**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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**National Convention working for emergence of State constitution, first and essential step to democratic transition**

To build genuine, discipline-flourishing democracy system is to work together in accord with seven-point Road Map

The following is the translation of the opening speech delivered by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Lt-Gen Thein Sein at the Plenary Meeting of the National Convention.

Respected National Convention delegates,

I am very glad to see that you, delegates are here to attend the National Convention. The first thing I would like to say is that I am so grateful and honoured to you for your active participation in the National Convention with the firm determination that the emergence of a State constitution is a national duty, setting aside your own personal affairs.

At the previous session of the National Convention, the NC Convening Work Committee assessed the matters related to executive and judiciary sectors discussed by over 1,000 of the eight groups of delegates and submitted them to the commission. (See page 8)

Our National Convention has gained more and more success due to the efforts of like-minded delegates and their frank discussions and suggestions.

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Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
MECWA observes World AIDS Day

YANGON, 5 Dec — A ceremony to mark the World AIDS Day organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the multipurpose building of the association in South Okkalapa Township today.

At the ceremony, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and President of MECWA Daw Khin Khin Win made addresses.

Winners of the essay competition to mark the World AIDS Day were awarded at the ceremony by Minister Dr Kyaw Myint, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ms Anne Vincent of UNICEF.

MNA

Indonesian ambassador, embassy staff, donate blood

YANGON, 5 Dec — Indonesian embassy staff led by Ambassador Wyoso Prodjowarsito made blood donation to hail the 6th Indonesian Women’s Association Day at the National Blood Department of Yangon General Hospital this afternoon.

A total of 28 embassy staff donated blood.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint cordially met the ambassador and embassy staff.

Next, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint viewed them who were donating blood at Apheresis Machine Room of NBD.

Medical Superintendent Dr Nu Nu Tha of YGH presented fruits basket to the Indonesian ambassador.

The minister, the ambassador and embassy staff also posed for a documentary photo.

MNA

New injection for malaria introduced

YANGON, 5 Dec — A new injection E Mal (α-b Arteether) to treat Malaria was introduced yesterday at the Traders Hotel here.

It was produced by Golden Hawks Int’l Ltd. First, Prof Dr Saw Lwin briefed on infection of malaria in Myanmar and Prof Col Ye Thowe on various treatments for malaria. Mr Kishor Shah of Themes Medicare Co Ltd briefed on evidence of the effective treatment of the new drug against the malaria. Afterwards, they replied the queries raised by those present. — MNA

ASEAN Radio Quiz winners for the month of November

YANGON, 5 Dec — Radio Myanmar of Myanmar Radio and Television implements ASEAN in Action Plan and it airs facts about ASEAN on every Saturday at 9:45 am.

ASEAN Radio Quiz was held on 2 December and the first prize went to Maung Aung Myat Thu of Sangyoung Township, the second prize to Ma Mya Hsu Mon Kyaw of Dagon Myothit (South), the third to Ma Shwe Zin Oo of Kyauktan Township and consolation prize to Maung Ye Lwin Moe of Kyimyindaung Township. —H

Prize winners seen at ASEAN Radio Quiz.

The ceremony to introduce new injection to treat malaria in progress at Traders Hotel. —MNA
Putin, Merkel to meet in mid-January

MOSCOW, 4 Dec—Russia's President Vladimir Putin and new German Chancellor Angela Merkel will meet in mid-January in Russia, Putin said on Saturday.

"In my last talk with Chancellor Merkel we have agreed to meet in mid-January and have intergovernmental consultation in Tomsk in March," Putin said during a meeting with Germany's Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

During the German election campaign, Merkel criticized outgoing Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder for forging "exclusive" ties with French President Jacques Chirac and Putin at the expense of relations with smaller European Union countries.

Merkel has already visited Paris, London, Brussels and Warsaw, which she assured that Germany's desire for close ties with Russia did not mean it would ignore "tolles" concerns about Moscow. Steinmeier is Schroeder's close ally. "I hope our strategic relationship is not only maintained but also achieve the high significance," he said. "We must discuss not only the theme of the future that we have chosen but also problems of security and particular Iran."—MNA/Reuters

Earthquake hits Kyushu of Japan

HONG KONG, 4 Dec—An earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter Scale rocked the seas south of Kyushu, Japan, at 01:14 Hong Kong Time on Sunday (1614 GMT—Sat). According to the Hong Kong Observatory, the epicentre was initially determined to be 29.3 North Latitude and 130.2 East Longitude, about 250 kilometres south of Kagoshima.

The two-day conference, hosted by British Chancellor Gordon Brown, will mainly focus on development issues and economic aspects of trade in the run-up to the World Trade Organization ministerial meeting to be held in Hong Kong between 13 and 18 December.

Finance ministers of China, India, Brazil will attend on the sidelines of the G-7 meeting.

hk police nabs drug trafficking syndicate

HONG KONG, 4 Dec—A drug syndicate was nabbed while its five major members were detained by Hong Kong police on Friday, the authorities announced on Saturday.

The suspects, including a 56-year-old alleged of being the mastermind, faced charges of conspiracy to traffic dangerous drugs and possession of equipment fit for dangerous drug injection.

The operation also led to seizure of 19 packets of heroin, 11 tablets of midazolam and cash about 25,900 HK dollars (3,363 US dollars).

The suspects, including a 56-year-old alleged of being the mastermind, faced charges of conspiracy to traffic dangerous drugs and possession of equipment fit for dangerous drug injection.

The ACLU said, and was held without notice for an undisclosed time before being released without ever being charged of a crime. An ACLU spokesman declined to give additional details about the case or the plaintiff.

The ACLU said the lawsuit will also involve unidentified companies that owned and operated airplanes used to transport the plaintiff.

The man is innocent, the ACLU said, and was held without notice for an undisclosed time before being released without ever being charged of a crime. An ACLU spokesman declined to give additional details about the case or the plaintiff.
Japan, China to set up joint group on WWII weapons

Tokyo, 4 Dec—Japan and China have agreed to work together to tackle the task of clearing chemical weapons abandoned in China by Japan's retreating Imperial Army after World War II, a leading Japanese daily said on Saturday.

Scores of Chinese have been injured by dumped poison gas shells in recent years, and the discarded weapons are one of a range of war-related issues fuelling Chinese resentment of Japan.

The Yomiuri Shimbun reported that the two nations would set up a joint group to organize the clearing operation, and had agreed to extend a deadline for completion from 2007 to 2012.

Estimates of the number of weapons remaining had fallen from 700,000 to 400,000.

The daily quoted Japanese Government sources as saying that because the Chinese Government would now be involved, it should be easier to clear official hurdles to carry out the work. Tokyo is to bear the entire financial burden, estimated at 97.3 billion yen (807.6 million US dollars). Japanese officials were not immediately available for comment.

Japan originally agreed under the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention to dispose of the weapons by the end of March 2007.

Disposal teams are digging up and classifying the weapons, which could explode or leak after being left to rust for 60 years. Japan invaded and occupied parts of China from 1931 to 1945.

MNA/Reuters

Russia says arms sales to Iran “exclusively defensive weapons”

Moscow, 4 Dec—Russia's arms sales to Iran were only for defence purposes, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Saturday, one day after news reports disclosed that Moscow was selling more than 1 billion US dollars' worth of missiles and other defence systems to Teheran.

“Russia has no practice of commenting on any specific contract of military cooperation, including that with Iran,” said Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail Kamynin in a statement, adding that the arms sales to Iran were “exclusively defensive weapons”.

All of Russia's arms contracts “fully comply with its international commitments, including in the sphere of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and are in full accordance with Russian laws”, said the statement.

Interfax news agency on Friday quoted a source from Russia's military industry as saying that Russia and Iran had signed a deal for sales of Russian arms and military equipment worth 1 billion dollars to Iran in November.

Russia will deliver up to 30 Tor-M1 air defence systems to Iran starting from 2006, and an agreement on modernizing Iran's military aircraft was also reached, said the source.

MNA/Xinhua

Working team arrives at C China county for rescue operation

Xin’an (Henan), 4 Dec—A 14-member working team arrived Saturday afternoon at Xin’an County in central China's Henan Province to coordinate and organize the rescue operation and disaster relief work of the fatal coal mine flooding accident.

The working team is headed by Liang Jiakun, vice-director of the State Administration of Work Safety and Wang Shuhei, vice-director of the State Administration of Coal Mine Safety Supervision.

The privately-run Sigu Coal Mine encountered a flooding tragedy at 11:40 pm on Friday.

As of Saturday evening, whereabouts of 42 miners who were working in the mine remained unknown.

MNA/Xinhua

Road accidents claim over 3,000 lives in Uganda annually

 Kampala, 4 Dec—Uganda claimed over 3,000 road accidents in the last 12 months and there are about 32 persons injured per 10,000 persons per annum, a government official has said.

Ugandan Minister of State for Transport Andruale Awuzu was quoted by local Press on Saturday as saying that Uganda's road network is one of the safest in the world.

Awuzu made the remarks after receiving road safety enforcement equipment presented to police, which include six police traffic motorcycles and communication equipment, 18 first aid kits, 18 speed guns and 18 breathalyzers.

There are about 32 persons injured per 10,000 persons per annum, a government official has said.

WFP to provide 6,000 tons of food a month to Pakistan quake victims

Islamabad, 4 Dec—Sustained donor support is absolutely essential to provide 6,000 tons of food a month to help Pakistanis affected by an earthquake in areas which are only accessible by air, said the World Food Programme (WFP) on Saturday.

“With better information and more surveys, we now believe that up to 400,000 people can be reached only by air in high villages where access roads are blocked by landslides or will be covered with too much snow to pass in a few weeks,” WFP Executive Director James Morris said.

Addressing a news conference in Islamabad after visiting some of the affected areas he said that WFP could guarantee winter food supplies for hundreds of thousands of earthquake survivors in remote high-altitude villages in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.

He stressed the need for sustained donor support for one of the most challenging logistic operations in the quake-hit areas of Pakistan which the WFP has ever faced in its history.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran terms US proposal for talks on Iraq as media gesture

Teheran, 4 Dec—A top Iranian security official here on Saturday termed as media gesture a recent proposal by the United States to discuss with Iran on the Iraqi situation, the official IRNA news agency reported.

"It was promotional and media gesture. Nor can we express an opinion about an issue on which no precise proposal has been presented", the official quoted an unnamed security official as saying.

Meanwhile, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi has also said that direct talks with the United States are not on the agenda of the Islamic Republic.

Diplomatic relations between Iran and the United States have broken off since a group of Iranian students seized the US Embassy in Teheran and held staff members hostage for 44 days in 1979 during the Islamic Revolution.

Washington accuses Iran of developing nuclear weapons secretly and sponsors terrorism. In return, Iran terms the United States as enemy of Islam and state terrorism.
Indian goodwill delegation arrives

YANGON, 5 Dec — Indian goodwill delegation led by Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff, Lt-Gen RN Kapur arrived here by air this morning.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Principal of National Defence College Maj-Gen Moe Hein, Rector of Defence Services Medical Academy Brig-Gen Min Thein, senior military officers, Indian Military Attaché Col Jasvinder Singh Chopra and officials.

In the afternoon, the delegation visited Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road where officers welcomed and conducted them around the museum. — MNA

Chief of Military Affairs Security Li-Gen Myint Swe and wife being welcomed by Thai Ambassador Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and wife at a ceremony to mark the birthday of Thai King which falls on 5 December 2005 held Embassy of Thailand in Yangon. — MNA

Lt-Gen Aung Htwe receives Indian delegation

YANGON, 5 Dec — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe this afternoon received the Indian goodwill delegation led by Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff Lt-Gen RN Kapur at the guest house of the Ministry of Defence in Dagon Township today.

Also present at the call were Vice Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Principal of the National Defence College Maj-Gen Moe Hein and senior military officers and Indian Military Attaché to Myanmar Col Jasvinder Singh Chopra.

In the evening, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe hosted a dinner in honour of the delegation at Mayakeikyo Royal Hotel. After the dinner, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen RN Kapur exchanged gifts. — MNA

Southern Indian city flooded by heavy rains

NEW DELHI, 5 Dec — Chennai, capital city of southern India’s Tamil Nadu Pradesh, has seen three fourths of the city flooded since Friday evening, Indo-Asian News Service reported Sunday.

About 75,000 local residents have been evacuated into relief camps in other cities, the municipal government said Sunday.

By Sunday morning, 40 communities in the city and 24 villages in the suburb have been submerged in deep water, forcing thousands of people to leave their homes. Six people have been killed by electrocution since Friday night, the government source said.

The flood has reached the city’s largest hospital, the domestic airport and a major railway station so far. Many communities were without electricity as the torrential rain damaged the supply facilities. In some areas, the authorities cut off electricity supply in a bid to prevent electrocution.

Heavy rains swept Chennai due to a weak cyclonic depression over the city since Friday night, swelling 50 lakes and the Adyar and Cooum rivers in the city, which is possibly the heaviest in the past 25 years.

China’s taikonauts send gift to blind child

BEIJING, 5 Dec — Chinese taikonauts Friday presented a Shenzhou-6 model as a gift to a blind child, Zhang Xinran, to encourage him study hard, before the International Day of Disabled Persons which falls on Saturday.

Deng Pufang, chairman of the China Federation of the Disabled (CFD), expressed his gratefulness on behalf of the child to Yang Liwei, astronaut of Shenzhou-5, and Fei Junlong and Nie Haisheng astronauts of Shenzhou-6, at a charity carnival. Sun Yan, a blind pianist, gave a performance at the carnival which was also attended by Chinese Vice-Premier Hu Liangyu and other Chinese senior officials.

The carnival project, initiated by the CFD and the China Council of Lions Clubs in 2003, has financed 2,842 girls and 3,558 disabled children to complete their schooling.

US policy on Iran called ineffective

WASHINGTON, 5 Dec — In its drive to build an international consensus against Iran developing nuclear weapons, the Bush Administration has made a significant concession but failed to develop an effective strategy for resolving one of its greatest challenges, experts say.

Tough US threats have given way to a more pragmatic approach as Washington encouraged key European Union states — Britain, France and Germany, or EU-3 — to lead in persuading Teheran not to pursue atomic arms and related activities.

US officials insist they are making progress in isolating what they call an ever more radical Iranian Government.

But the diplomacy so far has failed to halt Iran’s nuclear-related activities, which Teheran insists are purely for peaceful energy purposes. Some people worry an Iranian bomb may be inevitable and that other states will follow suit.

With oil profits rising, the Iranians “feel they are negotiating from a position of strength. They have money to co-opt their friends,” Michael Rubin, co-author of a new book, Eternal Iran, told Reuters.

We talk a good game but are not doing anything to support the Iranian people … We do not yet have a comprehensive strategy for the Islamic republic, added Rubin, a former Pentagon adviser now at the American Enterprise Institute, which has close ties to the administration.

The administration has long been divided on Iran but a senior official said a consensus is evolving that could produce a new policy.

He gave no details.

After new Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad last month called for Israel’s destruction, the leading pro-Israel lobbying group — the American Israel Public Affairs Committee — took the unusual step of publicly faulting the US approach.

Teheran denies Western charges it is developing nuclear weapons under cover of a civilian energy programme. However, it has acknowledged concealing an uranium enrichment programme — crucial for weapons — from UN inspectors for two decades.

MNA/Reuters
The title of the article is chosen from a book that I have read. Rose is always sweet whatever we name it.

I write this article for two reasons. First, it is related to Shan State (East) where I was assigned duties for the first time. Second, one of my present duties is to shoot documentary series of Lankyan-Mekong teleplay.

I will never forget my younger days for many years. At the age of over 22, I discharged national defence duties in Kengtung, Monghsat, Mongyang, Mongphyat, Mongyawng, Mongyu and Tachilek regions in Shan State (East). The sound of livestock was allso in the air. There were so-called roads. There were a few teachers and learners in the dilapidated hut. It was in 1980, 25 years ago. Food and medicines were in short supply.

When I thought of the past events I felt sorry that there were BCPs and its insurgents, the sounds of exploding mines and artillery fire, fightings, loud cries, weeping due to separation of families. Such misery was common. The Kengtung-Tachilek communication links were uncertain. Many lives and limbs were lost in Mongphyat-Mongyawng as well as Mongkhat-Mongyang areas. Terrible scenes, instability and misunderstanding among the national races were fixed in my mind. I was thinking of the end of the conflict.

In 1986 I left the beautiful area of Shan State (East) where yellow sunflowers were blooming. Later, I was assigned duties in different areas. When I was transferred from defence duties to civil service, I tried to do the best of my ability. The Tatmadawmen defend the nation at the risk of their lives. Ordinary people cannot do this. The media men counter or rebut unscrupulous persons who make false accusations against Myanmar in various ways. I realize that these duties cannot be carried out without ordinary perseverance, diligence and spirit.

I have also learnt that Myanmar is not the only country that has come under allegations and attacks. TV units from the People’s Republic of China, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambod and Myanmar are making arrangements for shooting the TV documentary in connection with the Mekong River that passed through those six countries. The project was sponsored by the PRC which provided financial and technology assistance. Other five countries share responsibility for shooting in the respective countries. The aim of the programme is to present to the world the beauty of nature, rich natural resources and stability of the Mekong valley as it is. The programme intends to counter and rebut the attempts to discredit the good name of the Mekong. The six countries with diverse cultures and traditions live peacefully in the Mekong region. The 20 series of the programme, each lasting 52 minutes, will be produced. I have also learnt that the neo-colonialists and their minions are attempting to make beautiful Mekong dirty. Six brothers of the region will remove the illusion with unity. The shooting will take two years from 2005 to 2007.

Myanmar TV crew looked for the locations of the Mekong River flowing between Myanmar and Laos on 11-11-2005. I left Yangon and flew to Tachilek via NayangU and Hoho. A bird’s eye view of NayangU in the arid zone was beautiful. I thought that no other painting was as beautiful as plantations such as niger and other crops in Hoho region. The Tatmadawmen and patriotic people defended the land that is rich in natural resources from falling back to servitude at the risk of their lives. It is the right belief and it is fixed in my mind.

Just before landing at the Tachilek Airport, a vast area of thriving paddy fields suddenly came into my view. The green yard of those paddy fields seemed to be high. I felt very pleased, contemplating that national races of the region would soon become prosperous as they had been in a position to enjoy food sufficiency.

When we reported to the Chairman of Tachilek District Peace and Development Council on arrival, he made all the necessary arrangements for videotaping, and we thanked him a lot. Meals, accommodation and transport were fully provided. Giving a helping hand and cooperating among departments or service personnel are a prerequisite for ensuring the success of departmental works.

Afterwards, we proceeded to Wanpon Jetty on the bank of Mekong river from Tachilek by car. The Chairman of Tachilek District PDC smiled at us when I asked if our three-member TV crew was to go without escorts. In the past, I had the experience of military operation. So, I insisted that it should not be taken lightly. Still, he urged me to go ahead. We bade farewell to him and left. On the road after leaving Tachilek we were rather surprised by the speed of the car. The car was running at a speed of 90 KM. In the past, the speed was only 10 KM due to poor road condition. On arrival at Hwyleralai Village, we were greeted by the head of local militia and three members. This might be arranged by the Chairman in response to my concern. When we continued the trip, we passed a number of villages with the signboards bearing “Model Village”. It was obvious that each and every village were complete with dispensary, self-reliant libraries, offices of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and schools. School children in neat and tidy school uniforms were riding bicycles. The school buildings were not dilapidated ones like those 20 years ago but they were properly built of local bricks. Each building had its signboard bearing the names of flowers such as Khatta, Sahai. The State flag was flying from its mast in front of the school. Being media men, we were curious about national development. And we stopped the car and looked at the rural health care centre from a distance. There were patients, nurses and health staff. In the past, local people had to rely only on the Tatmadaw medical staff but now health care services of local people have improved. At the entrance to Wanpon Village, much to our surprise, there was a nice coffee shop attached to the karaoke lounge on the right side. That was characteristic of a town. In the past, cars each being drawn by a buffalo, a common mode of transport of the village, were nowhere to be seen. Super Cup motorbikes were everywhere. There were also Trawler-Gs, Shan young women were riding motorbikes skillfully.

The present-day’s Shan State is completely different from the period of 20 years ago when I was there. It has changed for the better. We felt very delighted to witness the improvement of socio-economic life of local people and regional development. There are mango, lychee and rubber plantations in the hilly regions where poppies had been grown in the past. There are no residents who have to lead their life in miserable conditions as in the past. Most of them are living a comfortable life with houses made of wood and local bricks.

There are also the fine offices of respective departments at Wanpon Jetty on the bank of Mekong River. The state flags of China, Laos, Thailand and Myanmar were fluttering from the vessels moored at the jetty. It was encouraging to see a promising change from border trade to normal trade. We also visited the golden triangle region where Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet from Wanpon by speed boat. Peace and tranquillity has prevailed there. The Paradise Resort Hotel complete with impressive Myanmar handicrafts is located on Myanmar side. There are tourists and local people moving about. Towns and cities of border regions have now possessed the characteristics of a major town. Those who have spoken ill of Mekong region will soon witness unprecedented development there.

The drive from the Mekong River bank to Tachilek took about an hour. I reported to the Chair- man of the District Peace and Development Council requesting him to help obtain an air ticket to Yangon. However, I was informed that I would have to wait a couple of days. I insisted that I was anxious to be back in Yangon because I had to attend to matters of urgency. He suggested I go to Kengtung first by car and then fly back to Yangon.

Could it be possible to follow his suggestion? Could I get there in a matter of hours? It was because according to my past experience, a convoy could take at least one day to reach Kengtung, which is 108 miles away from Tachilek. I asked him how security situation was. He smiled and insisted that I follow his advice.

I was hesitant but there was no alternative. The car would leave Tachilek at 6 am and departure time from Kengtung was 10 am. I asked the driver how long it would take to cover the journey. He replied that it would take two and a half hours normally. I made sure that it was not a dream. Of course, it should be a test. For the sake of security, I took hold of a hunting knife which had been my companion since I was a soldier.

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(Want to read more? See page 7)
Livestock breeding sector witnesses sustained progress

Meat and fish sector is one of the three main economic pillars of the State. For the development of the meat and fish sector, the three work guidelines namely extended distribution of quality strains, development of shrimp breeding and extension of livestock breeding tasks in rural areas have been set. Moreover, tasks are being carried out in regions being bred not only in plain region and but in hilly region. The contribution of the private sector to livestock breeding tasks has risen and as a result domestic consumption as well as surplus to earn more foreign currency and raising the living standard of breeders under the leadership of the State.

The table shows that livestock breeding sector in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

## Myanmar’s developing meat and fish sector

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<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Extended breeding of fish and prawn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Acres of fish ponds (1=100,000)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Acres of prawn breeding ponds (1=100,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Number (1=100,000)</td>
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<td>48.48</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Acres of prawn breeding ponds (1=100,000)</td>
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<td>- Production and distribution of fingerlings (1=100,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fish released into Ayeyawady river (1=100,000)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1,867.34</td>
<td>1,867.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Developing meat and fish sector of Myanmar

Meat and fish sector is one of the three main economic pillars of the State. For the development of the meat and fish sector, the three work guidelines namely extended distribution of quality strains, development of shrimp breeding and extension of livestock breeding tasks in rural areas have been set. Moreover, tasks are being carried out in states and divisions under the meat and fish sector five-year plan. Effective measures are being taken for development of domestic meat and fish production, ensuring meat and fish sufficiency at home and exporting the surplus to earn more foreign currency and raising the living standard of breeders under the leadership of the State.

The tasks of animal husbandry are being carried out in border areas as well as in rural areas as it is important for development of the meat and fish sector. Moreover, quality animal strains that are suited to the respective regions are being bred and feedstuff and medicines for animals distributed to states and divisions. The contribution of the private sector to fish and shrimp breeding tasks has risen and as a result domestic consumption as well as export items has increased and the State has earned more income through levying taxes from these businesses. Socio-economic life of rural people has been raised through conducting livestock breeding tasks on a commercial scale. Development in the livestock breeding sector also contributes to free flow of commodity.

Livestock and fish breeders now have a good opportunity in doing their business at home and abroad and meat and fish in hygienic conditions can be distributed. The table shows development in the livestock breeding sector in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

### Whatever the name of a rose may be...

Glanced at the hill tops on either side of the road. As the driver noticed what I meant, he assured me not to worry about security. Insecurity, he said, was a thing of the past. I recalled how the battles waged on in those areas. He said the past should be left behind.

During the post-independence period which I had no personal experience and that around 1980, there were Sompwe, Yamkha and Takyauk villages, which used to be our camps with no proper accommodation or basic conveniences. Today, however, these villages have their own schools, latrines and better housing. At some villages, electricity is available even in day time thanks to hydro-electric power, the driver told me. I saw power lines and lights. In front of a video house, I noticed a signboard written in Myanmar language that the feature, Kyaizin Wunkha Pann Yoma, would be shown. I write this article to share my delight with readers. It was nearly 9 o’clock when we got to Kengtung. So, I arrived in Kengtung in time. The driver did his job well. On reaching the Kengtung Airport, the jet aircraft was already there. The runway was quite different from that in 1980. It was better and wider. The airport itself was in good shape. The flight from Kengtung to Yangon took one hour. During the flight, I was thoughtful. In two decades, there have been changes for the better. The changes are almost incredible. In the past, the residents had to live in panic with insufficient supply of food. The standard of living was low with families living separately. As the danger was imminent, tomorrow was uncertain for everybody. The people were illiterate. All these were things of the past. And the people are now earning their livelihood with peace of mind. Some are trying to discredit Myanmar. Objective conditions stand witness to the fact that our country is in a better position than in the past. I am overwhelmed by the delight. I would like to say that the rose will smell sweet always whatever name it is given. Translation: NY/TS/AK
National Convention working for emergence of State constitution, first and essential step to...

(from page 1)

At this session, the reviews and assessments of the panel of chairmen will be clarified to you and detailed basic principles regarding executive and judicial sectors will be laid down after seeking approval of you all, delegates.

As for the remaining chapters regarding the communication among the Hluttaws, findings of the chairman of the work committee concerning region Hluttaws will also be clarified to you for your suggestion and decision.

Similarly, to be able to discuss sector-wise chapters such as fundamental rights and duties of citizens and the role of the Tatmadaw, the work committee will clarify findings on drafting a State constitution that is best suited for our country after studying in detail 1947 constitution and 1974 constitution, state constitutions of some neighbouring and western nations during the adjournment of the plenary session of the National Convention.

Like the previous session, most of the delegates are here attending the National Convention except those who passed away, who are too old and who are in poor health.

There are also some new delegates here. Most of them have already been on familiar terms and they have understanding each other. Our National Convention has gained more and more success due to the efforts of like-minded delegates and their frank discussions and suggestions.

However, it has been common knowledge to you all, delegates, that groups of internal and external destructive elements, not wanting to see the success achieved, are resorting to various ways to obstruct and harm our National Convention. We need to be vigilant against such dangers and perpetuations. As the public on their part are now able to distinguish between constructive acts and destructive acts, the only thing to do is to guard against any dangers through the strength of the people.

To fulfill the desire of the public, the government has laid down the seven-point Road Map of the State for the country’s transition into a genuine discipline-flourishing democracy. The National Convention is working for the emergence of the State constitution that is the first and essential step to our democratic transition.

In other words, we can say we are taking the first step of the seven-point Road Map. To build a genuine, discipline-flourishing democracy system is to work together in accord with this seven-step Road Map, and there is no other way. We have learnt there have been some countries that went into a state of deteriorating today cannot be cheated and threatened.

The present Tatmadaw government, since its assumption of State duties, has been striving its utmost to build a peaceful and modern developed nation upholding ‘Our Three Main National Causes’ and the twelve State objectives. If one has ability to distinguish right and wrong, one can witness that the State is on the right path to its progress in political, economic and social sectors if compared with previous successive eras.

Systematic measures are being taken to gain a foothold in ensuring peace and stability of the State, strong economy and development of human resources, that are imperative for a transition to an enduring democracy. (See page 9)
At the same time, National Convention is in progress to write a State constitution by inviting more than 1,000 delegates from all walks of life. It is the life-blood of our citizens to serve and protect their interest. And it will be a milestone in our history as well. This is why, you, delegates are urged to work hand in hand with nationalistic fervour and Union Spirit for the success of the National Convention regardless of narrow racism, ideology and regionalism.

The management committee has made preparations for your accommodation, meals, health and entertainment. If there is anything you need you may contact with responsible officials. In conclusion, I would like all of you to take care of your health and try your best to attend the National Convention until it concludes successfully.—MNA

Billboard unveiled to hail National Convention

Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, officials and NC delegates attend the ceremony to unveil the billboard stating “Towards a new united and amicable nation”.—MNA

YANGON, 5 Dec — To hail the National Convention being reconvened today, a ceremony to unveil the billboard reading “Towards a new united and amicable nation” took place in front of Pyidaungsu Hall in Nyaung-hnapin Camp, Hmawby Township, where the National Convention is being held this morning. It was attended by Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and commission members, chairman of NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and committee members, chairman of NCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and committee members, and NC delegates.

Chairman of NCCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung formally unveiled the billboard and the ceremony ended. It reads “Towards a new united and amicable nation” also stating “It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever he lives to cultivate and possess strong Union Spirit. Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to uphold and safeguard”.—MNA

POEM:

Nyaung-hnapin, Victorious Camp

* Nyaung-hnapin
Victorious Camp
The National Convention
From all directions to attend
Delegate Brethren
Stride with new strength.
* For future of our nation
Noble and clear mind

Convention Delegates
Nurture these.
To meet and discuss
To discuss and confer
One tells what another wants to know
The other tells what one wants
Thought, outlook and feelings
Happy that brings equanimity
They yet discuss.

* No matter how much those disturb
Staunchly impenetrable.
For national interest
Hands held in unison.
This occasion attended by

All nationals.
* Envisioned together forever
The Seven-point Road Map
To nobly put into reality
Brother break into song
The song of victory ringers.
* Nyaung-hnapin
Victorious Camp
The National Convention
From all directions to attend
Delegate Brethren
Stride with New Strength.

Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trsl.)
1074 delegates accounting for 99.44 per cent...

(from page 16)

Divisions, delegates of State service personnel from the SPDC 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 Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Development Committee, and ministries, other invited delegates, delegates of 17 armed groups who exchanged arms for peace and Dean of Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Mme Dhooee A Gomez, ambassadors of Russia, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Laos, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Japan, Singapore, Nepal, India and China, Charge d’Affaires a.i from Brunei, Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, regional coordinators from UN organizations, officials of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, mediadmen from the Ministry of Information and reporters and officials from internal magazines and journalists and reporters from foreign news agencies Nihon Keizai Shimbun, AFP, Tokyo Broadcasting System (TBS), NHK, Fuji TV, Reuters, Tokyo Shimbun, Asahi Shimbun, TV Asahi, Sankei Shimbun, Jiji Press, Yomiuri, VOA, London Financial Times and NTN.

Before the plenary session of National Convention, 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 NCC Work Committee Justice U Aung Toe and members, Chairman of the NCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and members, Chairman of Sub-committees and officials, delegates of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel, and other invited delegates signed the attendance registers at Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall for NC delegates.

Next, 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 NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and members, Chairman of the NCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and members cordially greeted foreign ambassadors to Myanmar, Charges d’Affaires, regional coordinators of UN organizations and reporters of internal magazines and journals and foreign correspondents and replied to the queries raised by mediadmen.

The Secretary-1 took the helm of the plenary session, while NCCC Secretary Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan acted as MC.

The MC announced the validity of the meeting as 1074 out of 1080 delegates were present, accounting for 99.44 per cent.

The Secretary-1 delivered an address on the occasion.

(See page 11)

The presentation is reported separately.

The session continues tomorrow. — MNA

Government implementing seven-point Road Map...

(from page 16)

All are to enjoy the rights and subject to the duties. Moreover, code of ethics and discipline to be abided by delegates are also drawn. Delegates should realize and abide by these rules which are laid down with the aim of holding the National Convention successfully which is the most important for the State and the people.

Some of the important ethics and rules are as follows:
1. To be loyal to the Union of Myanmar and not to accept any other country’s patronage
2. To follow instructions given by the chairman of group and Panel of Chairmen of the National Convention
3. To comport according to the dignity of a delegate and not to disturb and hinder the functions of the National Convention
4. To discuss matters at the meeting objectively and to avoid speaking ill of others personally or of a certain organization
5. Whenever entering or going out of the meeting hall, all are to bow to the State Flag.
6. Not to bring in arms and ammunition, recorders, hand phones, video cameras, cameras, computers, laptops or such equipment.
7. Before releasing the news about the National Convention officially, the delegates are to keep it secret.

In holding the sessions, panel of chairman is to supervise the session and thus, it is designated to form the panel of chairmen with five representatives from the National Convention Work Committee, ten from delegates of political parties and delegates of representatives-elect, five each from delegates of other six remaining groups. For various reasons, there are vacancies in the panel of chairmen and thus substitutions are to be made.

The Chapter 3 describes scrutiny of the delegates in the session of the National Convention and validity of the meeting. The National Convention meetings are valid if 50 per cent of the delegates attend the meeting.

The Chapter 4 of the Convention deals with the procedures to be followed in discussing matters and making suggestions. He first presented procedures to be followed at the group-wise meetings as follows:
1. Delegates are to submit their proposals and make suggestions to the Panel of Chairmen only after making group-wise discussions.
2. Delegates of political parties and representatives-elect are to submit suggestions and proposals agreed by the majority of respective groups to the National Convention Plenary Meeting through the Panel of Chairmen after making group-wise discussions.
3. Delegates of political parties and representatives-elect are to make suggestions and proposals agreed by the majority of respective groups to the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and members.
Government implementing seven-point Road Map...

(from page 10)

who will read out them at the meeting and to submit them at the designated time through respective chairman to the National Convention Committee.

3. In reading out the proposals and suggestions at the plenary meeting, the papers must be the ones that have been already submitted in advance to be confirmed. Besides, the papers are to be read out by the one whose name has been already enlisted, and he has to read out only suggestions in the confirmed papers.

4. At the group-wise or plenary meeting, proposals and suggestions are to be submitted in the framework of the six objectives of the National Convention. If there are differences in the suggestions presented to the meeting, the National Convention Work Committee is to make necessary arrangements for making suggestions included again to settle them amicably.

There are also prescribed rules and regulations to be followed in holding discussions at the plenary meeting and the group-wise meeting. They are:

1. do not express disloyalty to the State
2. do not talk about something detrimental to non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
3. do not talk about the interest of organizations and persons that are not in the framework of law
4. do not talk about something that is detrimental to national unity, mutual help and respect
5. do not talk ill of any language and religion
6. do not present again any matter that has already been discussed at the meeting.
7. do not accuse and talk ill of a certain delegate subjectively
8. a delegate is to discuss the topics in line with the proposal paper sent in advance and not to discuss the topics that are not included in the paper. If a delegate reads out some topics that are not included in the proposal paper, only the original paper will be put on record.

When the plenary meeting and the group-wise meeting are in progress, the delegates are not allowed to walk out individually or in group and to mock others. It is important for the delegates to follow the regulations for success of the National Convention.

These regulations are prescribed in the interest of the delegates. Some important points in the don’t are as follows:

1. not to distribute documents that are not permitted by the NC Work Committee
2. not to talk about the documents nor publish them outside
3. not to bring arms and ammunition into the hostels and the meeting hall when the meeting is in progress. The rules and regulations are prescribed not for oppression but in the interests of the national safety.

In addition, telephones, faxes, ferries are also facilitated.

Daily allowance of the delegates has been increased from K 200 to K 500 while the meal cost has been increased so that the delegates can enjoy meals in line with religion.

For the health and fitness of the delegates, gymnasmum and golf course that cover table tennis, badminton, weightlifting and other facilities for walking and jogging are being provided.

In the meantime, TV, Karaoke, newspapers, journals and book shops, stage show, Anyeint, variety show, movies are also provided for the delegates. Likewise, a hospital complete with specialists, health staff, modern medicines and medical equipment is being opened for the delegates.

In conclusion, he spoke of the need for the delegates to raise questions at any time. If the delegates have any difficulties regarding accommodation, health, Messing and personal affairs, they are requested to inform the responsible officials, who will try their best to render all the necessary assistance.

In conclusion, he called on the delegates to offer suggestions and advice on detailed basic principles in the drawing of State constitution.
Mexico, Chile to sign strategic association accord

MEXICO CITY, 4 Dec—Chile and Mexico will sign a strategic association accord in January in an effort to bring the two countries closer politically, culturally and technically, presidents of the two countries said at a joint Press conference on Friday.

The visiting Chilean President Ricardo Lagos and his Mexican counterpart, Vicente Fox, said in the eastern city of Veracruz that the agreement would be formally signed during Fox’s visit to Chile next month.

Legislators of the two countries will be able to contribute to the accord with their own initiatives before the document is formalized.

The Chilean President said his country’s association with the United States is "unique in Latin America" and added that it is strong in matters of politics, joint investment, education, and cooperation in science and technology.

For his part, Fox said the deal is centered on care for the citizens, and it is a bridge "between all the forces of both nations".

The Mexican Foreign Ministry said the deal has three parts: atecnology programme, a cultural programme and a programme for building common political positions.

Technical cooperation consists of setting up a fund with contributions from both countries and the fund will be used to foster international cooperation between Caribbean nations.

The cultural programme includes officially funded meetings of thinkers and artists, and the first such meeting could take place during the launch of a Mexican Archaeology Museum at Chile’s National Museum in January when Fox visits Chile.

The agreement on political positions plans the setting up of commissions which will meet annually at the presidential level and every six months at the ministerial level, to build common positions on multilateral questions such as UN reform.

Fox and Lagos signed the preliminary association accord on September 22, 2004, promising to create a commission to draw up the agreement in the first half of 2005.

The competition between Mexican Foreign Minister Ernesto Derbez and former Chilean Interior Minister Jose Miguel Insulza over the post of the secretary-general of the Organization of American States, froze discussions on the accord, but talks on the matter resumed in June.

MNA/Xinhua

China donates anti-malarial drugs to Tanzania

DAE-ES-SALAAM, 4 Dec—China on Friday handed over 139 million shilling (122,000 US dollars) worth of anti-malarial drugs to Tanzania.

Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania Yu Qingtao said that the donation is just a gesture of China’s support for Tanzania’s fight against the killer disease.

Tanzanian Health Minister Anna Abdallah described as life-saving the donation the anti-malarial drugs of Dihydroartemisinin. "Your donation will save more than 27,000 lives in this country and therefore forms part of the cornerstone for the country’s malaria control programme," said the minister.

The Tanzanian Health Minister appealed to the international community to help her country in its efforts to render malaria a treatable and preventable disease.

Malaria, spread through mosquitoes, claims more than one million lives worldwide each year, with 75 percent of the fatalities in sub-Saharan Africa.

In Tanzania, malaria accounts for over 30 percent of the total reported diseases.—MNA/Xinhua

ENGAGEMENT

With the consent of parents from both sides, engagement was made between Henry Gyi, son of Dr U Khin Maung Gyi and Dr Daw Hla Tin and Ommar Maw, daughter of U Ohn Wai and Daw Kyin Hla on Friday (2-12-2005) in the presence of dignitaries.

Henry Gyi
Ommar Maw

N China autonomous region experiences expressway to 1,088 km

HARBIN, 4 Dec—The total length of expressways in north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has exceeded 1,000 kilometres, said the local transportation authorities.

With the completion of five new lines, the expressway has increased its length to 1,008 kilometres, connecting different parts in the region as well as linking the region to neighbouring countries.

MNA/Xinhua

Canada says EU, US must slash subsidies

LONDON, 4 Dec — Canadian Finance Minister Ralph Goodale said on Saturday that Brussels and Washington must radically cut back the payments they make to their farmers for there to be a breakthrough in global trade talks.

"The Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union and the Farm Bill of the United States of America need to be radically altered," Goodale told reporters at the meeting of Group of Seven rich industrialized nations.

Troubled talks at the World Trade Organization climbed up the agenda of the G-7 finance ministers and central bankers meeting in London on Saturday.

"We simply wanted to underscore the importance of trade," Goodale said.

Officials from the United States, Japan, Italy and Canada also discussed the impact of higher energy prices on global economic growth and inflation as well as achieving more transparency in energy market price signals.

"Properly functioning energy markets will be considered very important," Goodale said. "There are concerns the forces of competition are not present in some parts of the world."

Ministers and central bankers turned their attention on Saturday morning to reforming the International Monetary Fund to cut its weight on the global financial markets, a move that could easily help China and India.

MNA/Reuters

The picture taken recently shows Temasek Towers in Singapore. A decision on whether to allow Temasek to buy into the Bank of China is very close, China’s banking regulator said, amid reports the bank’s major stakeholder had approved the deal. —INTERNET

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANG SRI MUANG VOY NO (47)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG SRI MUANG VOY NO (47) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: MS WONG SAMUT OCEAN

SHIPPING CO LTD, BANGKOK

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (623)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (623) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.12.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

China donates anti-malarial drugs to Tanzania
French face transplant woman eating, talking

LYON (France), 4 Dec—A 38-year-old French woman was recovering well after receiving the world’s first partial face transplant, and doctors said on Friday she was happy with her new face and had thanked them for their work.

French surgeons defended their decision to put aside ethical concerns and health risks in carrying out the procedure in which the patient received a nose, lips and chin from a brain-dead donor after being mauled by her own dog.

"Her first words were 'thank you,'" Bernard Devauchelle, one of the surgeons who performed the pioneering surgery on Sunday, told a news conference in the city of Lyon. He said the patient regained consciousness 24 hours after the operation and there were no post-operative complications.

She had been eating and talking since early this week. "She was furious and is happy," Jean-Michel Dubernard, the other specialist who carried out the operation at Amiens in northern France. "The patient is doing well this morning, physically and psychologically." The woman is from the northeastern city of Lille.

Doctors said there are still risks of complications, including rejection of the tissue and an increased danger of cancer because of the drugs used to prevent the immune system from rejecting the new facial parts.

The doctors said she would have to undergo physical and speech therapy as well as seeing a psychologist, and it would take several months for her face to regain full sensitivity. A further operation is possible if doctors consider it necessary, they said.

Uganda’s bark cloth named as part of world’s collective heritage

KAMPALA, 4 Dec—Uganda’s bark cloth has been named as part of the world’s collective heritage recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

"The proclamation of the art of bark cloth making in Uganda as a masterpiece of the world’s intangible heritage is an honour to Uganda and a recognition of the indigenous textile production skills of Uganda’s craftsmen," Augustine Omare Okurut, head of the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO, was quoted by local Press as saying on Saturday.

Okurut pointed out that "it will strengthen the activities aimed at preserving the bark cloth production skills in Uganda as well promoting the bark cloth and its use in Uganda and internationally".

He said the bark cloth is used in various festivities, including as burial material and has invaluable commercial potential when exploited to make handicrafts.

Experts say ordinary X-ray check predicts avian flu survival

The 5th-century BC temple of Poseidon at Cap Sounion, south of Athens, is seen in April 2005 in the setting sun and a small thunderstorm. Regarded with suspicion and sometimes hostility by a state that had mixed feelings about its presence from the start, Greece’s foreign archaeology schools and institutes are now being thanked for a contribution to antiquity research spanning nearly 160 years. —INTERNET

According to a study presented in Chicago at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America, patients with more severe X-ray appearances would benefit from aggressive treatment earlier, giving them a better chance of survival.

X-rays show distinctive disease patterns of avian flu, including fluid in the space surrounding the lungs, cavities in the lung tissue and enlarged lymph nodes, said a research team of the University of Oxford in England.

The severity of these patterns is a good predictor of patient mortality. Moreover, identifying avian flu disease patterns will help physicians with more aggressive treatment planning to improve a patient’s chance of survival, they said. "On chest X-rays in patients with avian flu, the most common abnormality we found was multifocal consolidation, which usually represents pus and infection in patients with fever and a cough," said Nagmi Qureshi, the leading researcher of the team. —INTERNET

US to change air travel screening rules

WASHINGTON, 4 Dec—The US Government will change screening rules at all domestic commercial airports and will allow passengers to take small scissors and tools on planes, an official said Friday.

Meanwhile, random passenger checks and the thoroughness of pat-down searches will be enhanced, announced US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Director Kip Hawley.

The new rules, which will take effect on December 22, are aimed to give screeners more time to focus on detecting explosive, he said. At the same time, knives and some tools will still be prohibited, including crowbars, drills, hammers and saws.

In addition, pat-down procedures at checkpoints will be refined.

At present, US screeners put down passengers’ backs and abdomens. Under the new system, screeners will also pat down arms and legs below the mid-thigh, although they will be given discretion to forgo those searches in cases where bare skin or tight clothing make it obvious nothing is being concealed.

Hawley also said the level of random screening will be increased, with procedures varying from airport to airport to keep any would-be terrorists off guard.

He said the TSA is currently assessing data from three pilot studies on the impact new rules might have on airport operations, but he does not anticipate any increase in waiting times.

However, some US flight attendants and a number of US lawmakers said the changes are unnecessary and may undermine air travel security. —INTERNET

Translated by the Press.
**SPORTS**

**Celtic reclaim lead with 3-1 win at Aberdeen**

**GLASGOW, 5 Dec—** Celtic returned to the top of the Scottish Premier League courtesy of a 3-1 win at Aberdeen on Sunday.

They bounced back from a goal down in the second period to blitz Aberdeen with three goals inside eight minutes. Aberdeen went ahead when Jamie Winter gathered a short free kick 20 metres out and rifled a vicious low shot through a packed penalty area into the bottom left hand corner in the 53rd minute.

Celtic levelled when Aiden McGeady swept a 10-metre shot high into the left of the net as Aberdeen failed to clear on 56 minutes. Just two minutes later Celtic went 2-1 ahead when keeper Ryan Esson spilled a John Hartson shot for Bulgarian Stilian Petrov to tuck the ball into the left of the net as Aberdeen failed to clear on 56 minutes.

Celtic were 3-1 up when keeper Ryan Esson spilled on 66 minutes and Stilian Petrov pounced. They added a fourth through a packed penalty area into the bottom left hand corner in the 53rd minute.

Celtic are now on 41 points from 17 games with Hearts second on 40 following their 2-1 home win over Livingston on Saturday.

**MFA/Reuters**

**Valencia close on leaders with 3-1 win at Espanyol**

**MADRID, 5 Dec—** Valencia won for the third time on the trot beating Espanyol 3-1 away to close on the leaders in the Primera Liga on Sunday.

Quique Sanchez Flores’ improving side moved to 25 points, the same as Real Madrid who beat Getafe 1-0 on Saturday, but fifth on goal difference. Leaders Barcelona, on 28 points, were away to Villarreal later on Sunday while second-placed Osasuna visited Malaga.

Third-placed Celta Vigo have 26 points after sending Real Betis to the foot of the table with a 2-1 home victory.

Also on Sunday, seventh-placed Sevilla were playing ninth-placed Deportivo Coruna.

**Juve go eight points clear with win at Fiorentina**

**MIAN, Dec—** Juventus opened up an eight point lead at the top of Serie A after Mauro Camoranesi struck an 88th minute winner in a 2-1 victory at Fiorentina on Sunday.

Defending champions Juve have 39 points with AC Milan, who lost 2-1 at Chievo Verona on Saturday, on 31 points and Fiorentina and Inter Milan both on 29 points.

Juventus took the lead through French forward David Trezeguet but Fiorentina striker Giampaolo Pazzini brought the home side level six minutes before the break.

Fabio Capello’s side rode their luck at times with Fiorentina hitting the woodwork on three occasions including a Luca Toni shot against the post in the 75th minute.

Camoranesi drove home the winner two minutes from the end of normal time after Trezeguet had outjumped a hesitating Giuseppe Pancaro to put the Juve striker home from the end of normal time before Trezeguet had outjumped a hesitating Giuseppe Pancaro to put the Juve striker home from

**Frei heads Stade Rennes to home win against Nice**

**PARIS, 5 Dec—** A second-half goal by Alexander Frei earned Stade Rennes a 1-0 win at home to Nice on Sunday and seventh place in the Ligue 1 standings.

The Switzerland striker headed home an Erik Edman cross two minutes after Nice defender Bill Tchato was sent off on the hour for a second bookable offence.

The Brittany side have 26 points from 17 games, 17 points adrift of runaway leaders Olympique Lyon, who beat Paris St. Germain 2-0 on Saturday.

Nice stay 15th on 19 points, seven above the relegation zone.

Olympique Marseille missed a chance to jump PSG in fifth place when they were held to a 1-1 draw at promoted Nancy.

The hosts took the lead after 49 minutes courtesy of a Mosel Zerka goal.

However, Jean Fernandez’ second levelled 11 minutes later when striker Mamadou Niang, set up by the in-franck Ribery, struck from close range. Marseille slipped to 10th on 25 points while Nancy climbed one spot to 12th with 21 points. — MFA/Reuters

**Ajax beat RKC 4-1, NEC move fourth with 1-0 derby win**

**AMSTERDAM, 5 Dec—** Ajax Amsterdam came from a goal behind to beat RKC Waalwijk 4-1 in the Dutch First Division on Sunday.

NEC Nijmegen beat neighbours Vitesse Arnhem 1-0 and climbed to fourth in their 1,000th match in the First Division.

After 14 matches PSV Eindhoven are top with 35 points, following a 3-0 win over NAC Breda on Saturday. AZ Alkmaar beat Heerenveen 2-1 to move second with 32 points.

 Feyenoord, held to a 2-2 draw by bottom side RBC Roosendaal, slipped to third on goal difference and host leaders PSV next Sunday.

Ajax, who are eighth 14 points behind PSV, dominated against RKC but two minutes before the break Rick Hoogendorp opened the scoring for the visitors.

In first-half stoppage time, midfielders Hedwiges Maduro noded in a free kick by Wesley Sneijder, who then gave Ajax the lead three minutes into the second half.

In the final minutes, Markus Rosenberg and Ryan Babel added the third and fourth goals for Ajax, who had scored only two in their previous six matches.

Rutger Worm sealed NEC’s 1-0 win in the derby who beat his marker Ruoil Knoel and struck from 15 metres.

Groningen beat neighbours Twente Enschede 1-0 with a close range header from Yuri Cornelisse after 71 minutes. Twente were a man short for more than an hour following Blaise N’Kolo’s red card after 19 minutes.

LOWY ADO Den Haag also finished with 10 men after Ferry Bodde’s dismissal, but took three vital points in Rotterdam with a 3-2 win over Sparta. — MFA/Reuters

**Cole inspires Man City rout of Charlton**

**LONDON, 5 Dec—** Former England striker Andy Cole struck twice to inspire Manchester City to a rousing 5-2 victory at Charlton Athletic in the Premier League on Sunday.

City’s third away win of the season consolidated their position in eighth place in the table, while Charlton’s poor run continued after their bright start to the campaign and they slipped to 12th.

Cole put City ahead after 25 minutes with a calm finish, Darren Bent equalized for Charlton and Trevor Sinclair restored the visitors’ lead before halftime.

Charlton had chances to level but Joey Barton opened up a two-goal cushion when he rammed home the rebound after his 68th-minute penalty was saved by Charlton keeper Dean Kiely.

Substitute Jay Bothroyd gave the hosts hope with a rasping low drive from 20 metres but Cole released his strike partner Darius Vassell to add the fourth before rounding Kiely himself to complete the rout.

Charlton beat Middlesbrough 1-0 on Saturday to maintain their 10-point lead over Manchester United at the top of the table.

United eased to a 3-0 win over Portsmout to stay two points ahead of Liverpool, who defeated Wigan Athletic 3-0 to register their sixth successive win.

Arsenal lost 2-0 at Bolton Wanderers to slip to fifth.

Birmingham City host West Ham United on Monday. — MFA/Reuters

**Vallely’s Giorgio Rocca (R) sprays champagne from the podium while France’s Stephane Tissot laughs after the men’s World Cup slalom in Beaver Creek, Colorado, on 4 Dec, 2005. Rocca took first place in the slalom and Tissot placed second —INTERNET**
FBI mishandled Florida terror investigation

NEW YORK, 5 Dec — FBI officials mishandled a Florida terror investigation, falsified documents to try to cover mistakes and retaliated against an agent who complained about the problems, The New York Times reported in its Sunday edition.

Citing a draft report of an investigation by the Justice Department’s inspector-general’s office, a copy of which was obtained by the newspaper, the Times said that in one instance correction fluid was used to alter dates on three FBI forms to conceal an apparent violation of federal wiretap law. It was not known who altered the forms.

The case dates to 2002, the Times said, when the FBI’s Tampa office opened a terror investigation into an area to take part.

But the agent, Mike German, soon told FBI officials the Orlando agent handling the case had “so seriously mishandled” the investigation that a prime opportunity to expose a terrorist financing plot had been wasted. The report however concluded that “there was no viable terrorism case”.

But the draft report, dated 15 November, said German, who left the bureau last year after he said his career was derailed after the Florida incident, was “retaliated against” by his boss, who stopped using him for prestigious assignments in training new undercover agents.

FBI spokesman Michael Kortan told the Times the bureau had not been briefed on the findings but said that once it did get the report, “if either misconduct or other wrongdoing is found we will take appropriate action”. The report said the inspector-general found the FBI had “mishandled and mishandled the investigation and said supervisors were aware of problems in the case but did not take prompt action to correct them.

Once German raised his concerns, an unidentified agent in Orlando “improperly added inaccurate dates to the investigative reports in order to make it appear as though the reports were prepared earlier”, the inspector-general found, according to the Times.

MNA/Reuters

WEATHER

Monday, 5 December, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderstorms have been isolated in Yangon Division and weather has been fair in the remaining areas.

Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Chin, Rakhine, Kayin States, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Kachin, Shan, Mon States and Tanintharyi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Coco Island (1.06) inches.

Maximum temperature on 4-12-2005 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 5-12-2005 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 5-12-2005 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 4-12-2005 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 5-12-2005 were nil at Mingalardon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (102.60) inches at Mingalardon, (101.77) inches at Kaba-Aye and (106.46) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from North at (14:30) hours MST on 4-12-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is cloudy in the Andaman Sea, South Bay and East Central Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 6-12-2005: Isolated rain or thunderstorms are likely in Ayeyawady, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Tininthayi Coasts. Surface wind speeds in strong easterly wind may reach (30 to 35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-12-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-12-2005: Fair weather.

* R 489

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Government implementing seven-point Road Map for emergence of a peaceful, modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation

Delegates from all walks of life holding discussions at National Convention, first and crucial step of the future policy programme

YANGON, 5 Dec — The following is a translation of clarification on procedures for convening National Convention made by Secretary of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary 1 of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Thein Sein.

He said he extended greetings to Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission, members of the commission, members of work committee and management committee and National Convention delegates, wishing health of body and peace of mind. He said he was pleased to meet the delegates again. Those who attended the National Convention held in February and March 2005 were invited. Some of the delegates were vacant for various reasons and so new ones were chosen for the vacancies. In the previous National Convention the delegates abided by the procedures, rules and regulations with sense of duty.

Therefore the Convention successfully ended without any difficulties. He explained the procedures for the National Convention and other points on food, health, welfare, entertainment and security to the new and old delegates in brief.

Introduction and seven chapters are included in booklet, Procedures for the National Convention. The six objectives of the National Convention— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, perpetuation of sovereignty, flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system, further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values, namely justice, liberty and equality in the State and for the Tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the future State, the plenary session of the National Convention was held from 17 February to 31 March for 2005 and was temporarily adjourned. The plenary session of the National Convention resumed at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmaub Township this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary 1 of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Thein Sein and members, Chairman of the NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and members, Chairman of the NCC Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and members, Chairmen of Sub-committees and officials, delegates of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, National Unity Party, Union Kayin League, Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahui National Development Party, Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, independent representatives-elect, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan State (South), Shan State (North), Shan State (East), Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeayawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine States, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeayawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine States, Shan (South) and Shan (North), Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeayawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine States, Shan (South) and Shan (North), Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeayawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine States, Shan (South) and Shan (North), Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeayawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine States, Shan (South) and Shan (North), Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeayawady Divisions.

So, I arrived in Kengtung in time. The driver did his job well. On reaching the Kengtung Airport, the jet aircraft was already there. The run-way was quite different from that in 1980. It was better and wider. The airport itself was in good shape.

INSIDE

It was nearly 9 o’clock when we got to Kengtung. So, I arrived in Kengtung in time. The driver did his job well. On reaching the Kengtung Airport, the jet aircraft was already there. The run-way was quite different from that in 1980. It was better and wider. The airport itself was in good shape.

MAUNG PO THAN

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