However powerful the forces instigating a handful of terrorists from behind are, constructive strength of the people will win over destructive groups.

Kayan Sluice Gate put into commission

Yangon, 12 May—
The inauguration of Kayan Sluice Gate constructed by Construction (6) of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry for Agriculture and Irrigation took place at the facility near old Chaungwa village in Thanylin Township, Yangon South District, this morning, with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for A & I Maj-Gen Hay Oo, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lan, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Brig-Gen Than Tun, senior military officers, officials, local authorities, members of social organizations and local people totaling more than 5,000.

The Secretary-1 in his speech said that the facility is part of the project for all-year-round greening of 30-mile radius of Yangon, the capital, initiated by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe. In the process, the government has implemented dam projects in the regions in the north of Yangon where water is scarce, and sluice gate (See page 8).

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Boost production through systematic use of water resources

As the Union of Myanmar is endowed with favourable conditions for agriculture, it is necessary for us to try systematically to boost the agricultural production. The government is striving for the development of the agriculture sector in accordance with one of the four economic objectives — development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well.

In the regions where there is a vast area of arable land, measures are being taken to supply water sufficiently for agricultural purpose through various ways and means. Moreover, the government is rendering assistance by providing farmers with quality strains and modern cultivation methods. Such regions as Mandalay and Magway Divisions have vast stretches of virgin and vacant land but they are in the dry and arid zone. In the past, the farmers in those regions had to rely on rain for cultivation of crops. However hard they worked, harvest was sometimes bad should there be little rain.

Nowadays, the government is building clusters of dams and river water pumping stations all over the nation, especially in the dry and arid regions. Efforts are being made to complete the Ngathayauk Dam in time, which is situated in NyaungU District, Mandalay Division. Now, the main dam, the conduit and the control tower have been completed. The dam is 7,550 feet long and 64 feet high and will be capable of storing 7,000 acre feet of water. It will be able to irrigate 2,000 acres of farmland and supply drinking water to the villages nearby. In NyaungU Township, paddy, beans and pulses, sesame and long-staple cotton are being grown with the use of the Lawkanandar river water pumping station which pumps water from the Ayeyawady River.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has prepared 4,500 acres of land in order that they will be suitable for growing paddy. Moreover, steps are being taken to irrigate another 10,000 acres of paddy land. It is only necessary for local farmers to put their energies into their work to boost production. The government is fulfilling all their requirements for the development of the agriculture sector, the main pillar of the national economy. Therefore, we would like to call on farmers and regional authorities to try to boost production by making systematic use of water resources.

MRTV Director-General arrives back

YANGON, 12 May — After attending the Asia Media Summit 2005 held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 9 to 11 May, Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of Myanma Radio and Television arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

YANGON, 12 May — The Myanmar Nurses Association (Central) held a ceremony to mark the International Nurses Day 2005 at the Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Street this morning, with an address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and reports by officials on facts about the project, use of heavy machinery and construction tasks. After fulfilling requirements, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave necessary instructions. Next, they viewed progress of the project.

Kataik Dam is of earth dam situated two miles from Kataik Village. The dam will prevent floods of Yinmyen Creek and irrigate 10,000 acres of farmland. At No 1 Paper Mill in Sittoung, they oversaw machine parts and products manufactured at the mill. Mill Manager Major Paik Htwe and Assistant Director U Tint Lwin of Irrigation Department submitted reports on matters related to the mill and progress and arrangements for building Tarum Dam.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo viewed round the compound of the mill and production of paper and exercise books. They arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

In implementing the health aims of nurses, health staff and midwives are the fundamental and vital force, the minister added. In accord with the motto, “Nurses for Patient Safety”, nurses are the ones having direct contact with the people and performing the rehabilitation facilities. Only if nurses, health staff and midwives at rural health care units discharge their duties conscientiously will progress of health standard of rural people be achieved.

In conclusion, he urged them to serve the interest of the people with full of sympathies.

Next, the Chairperson of MNA (Central) made a speech and presented the certificates of honour to Chairman of Myanmar Music Asociation Accordion U Ohn Kyaw and Dr Daw Beauty Kyi and party. Afterwards, those present took part in the discussions and the meeting ended with the conclusion remarks by the meeting chairman.

MNA
NAM declaration urges inclusion of women’s interests in policies

PUTRAJAYA (Malaysia), 11 May — The Putrajaya Declaration, adopted at the end of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) ministerial meeting on women Tuesday, urges members to integrate women’s interests and concerns into their national policies.

The declaration was unveiled by Malaysian Women, Family and Community Development Minister Shahrizat Abdul Jalil at the closing session of the two-day meeting here attended by delegates from some 80 member states.

The Women, Poverty and Economic Development issue, the document sets out 20 areas of commitment and action. They include integrating women’s interests and concerns into national economic policies and reforms on the basis of equality with men, taking into consideration the effects of global economic trend.

In this respect, NAM commits itself to strengthen the role of the public sector in ensuring and providing comprehensive health services to women as well as education and social security services to enable their full integration into economic activities, the declaration says.

The Putrajaya Declaration notes that there is little progress made in attaining positions of political power for women and they are largely under-represented in almost all sectors and at all levels of decision-making, including in the government.

Under “Women in Power and Decision Making” issue, NAM commits itself to formulate and adopt policies to increase participation and representation of women in all commissions, tribunals, local government bodies and statutory bodies, with the view to achieving equal representation of women, according to the document.

The members also commit themselves to adopt affirmative action policies to increase the proportion of women at the decision-making level, at least to a minimum 30 per cent in both public and private sector bodies, including the legislature, it adds.

ASEAN countries want stronger electricity exchange

HANOI, 11 May — Electricity officials from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) gathered in Laos, discussing measures to beef up regional power exchange, according to sources from the country on Tuesday.

During the 20th meeting of the forum of Heads of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities (HAPUA) which concluded in Vientiane on Tuesday, delegates stressed the importance of boosting power exchange and trade between and among the 10 countries via high-voltage transmission networks.

They also called for the establishment of an interconnected high-voltage grid to facilitate the purpose and reduce costs for power plant developments.

During the two-day meeting, the delegates agreed that governments of ASEAN countries should create more favourable conditions for the stronger participation of private sector in the electricity industry in each nation as well as in the whole region, since the sector is rich in financial sources and grass-root managerial skills. ASEAN made the first big push for developing a regional electricity grid in 1981, when it established the HAPUA to study interconnected power projects.

The history of interconnection between ASEAN countries dates back to 1966 when Laos and Thailand exchanged electricity on a commercial basis, the sources said. This was followed by Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore inking bilateral agreements for power exchange in 1978.

60 killed in suicide attacks across Iraq

BAGHDAD, 11 May—Five suicide attacks in three cities in Iraq killed more than 60 people Wednesday. In the deadliest, a man with hidden explosives set them off in a line of people outside a police and army recruitment centre in northern Iraq, killing 30 and wounding 35, police said.

In Tikrit, meanwhile, a suicide car bomb exploded in a small market near a police station, killing at least 27 people and wounding 75, police said.

Three car bombs also exploded in Baghdad, killing at least four, police said.

Police first thought the powerful blast in Hawija, a small town 150 miles north of Baghdad, was caused by a car bomb, but police Maj. Sarhad Qadir later said they later found it was an attacker waiting in a line of about 150 recruits.

“I was standing near the centre and all of a sudden it turned into a scene of dead bodies and pools of blood,” said police Sgt. Khalaf Abbas. “Windows were blown out in nearby houses, leaving the street covered by glass.” He spoke in an interview from the chaotic scene over his cell phone.

Qadir said 30 people were killed and 35 were wounded, including about 15 who were in critical condition. Like many other such recruitment centers in Iraq, Hawija’s is located in a building surrounded by cement walls topped with barbed wire in an effort to prevent attacks by car bombs. Men often line up outside such centers early in the morning to apply for jobs at a time of high unemployment in Iraq.
Cambodia asks for more concrete projects for women

Putrajaya (Malaysia), 11 May — The Putrajaya Declaration to be adopted at the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) ministerial meeting on women would provide more concrete actions to promote advancement of women, a Cambodian minister said on Tuesday.

"With the NAM countries' diversity, different challenges and experiences, this Putrajaya Declaration will serve as a driving force to push all NAM countries forward to serve the interests and needs of women," Cambodian Women's Affairs Minister Dr Ing Kantha Phavi told reporters on the sidelines of the NAM Ministerial Meeting on the Advancement of Women, which ends here late Tuesday.

The declaration, the blueprint for the advancement and empowerment of women in the 114 NAM countries, would complement the Beijing Platform for Action and provide more concrete actions, she said.

Dr Ing said that NAM could raise its members' problems and concerns with a strong voice at the United Nations and all international meetings.

On the meeting's sub-theme, "Women and Health", she said Cambodia had the highest rate of new HIV/AIDS cases in Southeast Asia, mainly due to husband-to-wife transmission, but the prevalence rate of HIV positive people and people living with AIDS had dropped from 2.4 per cent of the population two years ago to 1.9 per cent now.

A foreign aid organization cited Cambodia last year as one of three countries which had been successful with its "100 per cent condoms" campaign as well as promoting abstinence and being faithful.

"Although the campaign had been effective with risk groups such as the military, police and prostitutes, it had met with resistance from married couples, according to the organization.

"We need to change the belief that using condoms means you don't trust your spouse," she said.

She said the ministry had also met with resistance within the government when it tried to mainstream quotas for women, who make up less than 30 per cent of the public sector and only 2 per cent of the decision-makers.

"We were accused of being against the Constitution," said Dr Ing, who is also deputy high commissioner of the Supreme Council for State Reform.

China's largest alkali plant to start production in June

XINING, 11 May — China's largest alkali plant, the Qinghai Alkali Industry Co Ltd, will start production next month after the construction of its first production line is completed, a company spokesperson has said.

The production line is expected to produce 250,000 tons of alkali by the end of this year. The plant is located in Delingha, a city in northwestern Qinghai Province.

The annual production capacity of the plant is expected to reach 1.8 million tons after another production line starts operation in 2006, the spokesperson said.

The construction of the project, with an investment of three billion yuan (more than 360 million US dollars), started in August, 2003.

The plant has recruited more than 800 workers, and more than 400 of them have undergone vocational training in Taijin and Tangshan, two cities in north China, home to the country's leading alkali producers.

Singapore adopts family-friendly work ethics

Putrajaya (Malaysia), 11 May — Singapore has been adopting family-friendly work ethics which has immensely benefited the republic's working women, a government minister said on Tuesday.

Among the schemes that have been implemented by the public service is the on-leave for married female civil servants for child care up to a maximum of four years for each child below four years old. Yu-Foo Yee Shoon, Singapore's Community Development, Youth and Sports Minister said at the plenary session of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ministerial Meeting on the Advancement of Women here.

Yu-Foo, who is also head of the Singapore delegation to the meeting, said married civil servants are also given the option to be employed on part-time basis up to three years, regardless of the child's age.

"It also allows tele-working where practical as an alternative working arrangement, particularly women with young children," she said.

Yu-Foo said this has been achieved by the setting up of the Work Life Unit by the government tasked to spearhead the promotion of work-life friendly organizations through a three-pronged strategy of promoting awareness, building local capability and facilitating funding.

She said the unit is also working closely with the private sector to encourage family-friendly work practices be made available for their employees.

She said the unit was set up in 2000 when the government recognized that greater women involvement in the labour market had posed new and unique challenges, particularly in managing the balance between work and family.

S Korea to invest $730m for SME technological development

Seoul, 11 May — The South Korean Government plans to invest 734.2 billion won ($734.2 million US dollars) to help the technological development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) this year, Yonhap news agency reported on Tuesday. The money will be appropriated from research and development (R&D) projects of nine ministries and six publicly-owned companies, including the ministries of Commerce, Science and National Defence, Yonhap quoted the Small and Medium Business Administration as saying.

The fund represents a 10.8-per-cent increase compared to the 662.4 billion won transferred to help smaller companies with their R&D efforts in 2003, the administration said in a report at a Cabinet meeting earlier in the day.

South Korea has made efforts in recent years to bolster the technological development of SMEs that are the leading providers of jobs in the country and can compliment sustained growth of larger conglomerates.

Troop who refused Iraq deployment charged

Baghdad, 11 May — In the four months since he refused to return to Iraq, Sgt Kevin Benderman has been called a coward, denied conscientious objector status by the Army and charged with deserting his unit.

Now the Army mechanic faces up to seven years in a military prison if convicted at a court-martial set to begin Thursday. He also faces reduction in rank, loss of pay and a dishonourable discharge.

Benderman skipped his unit's deployment flight in January, just 10 days after giving his commanders notice that he was seeking a discharge as a conscientious objector.

Benderman, 40, had already served one tour in Iraq during the US-led invasion in 2003. The 3rd Infantry Division soldier says what he saw there — a young girl clutching a badly burned arm, dogs feeding on corpses in a mass grave and Iraqi civilians drinking from mud puddles — left him morally opposed to returning to war.

The military defines a deserter as a soldier who flees military service with no intent to return or to "avoid hazardous duty or to shirk important service."

Benderman insists he never deserted the Army. The weekend his unit deployed, he says, he stayed at home a few miles off
Robots set to wow visitors at
Japan’s world expo 2005

NAGAKUTE (Japan), 11 May — Visitors to the 2005 World Exposition, Aichi, Japan, will catch a glimpse of the city of 2020 where people and robots will coexist thanks to an exhibition of 65 prototype robots scheduled for 9-19 June at the expo site.

Under the theme “A 2020 City: Living with Robots”, the Prototype Robot Exhibition will be staged by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) as part of its “Project for the Practical Application of Next-Generation Robots.” Tetsuya Yamamoto, manager of the Machinery Development Section of NEDO, told a Press conference here Tuesday.

Each of the robots to be exhibited is based on the concept that people and robots will coexist in the world of tomorrow, and that robots will become an integral part of people’s daily lives, said the official.

“The displays of prototype robots are designed to show Expo 2005 visitors how robots will interact in our daily life, how we will use them, and what role they will play in the future. By interacting with the robots on such a scale, visitors will be given a chance to glimpse lifestyles of the future and be able to think more about their reality,” said Yamamoto.

In addition, the exhibition of 65 prototype robots is positioned to showcase advances in the development of practical next-generation robot technology that will be suited to a wide variety of applications by around the Year 2020.

For this reason, Expo 2005 represents not only a proving ground for the technology behind the robots as they move closer to commercial reality, but also a place to consider the scope of the relationship between people and robots from the standpoint of an individual, he added. With the goal of commercializing the prototype robots by 2020, the data collected at Expo 2005 will be used to develop new robot technology, said Yamamoto.

NZ to accede ASEAN’s Treaty of Amity and Cooperation

WELLINGTON, 11 May — New Zealand has decided in principle to accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) in Southeast Asia, Prime Minister Helen Clark announced here on Monday.

Helen Clark made the announcement following talks with the Prime Minister of Vietnam, Phan Van Khai, who is in New Zealand as part of a five-day visit marking 30 years of diplomatic relations between New Zealand and Vietnam.

“The government will submit the text of the Treaty, with a National Interest Analysis, to Parliament’s Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Com-

Dhaka, 11 May — The recently concluded Asia-African Summit was the high water mark of Third World internationalism as most prominent leaders of Asia and Africa gathered in Bandung to rekindle the spirit of cooperation first imbibed 50 years ago, a former Bangladeshi diplomat said.

Syed Jamaluddin, former economic minister of Bangladesh mission to the United Nations in Geneva, said that at Bandung, the birth place of the Non-Aligned Movement, representatives of more than 80 African and Asian nations concluded their summit with promises for greater economic and political cooperation between the two continents.

He said in a commentary published in The Financial Express on Tuesday that presidents, prime ministers and kings gathered at Bandung to commemorate the golden jubilee of the 1955 Asia and African conference and to reinvigorate the Bandung spirit by working together toward a New Asian-African Strategic Partnership (NAASP) that will promote peace, prosperity and progress in the two continents.

Thailand warns of mutated dengue virus

BANGKOK, 11 May — Thailand on Monday issued a national alert against dengue fever, with virus mutation considered possible to deteriorate the epidemic.

The current dengue alert at hospitals was high enough, but private clinics were a concern, and had to be alerted because of the difficulties of diagnosing dengue in its early stages, said Kittipan Pramjar, head of the dengue fever control division.

Dengue fever became more virulent than last year, causing at least 10 deaths in the past five months, Kittipan was quoted on Tuesday by newspaper Nation as saying. More than 6,000 cases of dengue fever were reported from January to the end of April. Ten of them resulted in death, six more than the same period last year.

After an urgent meeting held on Monday, the Public Health Ministry issued a nationwide dengue epidemic alert and set up a so-called war room to fight the epidemic. Experts are also worrying that possible mutation of dengue virus would make the disease more virulent and difficult to control.

Samples from the latest severe case had been sent for lab test and the results would come out in days, said disease control department head Thawat Suntharacharn.—MNA/Xinhua

49-year-old Thai police officer Payu Pongprudit displays his handmade wire motorcycle toy, which costs 1800 baht (US$45), at a Police station in Bangkok, on 10 May, 2005.—INTERNET

Airbus to create major engineering centre in China

BEIJING, 11 May — Aviation giant Airbus has said it will deliver a set of flight and navigation simulators for A320 passenger planes to China’s leading civil aviation flight university in August.

Airbus said the move represents part of its effort to honour its agreement with the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) to improve its civil aviation safety standards.

According to a statement made available by Xinhua by Airbus China, the simulator to be delivered to the Civil Aviation Flight University of China is valued at “several million yuan” (hundreds of thousands of US dollars). With the simulator, the university will be capable of offering training courses for flying large passenger jets with more than 100 seats, according to Airbus.

Located in Guanghan City in southwest China’s Sichuan Province, the university has produced at least 90 per cent of the country’s civil aviation pilots, according to a spokesman for the school.

There are more than 100 A320 passenger planes in service in China, and more will be introduced to the country’s airlines, Airbus said. Jean-Hugues Depigny, vice-president of customer services of Airbus China, said Airbus is committed to the development of China’s aviation industry. —MNA/Xinhua

Former Bangladeshi diplomat comments on Asia-Africa Summit

The NAASP would provide guidance and mechanism by which countries of Asia and Africa would strengthen cooperation between the two continents and translate ideas into realities, he said.

The former diplomat observed that the ceremonial activities of the golden jubilee of the 1955 Bandung Conference in the West Java capital were not in themselves substantive but the symbolic nature resonated a commitment to principles laid down half a century ago.

“But this has resulted in new partnership for development,” he added.

The rapid structural transformation in Asian countries and the adoption of reforms to revive Africa’s economic prospects provide a propitious setting for renewed efforts to strengthen Afro-Asian cooperation, he said.

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MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

A pair of Jaguar cubs play in muddy water to beat the heat in its enclosure at New Delhi’s zoo, on 11 May, 2005. —INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua
Locals in Kengtung Township,...

(from page 16)

Departmental officials from Kengtung Township, Vice-Chairman U San Lu and members of Shan State (East) Special Region-4, U Armin and party of Shan State (North) Special Region-2, members of the Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Township Women’s Affairs Organization, Township War Veterans Organization, Union Solidarity and Development Association, faculty members and students of Kengtung Degree College, Government Technological College and Government Computer College, students of basic education schools, trainees of Kengtung Nurses Training School, social organizations in Kengtung, Red Cross Society and Auxiliary Fire Brigade and local people in Kengtung, Tachileik, Mongbyat and Mongsbat Columns, entrepreneurs in Kengtung, shop owners, and locals such as Shan, Akha, Lahu, Loila, Lisu, Wa and Palaung national races totalling 10500 attended the ceremony.

Next, Shan national U Sai Haung Hkam of Ward-2 in Kengtung presided over the rally together with Lahu national U Kyada of Ward-5, Kengtung and Akha national U Peter.

Shan nationals Daw Nan Nham Tit and Daw Nan Hnoung Hkam acted as master of ceremonies and co-MC.

After announcing the opening of the ceremony, those present at the rally saluted the State flag. Afterwards, U Sai Haung Hkam delivered an opening speech. (U Sai Haung Hkam’s speech is reported separately.)

Kengtung seconded the motion in Myanmar, Shan, Lahu and Akha languages respectively. (Speeches of Daw Nan Hnoung Hkam Tit, U Alfred and U Kyi Lin are reported separately.)

Those attending the mass rally chanting slogans.—MNA

In fact, the internal destructive elements commit acts in harmony with clandestine plots and instigations of colonialists. Thus, the national brethren with awareness are to be united to overcome all types of destructive acts.

MNA
YANGON, 12 May.—The following is a translation of the speech delivered by U Alfred.

U Alfred, a Lahu national race, Lwemwe village, Kengtung Township, seconded the motion calling for opposing and condemning the announcement on secession plan of renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and his cohorts.

YANGON, 12 May.—The following is a translation of the speech delivered by Daw Nan Hkam Tit of Ward 5, Kengtung.

The Union is home to all the national races living in unity and harmony since yore. It is like a garden where various species of flowers are blooming well. Every time the nation faces external intrusions, the nationalities ward it off with the united strength. The regaining of independence is the symbol and evidence of their united strength. If we look into the problem of secession of Shan State from the Union created by Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts, the colonialist puppeteer from behind the scene and their life as the colonialists mercenaries can be seen clearly. Sao Hkam Hpa and group lied to the nation that 48 townships are supported them. In reality they are declaring a parallel government but acting like bandits. Thus, people of the townships including Hsipaw, Laikha, Monglaung townships have already condemned them. As their acts are directed at breaking up the Union, the Government declared their group unlawful. The existing political parties and peace groups have opposed and denounced them. They are saying the words that are so bitter for the entire national people to hear. But the love for the nation and Union Spirit are strengthening in the hearts and minds of the people. Thus, the meeting announces the entire people of Kengtung Township oppose and condemn Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts.

U KYI LIN.—MNA

YANGON, 12 May. —The following is a translation of speech of Akha national U Kyi Lin of Ward 3 in Kengtung.

He said that the Tatmadaw Government took responsibilities of the State owing to reign of anarchism in the country in 1988. From that day onward, the Government has been making efforts for development of the entire nation including border areas in order to put an end to internal insurgency. He added that not only development of economic, social, education and religious affairs but also drug elimination tasks are being carried out as a national duty in the region. It can be seen that unprecedented development of the present situation of the State is much different from that in over 16 years ago.

Furthermore, 24 development zones have been designated in states and divisions for equitable development of respective regions. Nowadays, progress has been made equally in rural, urban and remote areas of the country.

He asserted that some western nations, which are envious of our nation’s fruitful results of peace and development that has emerged in a short time, attempted to set a trap for our nation to fall into servitude. As the first step, they provided dollars and other assistance to renegade Sao Hkam Hpa so as to utilize him in breaking up the Union. Despite realizing the act that can cause harmful to the disintegration of the nation, renegade Sao Hkam Hpa appointed himself as President of the Republic of Shan State on 17 April.

So, he disclosed his thought that the King of celestial beings has put Sao Hkam Hpa’s wicked and cruel commitments on record.

Shan State on 1 April, 1964, passed the Motion on opposing and condemning the act that can cause harmful to the disintegration of the Union, the Government declared their group unlawful. The existing political parties and peace groups have opposed and denounced them. They are saying the words that are so bitter for the entire national people to hear. But the love for the nation and Union Spirit are strengthening in the hearts and minds of the people. Thus, the meeting announces the entire people of Kengtung Township oppose and condemn Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts.
However powerful the forces...

(From page 1)

projects and Moeyungyi Lake project in the regions in the south of Yangon that are inundated in the rainy season and have scanty water in summer.

The agricultural sector, the major business of rural farmers, the majority of the nation’s population, plays an indispensable role in regional food sufficiency and raising the national economic life.

The agricultural sector, the major business of rural farmers, the majority of the nation’s population, plays an indispensable role in regional food sufficiency and raising the national economic life.

However powerful the forces, the government has given the top priority to irrigation projects, aiming at making progress in the agricultural sector as a national objective for enhancing national economic and social life of the people.

In the drive, the government has constructed large, medium and small irrigation facilities everywhere necessary in the region.

The projects for water supply and prevention of entering sea water benefit not only low-lying areas such as Pyundazar plain and Bago plain in Bago Division but also adjacent regions in Yangon Division and canals, and the construction of embankments along the waterways effectively prevents flooding against Pyundazar and Bago plains from being flooded.

In addition, the construction of floodgates such as Shankasing, Paingkyoun, Tarwa and Shwehlay along the Bago-Sitttoung Canal prevent flooding against the nearby regions.

Thanks to the construction of a sluice gate on Kayan Creek in the interests of local people the length and breadth of the nation. Based on unity and Union Spirit, the Government has been striving for harmonious development of the nation and improving the people’s living standard. The Government is in the process of laying down and implementing plans for development of the nation and the people, with goodwill to serve public interest. With the strength of the national people including the intellectuals and intelligentsia and the government departments, it has been launching the development drive and achieving success, while overcoming all sorts of internal and external disturbances.

That is why the government has given the top priority to irrigation projects, aiming at making progress in the agricultural sector as a national objective for enhancing national economic and social life of the people.

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However powerful the forces...

(From page 8)

Governments, it has been launching the development drive and achieving success, while overcoming all sorts of internal and external disturbances. The people should be proud of the fact that the whole nation has been witnessing unprecedented developments.

The Kayan Sluice Gate will prevent inundation in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin townships in Yangon Division during the rainy season. It will also provide water for irrigation and other purposes. Built

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo open Kayan Sluice Gate.— MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.— MNA

Billboard erected to hail Thanlyin Township.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo.

MNA

That even reach the far corners of the nation. Terrorist acts to ruin the nation's dignity and kill innocent people must be crushed with the four-point People's Desire. However powerful the forces that are instigating a handful of terrorists from behind the scene are, the constructive strength of the people will always win over the destructive group.

As the task of implementing the seven-point Road Map to build a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation is gradually gaining ground, the terrorist group is withering away to meet its end.

As their days are numbered, the terrorists are committing more crimes hysterically, the entire nation will have to watch and crush their danger with national awareness.

In this regard, the people while taking part in the nation-building endeavours should ward off the terrorists and the acts to cause dissension in the nation with the four-point People’s Desire.

With patriotism and Union Spirit as the core, the people will have to strive with unity in the task to develop the nation in all aspects, while understanding the Government’s goodwill.

The Secretary-1 unveiled the stone plaque of the sluice gate.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo also spoke on the occasion. They also formally opened the sluice gate. A local thanked the Government for building the facility.

The Kayan Sluice Gate will prevent inundation in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin townships in Yangon Division during the rainy season. It will also provide water for irrigation and other purposes. Built

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo.— MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.— MNA

In this regard, the people while taking part in the nation-building endeavours should ward off the terrorists and the acts to cause dissension in the nation with the four-point People’s Desire.

With patriotism and Union Spirit as the core, the people will have to strive with unity in the task to develop the nation in all aspects, while understanding the Government’s goodwill.

The Secretary-1 unveiled the stone plaque of the sluice gate.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo also spoke on the occasion. They also formally opened the sluice gate. A local thanked the Government for building the facility.

The Kayan Sluice Gate will prevent inundation in Kayan, Thongwa and Thanlyin townships in Yangon Division during the rainy season. It will also provide water for irrigation and other purposes. Built

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo.— MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.— MNA

That even reach the far corners of the nation. Terrorist acts to ruin the nation's dignity and kill innocent people must be crushed with the four-point People's Desire. However powerful the forces that are instigating a handful of terrorists from behind the scene are, the constructive strength of the people will always win over the destructive group.

As the task of implementing the seven-point Road Map to build a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation is gradually gaining ground, the terrorist group is withering away to meet its end.

As their days are numbered, the terrorists are committing more crimes hysterically, the entire nation will have to watch and crush their danger with national awareness.

In this regard, the people while taking part in the nation-building endeavours should ward off the terrorists and the acts to cause dissension in the nation with the four-point People’s Desire.

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As part of the development tasks in the state, members of the Rakhine State USDA have constructed over 39-mile-long earthen road in rural areas by joining hands with locals.

Communication system is facilitated with 28,288 CDMA and 23,246 GSM telephone lines and 5,439 internet service providers in Yangon Division.
Control of other risk factors that interact with blood pressure is also important. Smoking, high cholesterol and diabetes accelerate the damage by high blood pressure on the heart and blood vessels. Therefore, it is important to manage and control all of these factors.

Myanmar delegation attends Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ministerial Meeting on the Advancement of Women

YANGON, 12 May — A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Auditor-General Daw Thinn Thinn, CEC member of Myanmar Women Affairs Federation, attended Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ministerial Meeting on the Advancement of Women held in Putrajaya, Malaysia from 7 to 10 May. Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato’ Seri Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi delivered an opening speech on the occasion. At the meeting, ministers of women development from Non-Aligned countries then made speeches.

On 10 May session, Daw Thinn Thinn made a speech. The ministers from NAM countries passed the Draft Putrajaya Declaration on the Advancement of Women in NAM countries. It was attended by the ministers, the deputy ministers, senior officials, delegations and observers from 84 NAM countries.—MNA

Pantapwinttaung Sayadaw to be honoured

YANGON, 12 May — Pantapwinttaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññasara recipient of Saddhamma Joṭakadāha title conferred by the State Peace and Development Council will be honoured at the Dhammayan of Maha Santisukha Buddhist Centre on 25 May afternoon.

Lay persons and disciples of the Sayadaw were invited to attend the ceremony.—MNA

Myanmar Livestock & Fisheries Development Bank to hold 10th annual general meeting

YANGON, 12 May — Myanmar Livestock & Fisheries Development Bank Ltd will hold its 10th annual general meeting at Yuzana Hotel at 1 pm on 6 June. Reports have been sent to share-holders in advance.

Records on changing of shares will be postponed till closing of the meeting. —MNA

Foreign Minister U Nyan Win and wife attend reception of 57th Anniversary Independence Day of Israel. They are welcomed by Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Ruth Schatz.—MNA
Chevron shuts 10,000 bpd flowstation in Nigeria

Laos, 11 May — US oil giant Chevron said Tuesday it had shut a flowstation producing 10,000 barrels per day (bpd) in Nigeria’s southern delta after discovering a breach of a pipeline linking it to an export terminal.

A spokesman for the firm’s subsidiary in Nigeria told Xinhua they did not know whether the pipeline from Makaraba flowstation to the Escravos export terminal had been blown up due to sabotage as reported.

“We have shut in about 10,000 bpd production from that location but this does not impact our daily production numbers and export commitments,” he added.

The closure comes just two weeks after Makaraba flowstation came back on stream. Makaraba and Chevron’s five other flowstations with a total capacity of 140,000 barrels of oil per day were previously closed down in March 2003 in the wake of ethnic violence in the delta.

Nigeria is Africa’s top oil producer with a daily output of about 2.5 million barrels. Geopolitical events in the southern delta, where seizures of flowstations, kidnapping of oil workers and threat of violence are very common.

AIDS is a national concern.
**Former board members sue Disney**

**LOS ANGELES, 11 May—** Two former board members sued the Walt Disney Co on Monday, alleging that false statements were made to shareholders about the company’s search for a new chief executive officer (CEO).

Former Disney board members Roy Disney and Stanley Gold also sued some of the company’s board members in the lawsuit, seeking to void the year’s election of the company’s directors.

The lawsuit, filed in Delaware Chancery Court, also seeks to compel another election “after full and fair disclosure of all material facts about the CEO selection process”.

In a statement, the Walt Disney Co countered.

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**Ankara to host 15th Int’l Petroleum Exhibition**

**ANKARA, 11 May—** The 15th International Petroleum and Natural Gas Congress and Exhibition will be held here on 11-13 May, the organizing committee said on Tuesday.

Chairman of the organizing committee Cetin Mumcuoglu said the objective of this congress is to offer a significant opportunity for discussing Turkey’s petroleum industry.

Mr. Mumcuoglu noted that Turkey has become a major natural gas consumer during the last 15 years.

Turkey is one of the fastest growing energy market in the world and is dubbed the “energy bridge” between major oil-producing regions and the consumer markets in Europe.

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**Mobile phone growth expected to slow down in 2005**

**LOS ANGELES, 11 May—** Worldwide mobile phone market growth is expected to continue in 2005, but at a slower pace, according to a study released Monday by IDC.

IDC, a high-tech market research firm, said it expects mobile phone shipment totals to slow in most regions during 2005 as a direct result of the large number of new phones purchased by wireless subscribers in 2003 and 2004.

In 2004, worldwide mobile phone shipments saw their strongest year-to-year increase in history, rising 34 per cent from 2003 to 2004 with 692 million units shipped in a massive expansion driven by the demand for colour displays and camera phones.

“The market will continue to expand through 2009, however, offering a significant opportunity for hardware, software, and service vendors alike,” said David Linsalata, research analyst, Mobile Devices Research at IDC.

The worldwide wireless subscriber base will continue to grow throughout the forecast period, driven by the human desire to communicate, IDC said.

In 2005, the market research firm expects nearly 1.7 billion active wireless subscribers or individuals paying a subscription bill in the world.

Through 2009, wireless subscriber base growth will exist in all regions, although some countries and regions will reach near-full penetration levels by the end of the forecast period, IDC said.

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**FBI confirms hacker infiltrated US Govt computers**

**WASHINGTON, 11 May—** The FBI confirmed a New York Times report Tuesday that a breach of a Cisco Systems network by a hacker last year was part of a broader campaign targeting computer systems run by US Government and military installations.

The investigation is focused on a 16-year-old boy in Uppsala, Sweden. The Times reported that the youth cleverly organized computers, automating the theft of computer log-ins and passwords.

In May 2004, a portion of Cisco’s Internet-working Operating System source code was illegally copied and posted on a foreign web site for several days. The Times reported that the hacker claims to have also infiltrated computer systems at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station in Maryland, the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, and NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

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**World children’s choir festival to open in Hong Kong in July**

**Hong Kong, 11 May—** About 30 elite choirs from more than 10 countries on five continents will gather in Hong Kong for the 2005 World Children’s Choir Festival from 10 to 14 July, announced the organizing Committee on Tuesday.

This will be the very first time for Hong Kong to host this annual arts event. The festival will include four evening concerts, eight free afternoon concerts and 18 workshops, which will provide a good chance for children participating the festival to exchange and learn from each other.

The highlight of the festival will be the “Song Bridge” concert with aims to bring together youth choirs from all around the world and promote global peace and understanding in a non-competitive atmosphere. Chosen by an international jury, four outstanding choirs will give this year’s “Song Bridge” performance at Hong Kong Cultural Centre, including the China Hand-in-Hand Children’s Choir consisted of members from Beijing, Hong Kong and Guangzhou.
**Serena Williams out of Rome Masters tennis**

**Rome, 12 May** — Third seed Serena Williams bade farewell to the Rome Masters when she lost 7-6 and 6-1 to home favourite Francesca Schiavone on Wednesday.

The 2002 American champion, on her first outing since an ankle sprain forced her to withdraw from tournaments in Amelia Island and Berlin, looked desperately short of match play against the unfancied Italian, ranked 26th in the world.

Asked whether her game had been affected by the injury, Williams replied: “No. I had a really good warm-up. I thought everything would come together but it didn’t.”

In earlier second round matches, fourth seed Elena Dementieva of Russia lost 7-5 and 6-4 to Gisela Dulko of Argentina, while defending champion Frenchwoman Amelie Mauresmo cruised past Australia’s Samantha Stosur 6-2 and 6-0.

Dementieva, 23, was also carrying an injury — a hip problem that forced her out of last week’s Berlin Open. The world number five joined compatriots Svetlana Kuznetsova and Elena Likhovtseva in exiting the tournament.

However, wins for seventh seed Nadia Petrova and sixth-seeded Vera Zvonareva meant the Russians retained their formidable presence at the event.

Petrova, who reached the final in Berlin, confirmed her recent good form with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Italy’s Mara Santangelo, while Zvonareva saw off the challenge of Serbia and Montenegro’s Jelena Jankovic 6-4, 6-1.

Second seed Mauresmo, who received a bye in the opening round, was barely tested by Stosur. She next faces 13th seed Silvia Farina Elia, who beat French qualifier Stephanie Cohen-Aloro 6-3, 6-3.

There were also wins for four-time former champion Conchita Martinez, who beat Israel’s Anna Smashnova 3-6, 6-1, 6-1, and 1997 winner Mary Pierce, who disposed of Switzerland’s Marcia Echendmann with a 6-1, 6-0 victory.

**Cuba, Russia sign new sport agreements**

**Havana, 13 May** — The National Volleyball Federation of Russia signed with its Cuban counterpart and the Sports Medicine Institute (IMD) of Cuba, cooperation agreements for the 2005-2008 Olympic Cycle, said the local Press on Tuesday.

The document signed at this capital considers the scientific exchange through athletes and coaches, to raise the technical and competitive level of the teams from both countries.

The programme also includes the preparation of training bases for the women’s and men’s teams of each country in each other’s facilities, as well as the participation in exhibition games that include the junior teams.

Russia will participate in the Cuban olympiads with their best teams during the four-year period, while beach volleyball teams will have training bases in Cuba from October to March, and will participate in the national circuit. Cuban media added on Tuesday that the beach volleyball teams of Cuba will take part in the Saint Petersburg tournament as part of this scheme.

The agreement between IMD and the Russian Federation includes the advice of Cuban doctors to Russian specialists and the attention of athletes from the European country in a rehabilitation center of Cuba.

One of the document was signed by doctor Mario Granda, the IMD Director, and Rebeca Moreira, expert of this institution, and Russian sports-science adviser Apoligen Oleg.

The other document was signed by President and Secretary General of the Cuban Volleyball Federation Omelio Castillo and Jorge Enrique Luzon, in this order, and Russian Volleyball Federation’s Director General Yuri Sapega. Haubert to Rodriguez, President of the Cuban Sports, Physical Education and Recreation Institute (INDER) said this agreement will further strengthen the bilateral sports relations, and said that sport “contributes to happiness, hope and peace among nations.” — MNA/Xinhua

**“Cassini” finds new moon within Saturn’s outer ring**

**Washington, 12 May** — The Cassini spacecraft has found a new moon in the outer edge of Saturn’s bright main rings, confirming previous suspicions by scientists, NASA reported Tuesday.

The new moon, 7 kilometres in diameter, is a tiny object in the centre of the Keeler Gap which is located about 250 kilometres inside the outer edge of the A ring. A ring is also the outer edge of Saturn’s bright main rings.

Cassini took images of the new moon and the wavy patterns its gravitational influence generates in the gap edges. A NASA news release said the spacecraft first caught the new moon’s picture on May 1 as it began climbing to higher inclinations in orbit. A closer view the next day allowed it to measure the moon’s size and brightness.

The new moon, provisionally named S/2005 S1, is the second known moon to exist within Saturn’s rings. The other is Pan, which orbits in the Encke gap. Saturn’s other known moons are all outside the main ring system.

Scientists predicted the new moon’s presence and its orbital distance from Saturn after the discovery last July of peculiar spiky and wispy features in the Keeler Gap’s outer edge. The features are similar to those noted in Saturn’s F ring and the Encke Gap, where small-sized moons exist. — MNA/Xinhua

**Late goal earns Udinese semi-final draw**

**Rome, 12 May** — An 85th-minute strike from defender Valerio Bertotto helped Udinese tie AS Roma 1-1 in their Italian Cup semi-final first leg on Wednesday.

The away goal gives Udinese, who have never won the Cup, an excellent chance of progressing after their home second leg next week.

Roma went in front in the 37th minute when French defender Philippe Mexes headed home an Antonio Cassano free kick for his first goal for the club.

The home side included Francesco Totti, who is serving a five-match ban in Serie A, and enjoyed the better possession and chances throughout.

Udinese keeper Morgan De Sanctis was forced into a full-stretch save to keep out a Totti free-kick in the 54th minute and Roma’s Brazilian wing-back Mancini also went close with a backheel.

With five minutes remaining, Bertotto ran on to a loose ball and rattled home a fierce shot from 20 metres.

Cagliari host Inter Milan in the other semi-final on Thursday.

**Zimbabwe starts investigating NGOs**

**Harare, 12 May** — The Zimbabwean Government has started to investigate the operations of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the country, local media reported on Wednesday.

Leonard Turugari, head of an eight-member committee, was quoted by the Herald newspaper as saying that the committee has completed probing 16 organizations.

The 16 are amongst targeted organizations that failed to account for 88 million US dollars, channeled into the country through the United Nations Development Programme last year.

Turugari said on Tuesday they expected the report on the findings to be out by Monday next week.

He confirmed that by the end of last month, they had dealt with 16 non-governmental organizations out of the 30 that were targeted.

He said the committee managed to carry out investigations into non-governmental organizations dealing with humanitarian, human development, HIV/AIDS, governance and environmental issues.

He said some of the non-governmental organizations that were under probe included World Vision, GOAL Zimbabwe, Care International and the National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations.

An official from GOAL Zimbabwe confirmed that the inspectors visited their offices to check on payments they had made for various projects. — MNA/Xinhua
while on duty at 6:00 pm local time on 7 May 2005 in Kabul, 42-D Pantra Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, beloved husband of Daw Marlar Than and beloved father of Dr. Thet Chaw Su (IM-1), son in law of (U Thant Yee-Daw Kyi Kyi), elder brother of Daw Nwe Nwe Oo, Daw Ni Ni Aye, Aung Thu Myaung (He) and Daw Win Aye Myaung. Donations Service Centre (U) Sitt Naing, beloved daughter of (Thara Ta Hmwe-Naw See Lah) of No. 17 Daaw Su Si, Umin Aye-Daw No Su, (U Tint Oo Kyango-)Daw Yin Yin May, U Thein Han-Daw Aye Myaung, Dr. U Mya Aung (Eyes)-Dr. Daw Khin Aye Thi (Radiologist), passed away while on duty at 6:00 pm local time on 7 May 2005 in Kabul, Afghanistan. Funeral will be held at Yayway Cemetery at (4:00 pm) on Friday, 13 May, 2005.

Bereaved family.

Study says heart rates can indicate risk of sudden heart death

WASHINGTON, 12 May — Heart rates during rest and exercise can indicate the risk of sudden death from a heart attack, showed a French study carried in the New England Journal of Medicine to be published on Thursday.

The study found the risk of sudden heart death was four times higher than normal for people who had heart rates of more than 75 beats per minute during rest, or whose heart rates increased less than 89 beats per minute during exercise.

For those persons whose heart rates decreased less than 25 beats in the minute after the end of exercise, the risk was twice the normal level.

The French study examined data from stress tests during physical exams between 1967-72 of 5,713 French men aged 42-53 who clinically had no heart problems.

During a 23-year follow-up period, 81 of the people surveyed died of sudden heart death.

MNA/Xinhua

Donate blood

Friday, 13 May

Tune in today:

8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music: Should I, Would I, could I
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music: I'm just light
8:50 am National news/Slogan
9:00 am Music: What my heart wants to say
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music: The ketchup song
1:30 pm News/Slogan
1:40 pm Lunch time music
1:45 pm Music: I know I love you
2:00 pm Send me the pillow
2:10 pm Right here waiting
2:30 pm World of Music
3:00 pm Songs from Japan
3:15 pm Article/Music
3:25 pm Music at your request
3:45 pm When you say nothing at all
2:10 pm The girl from yesterday
3:50 pm If we hold on together
4:15 pm News/Slogan
4:30 pm PEI.

Bereaved family.

U Tint Swe B.E (Civil)
52 years
Senior Road Engineer
Afghanistan Project Implementation facility-Kandahar

Eldest son of U Min Swe-Daw Tint Tint of Room 7, 42-D Pantra Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, beloved husband of Daw Marlar Than and beloved father of Dr. Thet Chaw Su (IM-1), son in law of (U Thant Yee-Daw Kyi Kyi), elder brother of Daw Nwe Nwe Oo, Daw Ni Ni Aye, Aung Thu Myaung (He) and Daw Win Aye Myaung. Donations Service Centre (U) Sitt Naing, beloved daughter of (Thara Ta Hmwe-Naw See Lah) of No. 17 Daaw Su Si, Umin Aye-Daw No Su, (U Tint Oo Kyango-)Daw Yin Yin May, U Thein Han-Daw Aye Myaung, Dr. U Mya Aung (Eyes)-Dr. Daw Khin Aye Thi (Radiologist), passed away while on duty at 6:00 pm local time on 7 May 2005 in Kabul, Afghanistan. Funeral will be held at Yayway Cemetery at (4:00 pm) on Friday, 13 May, 2005.

Bereaved family.

Asleep in Jesus
Daw Beaulah Gyi

Ex teacher of St. Mary Diocesan Girls High School (Daughter of Thara Ta Hmwe-Naw See Lah) of No. 17 Daaw Su Si, Umin Aye-Daw, 2nd Ward, Mayangone Township, beloved daughter of Daw Marlar Than and beloved mother of Daw Lillian Gyi (Principal, School for Disabled Children (Retd), Director, Eden Handicap Service Centre)-U Sitt Naing, beloved grandmother of Saw Barhbar (Sii Si) was called to her heavenly home on 12th May 2005 at 2:30 pm. Funeral Service will be held at Thamaing Karen Baptist Church at 10:00 am on Saturday, 14th May 2005.

Bereaved family.

WEATHER

Thursday, 12 May, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagon and Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, lower Sagon and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. The most significant day temperature rise was recorded at Monywa (44˚C), Myingyan, Nyanguo, Mindai and Magway (42˚C) each. Maximum temperature on 11-5-2005 was 96˚F. Minimum temperature on 12-5-2005 was 69˚F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs. MST on 12-5-2005 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 11-5-2005 was (4.5) hours approx. Rainfalls on 12-5-2005 were 0.99 inch at Yangon Airport, 0.59 inch at Kaba-Aye and 0.31 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were 2.84 inches at Yangon Airport, 3.46 inches at Kaba-Aye and 1.85 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 18 mph from Southeast at (13:10) hours MST on 11-5-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 13-5-2005: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State, upper Sagon and Magway Divisions and rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Kayah States, Mandalay, lower Sagon and Bago Divisions and scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). State of the sea: Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent two days. Thundery conditions in the lower Myanmar areas. Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-5-2005: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).


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Bereaved family.

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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

Locals in Kengtung Township, Shan State (East) denounce announcement on secession of Shan State from Union by Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts

YANGON, 12 May — A mass rally to oppose and condemn the announcement on secession of Shan State from the Union by renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts took place at Myoma Sports Grounds in Kengtung, Kengtung Township, Kengtung District, Shan State (East) this morning attended by local people.

Meeting Chairman U Sai Haung Hkm speaks an address at the mass meeting in Kengtung — MNA

YANGON, 12 May — The following is a translation of the speech delivered by U Sai Haung Hkhm of Ward 2 in Kengtung, at the mass meeting this morning.

Since time immemorial, the nationalities of Shan State (East) have been striving in unity for regional development. Thanks to the Government’s goodwill and endeavours, the region has been achieving development to a degree it has never witnessed in the past. The outbreak of internal strife soon after the regaining of independence had obstructed the national development. When the Government and the people are in the process of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, renegade Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts announced the secession of Shan State from the Union and the establishment of Shan Republic. The perpetrators are working under the directives of the colonialists to break up the Union. Only then will the colonialists be able to enslave the nation again. The colonialists will wipe out all the nation’s culture, religion and the race. The perpetration of Sao Hkam Hpa and his group are abhorrent to the entire people of Myanmar. The meeting was held to condemn the perpetrators issuing the announcement according to the wish of the colonialists. Myanmar has a thousand-year old history of living under her own monarchs. Thanks to the Government’s sincerity and goodwill, 17 armed groups and other smaller groups have returned to the legal fold. Some of the groups have already made unconditional exchange of arms for peace, with Union Spirit and Panglong Spirit. It is a common knowledge that the colonialists’ munitions are trying to make the nation poor and undeveloped. The acts of Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts are to destroy the nation. The entire people who wish to see the nation developing and prospering condemn and oppose their acts. — MNA

Local people attending the mass rally in Myoma Sports Grounds in Kengtung, Kengtung District, Shan State (East). — MNA

Should national solidarity break up, the nation will definitely lose sovereignty

U Sai Shan Hkam of Ward 2 in Kengtung. — MNA

YANGON, 12 May — The following is a translation of the motion on condemnation of the announcement of Shan State from the Union by Sao Hkam Hpa and cohorts.

Now, local people are joining hands with the government in regional development tasks. Since 1988, local people have enjoyed fruitful results of development due to the government’s drive to cease armed insurgency. Should the peaceful and prosperous Union collapse and national solidarity break up, the nation will definitely lose sovereignty and fall under the alien subjugation.

(See page 6)