found that the right is prescribed as a separate power and function of the President of the State. It is also found that the Rights of the Council of State in paragraph (h) of Article 73 prescribe “The Council of State shall make decisions concerning the entering into, ratification or annulment of international treaties, or the withdrawal from such treaties with the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw” and that the Rights of the Council of State in paragraph (i) of Article 73, “The Council of State shall make decisions concerning international agreements.” It is found that these rights are vested in the Council of State alone, and that the President of the State is not vested with them to do so of his own volition. After 1974 Constitution coming into force, the Council of State formed a scrutinization committee for its report to the Council of State with recommendations. As regards this, the Council of State requested the Pyithu Hluttaw for definition. The Pyithu Hluttaw defined it as follows:

(a) The international agreements to be decided on the ratification or annulment or the withdrawal from such treaties with the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw in accord with paragraph (h) of Article 73 are as follows:

1. Boundary Amendment Treaty
2. War Pacification Treaty
3. Treaty of Promulgation of Necessary Laws in the Country
4. Agreement on Defence and Security of the Country
5. War Reparation Treaty
6. Treaty of Accountability for Expenditure from State Funds Except Fund Allocation by the Hluttaw
7. Treaty of Promotion of International Law
8. The international agreements to be decided by the Council of State in accord with paragraph (i) of Article 73 are as follows:

1. Treaty of Amity
2. Treaty of Non-alignment
3. Treaty of Non-intervention
4. Control of Air and Water Pollution Treaty
5. Treaty of Taxation

(See page 11)
According to already-laid-down basic principles,...

(from page 10)

(6) Control of Biological Warfare Treaty
(7) Chemical Weapons Convention
(8) Nuclear Test-ban Treaty
(9) International Treaty of Asylum
(10) Treaty of Control of Hijacking and Unlawful Spying
(11) Treaty of Protection of War Refugees
(12) Treaty of Cultural Exchange
(13) Treaty of Natural Energy and Resources Exploitation
(14) Treaty of Economic Cooperation
(15) Treaty from the Valid Treaty with the Approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Council of State
(16) Trade Agreement
(17) Treaty of Authority that is submitted by Hluttaw
(18) Navigation and Aviation Treaty
(19) Treaty of Posts and Telecommunications

There may arise unforeseen issues in a lot of sectors if detailed basic principles are to be laid down for the constitution, given the categorization of the above mentioned treaties. The Work Committee therefore assumes that it is not suitable to express what sort of treaties can be signed with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and what sort of treaties the President of the State can sign, without the consent of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Generally, the treaties that will require the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be the treaties which are within the rights of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw according to the constitution and concerning the public crucial responsibilities of the State. The Work Committee also assumes that the agreements the President of the State can sign are agreements, and the treaties made among countries, as the Executive Head that the President of the State will have to sign the treaties of his own volition.

As regards the powers and functions explained earlier, it is therefore considered inappropiate to lay down the President of the State alone to do so of his own volition as these are issues, international rather than individual. Any mistake in the decision of the President of the State will be much harmful to the country. Treaties made in connection with the matters which are within the purview of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and treaties which will seem crucial for the State should be ratified with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for vesting the President of the State with autocratic powers to enter into, ratify or annul international treaties, or withdraw from such treaties. In connection with the duty and power of the President of the State to sign treaties, it is necessary to lay down that the President of the State should have to sign the treaties of his own volition.

It is therefore considered inappropiate to lay down the President of the State to deliver addresses to the Hluttaw or to the general public to let them know what is going on.

It is found that in the constitutions of most of the countries led by the President as the Executive Head, the President of the State possesses the right to address to the Hluttaw or the whole country at the time and condition considered crucial for the State.

It is found in paragraphs (1) & (2) of Section 61 of 1947 Constitution that “in order to communicate with the Parliament by message or address on any matter of national or public importance. The President may also address a message to the nation at any time on any matter.”

It can be seen in many a country led by the President as the Executive Head that the President of the State usually makes it public everything that should be known by delivering addresses at the Hluttaw or by sending messages. It is therefore necessary to include it in the constitution for the President of the State to be vested with the powers to deliver addresses direct to the Hluttaw or to the public or to send messages on any matter of national importance. It is also necessary for the President of the State to hold public meetings, to discuss and lay down policies of the country, work programmes, as well as political, security, economic and social conditions of the country. Only then will the people, on their part, realize the affairs of their country and hold fast to what they should follow. They will also be able to maintain and preserve what should be preserved. Moreover, it will amount to the condition in which the President of the State pays serious attention to what arises to take immediate action for the country, to ensure that the people on the part, will be able to maintain and win their adulation and respect.

The President of the State shall have the right to occasion deliver an address or a message to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, or to the Pyithu Hluttaw, or the amyotha Hluttaw, or to the whole country on any matter regarding the policies and conditions of the State.

I will present the Work Committee’s find of the duty and power of the President of the State to call an emergency meeting or a special meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, or the amyotha Hluttaw.

Should there arise an emergency state in the entire country or any other sound reason, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw comprising both Hluttaws may hold a meeting or special meeting. As regards this emergency or special meeting to be summoned by the President of the State to discuss and lay down the policies and conditions of some countries that the Hluttaw Chairman or the panel of chairmen, or the organization like the Council of the State, or the President of the State is vested with the power to summon an emergency meeting.

If a state of emergency arises while regular Hluttaw meetings are in progress, it is easy to make decisions at regular meetings. In connection with delivering addresses by the President of the State, in accord with law, the Work Committee assumes that the agreements the President of the State can make public to the public, the Executive Head delivers addresses to the Hluttaw or the general public, to let them know what is going on.

In connection with delivering addresses by the President of the State to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, or the amyotha Hluttaw, only then will the people, on their part, realize the affairs of their country and hold fast to what they should follow. They will also be able to maintain and preserve what should be preserved. Moreover, it will amount to the condition in which the President of the State pays serious attention to what arises to take immediate action for the country, to ensure that the people on the part, will be able to maintain and win their adulation and respect.

The President of the State shall have the right to address a message to the nation at any time on any matter.

It is therefore considered inappropiate to lay down that the President of the State should not have the right to sign the treaties with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, or the Council of State, save those which require the approval of the Parliament.

Any mistake in the decision of the President of the State will be much harmful to the country. Treaties made in connection with the matters which are within the purview of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and treaties which will seem crucial for the State should be ratified with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for vesting the President of the State with autocratic powers to enter into, ratify or annul international treaties, or withdraw from such treaties. In connection with the duty and power of the President of the State to sign treaties, it is necessary to lay down that the President of the State should have to sign the treaties of his own volition.
IMF provides emergency assistance to Sri Lanka

WASHINGTON, 6 March

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Friday that it had approved an emergency assistance of 157.5 million dollars to Sri Lanka to help cope with the effects of the tsunami that occurred last December.

"The IMF extends its deepest sympathy to the people of Sri Lanka for the destruction, suffering, and loss of life caused by the tsunami of December 26," said Tsaknti Kato, IMF deputy managing director, after the IMF’s executive board approved the aid plan.

The tsunami killed nearly 31,000 people and left one million homeless in Sri Lanka. The IMF said the country’s fisheries and tourism sectors were severely damaged in the disaster. The cost of replacing the damaged infrastructure has been estimated at over 1.5 billion dollars.

Venezuela to buy debt bonds from Argentina

CAGUACHA, 6 March — Venezuela will purchase from Argentina 500 million US dollars in debt bonds to help in Buenos Aires’ efforts to recover the country’s economy. Finance Minister Nelson Merentes announced Friday.

The government has plans this year to place the debt bonds in international market, state-run news agency ABI quoted Merentes as saying. Venezuela hopes that by doing so it may contribute to the Argentine Government’s efforts to restore its debt credit, which has been seriously damaged since a financial crisis hit the country at the end of 2001, Merentes said.

MNA/Inhua

CAUTION NOTICE

The vessel arrived on 7-3-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the permises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (078)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA Voy No. (078) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8-3-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the permises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GEE HONG VOY NO (501)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG Voy No. (501) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8-3-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the permises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (181)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA Voy No. (181) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-3-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the permises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SUNSHINE VOY NO (285/286)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUNSHINE Voy No. (285/286) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8-3-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the permises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
According to already-laid-down basic principles,...

(From page 11)

behalf of the Hluttaw is not in session. However, the President is prohibited from issuing such ordinances concerning the budget matters of the Union.

The ordinance issued by the President has the force of law only within the prescribed time and condition. The President, after issuing an ordinance, shall present it to the Hluttaw within a fixed time for approval. The ordinance will cease to have the force of law if it fails to submit it to the Hluttaw within the prescribed time. And if the Hluttaw does not approve the ordinance, it shall cease to have the force of law from the date on which it is disapproved by the Pyithu Hluttaw.

The authority to issue ordinances is vested in the President on conditions set given the nation’s situation and natural conditions.

Hence, the nation also needs to set such conditions appropriate to her situation. In doing so, the limit of the effect of the ordinance issued by the President, and the situation in which it will cease to have effect should be stated. Stipulations in connection with the time frame for the submission to the Hluttaw and when it will become void should be prescribed. It would be necessary to state that with the approval of the Hluttaw such orders will be in effect till the required date, but they shall cease to have effect from the date on which they are disapproved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Cash and kind donated to Tatmadaw by leaders of Armed Forces Day Parade

Yangon, 7 March—Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the second cash and kind donation for Tatmadaw members of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade was held at the Defence Services Museum this evening.

Present were Chairman of Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Thein Sein, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services (Army) Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Development Council Chief of Management Committee for Armed Forces Development Col Khin Maung Tun, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Nyi Tun, Ministry of National Affairs Federation Chairman, officials of the Management Committee and others.

During their parade drills, Tatmadawmen from Armed Forces Day Parade held its third coordination meeting at the Defence Services Museum this evening.

Chairman of Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day held its third coordination meeting at the Defence Services Museum this evening.

Thus, a law which states, during the time when the Hluttaw is not in session, if there arises matters which need urgent action of the State, the President shall have the right to issue ordinances, having the force of law, should be enacted. But the President should be prohibited from issuing such orders concerning the budget matters of the Union. In the Work Committee’s view, detailed basic principles concerning the matters which state, such ordinances should be submitted for approval to the nearest signature of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held within 60 days after the promulgation, and if the Hluttaw does not approve them, they should cease to have effect from the date on which they are disapproved by the Pyithu Hluttaw, the President shall issue such ordinances with the approval of the Hluttaw for them to have effect till the required date. Even such an ordinance is revoked 60 days after its promulgation, it shall be presented to the nearest meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and If such an ordinance contains matters which the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has no right to make decision according to the Constitution, the ordinance cease to have effect should be laid down.

Thus, delegates will have to discuss whether or not the following detailed basic principles should be laid down concerning the President’s functions to issue ordinances:

(a) Except State budget matters, the President shall have the right to issue an ordinance on administrative matters that need immediate action during intervals between sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Management Committee for Observance of 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day meets

Yangon, 7 March—The Management Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day held its third coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the Resistance Park here at 4 pm today with an address by Chairman of the Management Committee Col Maj-Gen Myint Swe. Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun, Parade Commander Brig-Gen Nyi Tun and senior military officers, heads of department, officials of the Management Committee and work committees and others.

In his address, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe said that the third meeting of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day was held on 4 March. The third meeting of the Management Committee is now being held; that necessary requirements for the parade columns are to be presented at the present meeting.

The commander stressed the need for officials concerned to make all the necessary arrangements for Tatmadawmen taking part in the parade columns to be able to be on parade at full capacity. Especially, the camp administrative committee in cooperation with the Management Committee is to take systematic measures for the convenience of the Tatmadawmen, he noted.

He called on officials to carry out the remaining works as soon as possible as the Armed Forces Day parade is drawing nearer although the majority of works of the Management Committee and the work committees has already been carried out. Next, Secretary of the Management Committee Lt-Col Myo Naing reported on the resolutions of the second coordination meeting of the committee and progress of work. Afterwards, Chairman of Parade Work Committee Col Aung Kyi, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi and Parade Commander Brig-Gen Nyi Tun reported on matters related to drilling.

Next, officials of the respective work committees, the camp administrative committee, the Myanmar Police Force, the Fire Services Department, the Myanmar Red Cross Society, and the Ministry of Defence and other respective ministries and the station commanders took part in the discussions. The meeting ended at 5 pm with the concluding remarks by Chairman of the Management Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.—MNA

THE  NEW  LIGHT  OF  MYANMAR   Tuesday, 8 March, 2005  13

Yangon, 7 March—The Tatmadaw columns which will participate in the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005 continued practising drills in Myorna ground this morning.

Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win accepts cash and kind donated by well-wishers. —MNA

During their parade drills, Tatmadawmen from Anawrahta column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Kyansitha Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Myint Tun, Bandooola Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Thawtaw Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Kawgnya Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Kawgnya Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Nayawgyi Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Lwin Khin Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Sae Taing-aung Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, and Sae Taing-aung Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, watched the practising drills. —MNA
India beats China 5-0 in Davis Cup
NEW DELHI, 7 March—India completed a 5-0 sweep over China in their Davis Cup Asia-Oceania Group 1 first-round tie here on Sunday.

Prakash Amritraj and Harsh Mankad scored convincing wins in the reverse singles after India’s famed doubles pair of Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi had ensured an unsailable 3-0 lead on Saturday.

Amritraj, who registered his first Davis Cup win over Wang Yu in the second singles, brushed aside Sun Peng 6-2, 6-4 in the first reverse singles.

The son of 1970s and 1980s tennis star Vijay Amritraj, Prakash played an aggressive serve-and-volley game to vanquish his opponent. Amritraj produced seven aces in the match and was never under pressure to hold serve.

Amritraj set the tone for Mankad to ensure that India blanked its opponents.

India will clash with the winner between Indonesia and Uzbekistan in the second round. —MNA/Xinhua

Blackburn Rovers defeat Everton 1-0
LONDON, 7 March—Everton missed the chance to ease further away from city rivals Liverpool in their quest for European football next season after slumping to a 1-0 home defeat against Blackburn Rovers on Sunday.

Victory for Rovers moved them further clear of relegation danger whilerov

Blackburn only held the lead for five minutes before goalkeeper Juan Luis Mora gifted the home side the lead when Wellington Silva chipped the ball into the far corner.

Amritraj produced seven aces in the match and was never under pressure to hold serve.

Amritraj set the tone for Mankad to ensure that India blanked its opponents.

India will clash with the winner between Indonesia and Uzbekistan in the second round. —MNA/Xinhua

Espanyol beat Levante 2-1
MADRID, 7 March—A spectacular goal from Maxi Rodriguez fired Espanyol to a 2-1 win over Levante and into third place in the Primera Liga on Sunday.

Argentine striker Maxi secured the win with a well-taken volley from just outside the area in the 65th minute, taking his tally for the season to 11.

Villarreal, who had started the day in third, slipped to fourth after they were held to a 1-1 draw at Numancia.

Barcelona extended their lead at the top to eight points on Saturday with a 1-0 win over Osasuna, while second-placed Real Madrid were held to a 1-1 draw in Valencia.

Spurred on by Tuesday’s goalless draw against city rivals Barcelona in the Nou Camp, Espanyol took the game to the visitors Levante, but missed the creative influence of injured midfielder Ivan de la Pena.

Against the run of play Bernd Schuster’s side took the lead when winger Felix Eitken broke down the left with a fantastic shot.

Everson’s go-kicker Nigel Martyn claims the ball ahead of Blackburn Rovers’ Jonathan Stead during their English Premiership League soccer match at Goodison Park, Liverpool, England, on Sunday, 6 March, 2005. Blackburn won the match 1-0. —INTERNET

Blackburn Rovers’ Jonathan Stead during their English Premiership League soccer match at Goodison Park, Liverpool, England, on Sunday, 6 March, 2005. Blackburn won the match 1-0. —INTERNET

Stoppage-time penalty gives Inter 2-1 win over Lecce
MILAN, 7 March—An 89th minute penalty from Brazilian Adriano gave Inter Milan a 2-1 victory over Lecce on Sunday but Sampdoria kept a hold on third place with a 1-0 win over Chievo Verona.

AC Milan and Juventus, who won the derby the day before, shared the lead with 60 points each, 13 ahead of Sampdoria. Milan won 2-1 at Atalanta and Juventus recorded the same scoreline at Roma.

Inter have conceded they are out of the title race but with their ambitions in the Champions League still alive they badly needed to bounce back from last week’s derby defeat to AC Milan.

Without a title since 1989, Inter have had a habit of failing to pieces after derby losses and the trend looked as though it could continue when Alex Pinardi put Lecce ahead in the 21st minute after some poor defending.

Five minutes later though Inter drew the level when Colombian defender Ivan Cordoba headed home a Sinisa Mihajlovic corner.

Inter were awarded a penalty for a foul on Julio Ricardo Cruz and Adriano

Robben could return for Chelsea against Barca
LONDON, 7 March—Inspirational winger Arjen Robben could return for Chelsea against Barcelona in their Champions League first knockout round second-leg match on Tuesday, manager Jose Mourinho said on Saturday.

Robben, who broke two bones in his foot during a Premier League game against Blackburn Rovers on February 2, has made a swift recovery and has been training with the first-team squad for a week. “He has a chance, but not of playing for 90 minutes,” Mourinho told Sky Sports News.

Mourinho told Sky Sports News: “If he’s not ready for the Barca game, he’ll be ready for West Brom. The 21-year-old Netherlands international, whose jinking runs and pinpoint crosses have lit up Chelsea’s performances and confounded opponents, has scored nine goals this season despite missing some three months through injury.

Mourinho now has further injury concerns after three players picked up knocks during Saturday’s win.

Claude Makelele, John Terry and Joe Cole have problems,” said the Chelsea coach.

But I trust them. I trust their desire to play and the medical department. And I think they will be ready.” —MNA/Reuters

France ties Sweden 2-2 in Davis Cup
PARIS, 7 March—France tied Sweden 2-2 in their Davis Cup World Group first round tie after the first reverse singles on Sunday (French names first):

Arnaud Clement/Michael Llodra beat Jonas Bjorkman/Simon Aspelin 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4.

France’s Paul-Henri Mathieu (R) is congratulated by French team captain Guy Forget after defeating Sweden’s Thomas Johansson 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4 during their Davis Cup first round fifth match in Strasbourg. France won 3 to 2 and qualified for the next round. —INTERNET

DAVID JOHANSSON, 6-4, 6-7 (1-7)

Tennis: France defeats Sweden 2-2 in Davis Cup
MADRID, 7 March—France and Sweden tied 2-2 in their Davis Cup World Group first round tie after the first reverse singles on Sunday (French names first):

Sebastien Grosjean lost to Joachim Johansson 6-3, 1-6, 4-6, 1-6.

Saturday’s doubles:

Arnaud Clement/Michael Llodra beat Jonas Bjorkman/Simon Aspelin 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4.

Friday’s singles:

Grosjean lost to Thomas Johansson 4-6, 6-4, 6-7 (1-7).

Paul-Henri Mathieu beat Joachim Johansson 6-3, 4-6, 6-2. —MNA/Xinhua

Hertha Berlin salvage 1-1 draw with Kaiserslautern
FRANKFURT, 7 March—Hertha Berlin lost ground in the race for Champions League places in Germany when they could snatch only a 1-1 draw at home to Kaiserslautern on Sunday.

Hertha fell behind to a Lucien Mettono goal five minutes into the second half, but had goals disallowed and managed to grab a point when Alexander Madlung headed in five minutes from the region.

The result left Hertha in fifth place on 40 points, 10 behind joint leaders Bayern Munich and Schalke 04 and three adrift of Werder Bremen in the third Champions League slot.

Bayern beat Werder 1-0 on Saturday to stay ahead on goal difference after Schalke won 2-0 at VfL Bochum.

Fourth-rounded VfB Stuttgart, on 42 points, beat Arminia Bielefeld 2-0.

With 10 matches to play, Hertha are in a tight race for the third Champions League spot, with four points separating Werder in third and Bayer Leverkusen in seventh.

In Sunday’s other match Borussia Dortmund drew 2-2 at FC Nuremberg.

The club from the capital should have had the game settled in the first half as

Hertha’s midfield threatened to overwhelm Kaiserslautern, but their finishing left them down.

Artur Wichniarek blasted wide when he seemed certain to score in the 10th minute and 10 minutes later the Poland international’s header was brilliantly saved by Kaiserslautern keeper Thomas Ernst. —MNA/Reuters

France ties Sweden 2-2 in Davis Cup
PARIS, 7 March—France tied Sweden 2-2 in their Davis Cup World Group first round tie after the first reverse singles on Sunday (French names first):

Arnaud Clement/Michael Llodra beat Jonas Bjorkman/Simon Aspelin 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4.

Friday’s singles:

Grosjean lost to Thomas Johansson 4-6, 6-4, 6-7 (1-7).

Paul-Henri Mathieu beat Joachim Johansson 6-3, 4-6, 6-2. —MNA/Xinhua

France’s Paul-Henri Mathieu (R) is congratulated by French team captain Guy Forget after defeating Sweden’s Thomas Johansson 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4 during their Davis Cup first round fifth match in Strasbourg. France won 3 to 2 and qualified for the next round. —INTERNET

France’s Paul-Henri Mathieu (R) is congratulated by French team captain Guy Forget after defeating Sweden’s Thomas Johansson 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4 during their Davis Cup first round fifth match in Strasbourg. France won 3 to 2 and qualified for the next round. —INTERNET
Egypt rejects politicizing human rights issues

Cairo, 7 March—Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit said Sunday that Egypt rejects the principle of politicizing human rights issues and the double standards policy adopted by some countries in this regard, Egypt’s official MENA news agency reported.

“Egypt has taken serious steps to promote respect for human rights in order to realize a breakthrough in the process of reform and development,” Abul Gheit said in a speech sent to the First Regional Conference on National Human Rights Institutions in the Arab World.

“Egypt has realized great achievements in the fields of enhancing and respecting the rights of women and children” through various programs, added the Egyptian official.

He also reiterated Egypt’s “objection to all attempts aimed at imposing stereotyped values that do not suit our societies.”

The three-day conference, which opened Tuesday, is attended by representatives of civil society organizations in 19 Arab countries in addition to experts and representatives of international organizations—MNA/Xinhua

Sudan slams US drafted resolution as hampering peace

Khartoum, 7 March — The Sudanese Government on Saturday slammed a US-drafted resolution to the UN Security Council for sanctioning “Egregious acts” through various programs, added the Egyptian official.

He also reiterated Egypt’s “objection to all attempts aimed at imposing stereotyped values that do not suit our societies.”

The three-day conference, which opened Tuesday, is attended by representatives of civil society organizations in 19 Arab countries in addition to experts and representatives of international organizations—MNA/Xinhua

Egypt’s craniopagus parasiticus baby has another operation

Cairo, 7 March—An Egyptian baby who had an operation to remove a second head last month has had a second operation to extract excess fluid from her brain, one of her doctors said on Sunday.

Ten-month-old Manar Maged had the operation because she developed hydrocephalus, a condition in which fluid accumulates in the cerebral ventricles causing convulsions and an enlargement of the skull, said Nasef Hafayw, head of paediatrics at Benha Children’s Hospital north of Cairo.

We planted a valve in her brain in a one-hour operation on Friday that managed to stop her convulsions ... Manar’s case is now stable with normal heart beat, blood pressure, enzyme level and reflex actions,” he added.

Because of a very rare birth defect known as craniopagus parasiticus, Maged was born attached skull-to-skull to the head of an undeveloped twin. Doctors have said Manar’s case is extremely rare and her survival of the operation was a big achievement in itself—MNA/Reuters

International Women’s Day

8th March, 2005

Tuesday, 8 March

View on today:

8:00 am
- First news
8:30 am
- Music
- Particulars
9:00 am
- National news
9:30 am
- Music
10:00 am
- News/Slogan
10:30 am
- TV programme

Tuesday, 8 March

8:15 am
- News/Slogan
8:25 am
- Song of yesteryears
8:45 am
- News/Slogan
5:00 pm
- TV programme
5:45 pm
- News/Slogan
6:00 pm
- News/Slogan
7:30 pm
- News/Slogan
8:00 pm
- News/Slogan

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YANGON, 7 March — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, accompanied by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Otn Myint, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, on 5 March inspected measures being taken for development of education, health, farming and transport sectors in Myeik and gave necessary instructions to officials concerned.

First, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived at the Myeik University’s main building construction project site. Pro-Rector U Tun Thein reported them matters on academic matters and research. Next, U Khin Oo of Yazana Co reported on arrangements for completion of the construction of the university in September 2005 with audio-visual aids. Divisional Public Works Superintending Engineer U Ba One reported on construction works there. Then, Lt-Gen Maung Bo made a speech. He said that more universities are being opened at major cities for producing highly-qualified human resources and the onus is on faculty members to nurture students to be well-versed and qualified. He added that the education sector plays a key role in shaping a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Only highly-qualified persons will be able to build a democratic nation. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the university teachers to inculcate students with correct thoughts and outlooks, he stressed. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo looked into progress of construction of the university building.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo proceeded to the Myeik General Hospital where he gave necessary instructions to staff. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected construction of operation theatre and medical ward in the hospital compound.

Later, they arrived at the Myeik. People’s Hospital and they were conducted round the hospital by officials and doctors. They inspected the delivery room, medical store and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Thence, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded by car and inspected the Kywegu-Kyaungkhyapa Bridge. They also inspected the sea prawn breeding station at Thamok-lotlot village of Kyakpykha village-tract. Officials concerned reported progress of works and Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions on regional development. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected rubber plantation at Kyaukmoon village of Kachok village-tract. In Taninthayi Division, 108,336 acres have been put under rubber and plans are under way to put 100,000 acres under rubber. In the entire Taninthayi Division, there are altogether 700,000 acres suitable for growing rubber.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded by car along Kawkhong-Bokpyin-Dawei Union Highway and arrived back in Myeik. — MNA

Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe.

Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Attorney-General U Aye Maung. MNA

YANGON, 7 March — The following is the full clarification made by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe on powers and functions of the President for laying down detailed basic principles for sharing of legislative and judicial power to be included in the State Constitution, at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungkhpin Camp in Hmawby Township, today.

The previous plenary sessions of the National Convention have laid down the basic principles and detailed basic principles “the Head of State is the President of the Union”, “the Executive Head of State is the President of the State” and “the President shall exercise powers and functions vested in him by the Constitution and other laws”. In accord with the basic principles and detailed basic principles, administrative duties and rights as the Head of State and the Executive Head of State should be entrusted to the President. In doing so, the division of the powers and functions to be vested in the President should be as follows:

- executive powers and functions he shall exercise on his own initiative
- executive powers and functions he shall exercise on his own initiative and shall seek the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
- executive powers and functions he shall exercise only with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

I would like to explain that the executive powers and functions the President shall exercise on.

(See page 9)

The President of the State, in accord with law, shall appoint and dismiss heads of bodies of public services.

YANGON, 7 March — The following is the full clarification made by Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Attorney-General Aye Maung on behalf of the Attorney-General of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, on powers and functions of the President for laying down detailed basic principles for sharing of legislative and judicial power to be included in the State Constitution, at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungkhpin Camp in Hmawby Township, today.

Now, the Work Committee will present its findings on the powers and functions in connection with the appointment and recall of the nation’s diplomats, the agreement of the appointment of foreign diplomats, acceptance of their credentials and sending of information to recall them.

Most of the Republics of the world vest the above-mentioned powers and functions in the Presidents, but the 1947 Constitution had no separate stipulations concerning the matter. It did stipulate the term “diplomatic, consular, and trade representation” in the Union Legislative List of the Parliament. However, the 1974 Constitution states, “The Council of State shall make decisions concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations with foreign countries, severance of such relations and appointment and recall of diplomatic representatives.”

Powers and functions of the President concerning the appointment and acceptance of (See page 10)

INSIDE

Bagan is located in Mandalay Division. So the Myanmar fine arts of Bagan era can be compared with that of Konbaung era. The tourism industry is making progress cumulatively in Bagan-Nyaung U region enjoying regional development. Being globally well known, Bagan is making progress in services and raising the living level of its local people.

(See page 6) MOE HTET MYINT (DELTA)