Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Emperor of Japan

**Yangon, 23 Dec**— On the occasion of the birthday of His Majesty Akihito, Emperor of Japan, which falls on 23 December 2005, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Akihito, Emperor of Japan. —MNA

**Lt-Gen Kyaw Win welcomes Deputy Commander of Chengdu Military Area Command**

**Yangon, 22 Dec**— A Chinese delegation led by Deputy Commander of Chengdu Military Area Command Lieutenant-General Gui Quanzhi of the People’s Republic of China arrived here by air this afternoon to visit the Union of Myanmar. The Chinese delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, senior military officers Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu, Chinese Military Attaché Senior Colonel Ma Shoudong and officials.

At 5 pm, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win received Lieutenant-General Gui Quanzhi and party at Zeyathiri Beckman on Konnyintha, here. Also present at the call were Vice Quarter-master-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence. The Chinese guests were accompanied by Chinese Military Attaché Senior Colonel Ma Shoudong. In the evening, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win hosted a dinner in honour of Chinese delegation led by Lieutenant-General Gui Quanzhi and party at the Mya Yeik Nyo Royal Hotel. —MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence meets Deputy Commander of Chengdu Military Area Command Lieutenant-General Gui Quanzhi of the People’s Republic of China and party. —MNA

**Although there are vacant seats, the Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks**

**Yangon, 22 Dec**— The following is the presentation on clarification made by National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on detailed basic principles for legislation of Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the judicial sector in formulating State Constitution by Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aye Maung at the plenary session of the National Convention held on 15 December at Nyaungnhaung Camp in Hmaubw Township, Yangon Division.

I would like to explain the matter to fix the minimum number of Hluttaw members for validity of a session of Region or State Hluttaw.

With respect to the validity of Hluttaw sessions, I explained in respective sectors the matter to fix the minimum number of Hluttaw members for validity of sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. When our nation was in practice of the parliament system under the 1947 Constitution, the quorum of members of parliament was fixed 40 for validity of the session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, the parliament of ethnic groups 25, and joint session of two Hluttaws 100. At the sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw formed under the 1974 Constitution, the minimum number for validity was fixed 75 per cent of Hluttaw members. Among the nations where the minimum number of members is fixed for validity of a session of Hluttaw, some nations fix the number as 50 per cent of total members.

In the evening, Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aye Maung read the clarification of the NCC Work Committee Chairman. —MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 23 Dec — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Abdullatif Ali Ibrahim Al-Mawwash as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Abdullatif Ali Ibrahim Al-Mawwash was born in 1953. He graduated from the University of Kuwait with a Bachelor Degree in History. After graduation, he joined the diplomatic service in 1978 and has served in various capacities at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry and Embassies in Turkey, Canada and Sweden.

Mr Abdullatif Ali Ibrahim Al-Mawwash will be concurrently accredited as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to the Union of Myanmar with residence in Dhaka.

Mr Abdullatif Ali Ibrahim Al-Mawwash is married with three children. — MNA

Educative talks on AIDS held in Insein Locomotive Shed

Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Thet Hayu speaking at health talks at Insein Locomotive Shed. — RAILWAYS

YANGON, 22 Dec — Educative talks on AIDS was held today at Insein Locomotive Shed in Insein Township.

In an effort to raise public awareness of AIDS, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MMCWA) organized the talks.

It was opened with an address by Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Thet Hayu.

Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha of MMCWA explained the purpose of the talks.

Dr Htin Aung of Anti-AIDS and -Veneral Disease (VD) Project gave talks on AIDS and Dr Than Oo of MMCWA on maternal and child care tasks.

Members of the Executive Committee of MMCWA, representatives of Yangon District MCWA and Insein Locomotive Shed MCWA attended the educative talks. — MNA

Cash donated to fire victims

YANGON, 22 Dec—The Ministry of Industry-1 donated K 5 million of the victims of the fire that broke out in Ward 13 in Hlin Township, Yangon West District, recently.

At the donation ceremony held at City Hall of the Yangon City Development Committee this afternoon, Director-General of the Directorate of Industries U Thein Aung presented the donation to the victims through CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Yangon Division In Charge) Chairman of YCDC Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn.

Also present on the occasion were YCDC mem-

Dr Thein Aung of Anti-AIDS and -Veneral Disease (VD) Project gave talks on AIDS and Dr Than Oo of MMCWA on maternal and child care tasks.

Members of the Executive Committee of MMCWA, representatives of Yangon District MCWA and Insein Locomotive Shed MCWA attended the educative talks. — MNA

Medicines donated to Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital

YANGON, 22 Dec — Wellwishers donated medicines to Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital in Mingaladon Township today.

At the donation ceremony held at the 500-bed hospital, wellwishers presented medicines worth K 300,000 to Lt-Col Hla Aung of the hospital. — MNA

Bers, officials and executives of Yangon Division USDAs. — MNA

Strive for speedy completion of hydro-electric power projects

Myanmar being rich in aquatic and terrestrial resources, the government is striving for socio-economic development of the nation by systematically implementing plans and making the effective use of these resources. Electric power is instrumental in bringing development to the economic, social and manufacturing sectors. Therefore, the government is implementing electric power projects wherever possible.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by responsible officials, visited the Paunglaung multi-purpose dam project in Pyinmun Taung Township, Mandalay Division, and inspected the underground power station. In meeting with responsible personnel at the briefing hall of the project site, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on extended cultivation of paddy with the use of dam water and speedy completion of the upper Paunglaung and the Nancho hydro-electric power projects.

The Paunglaung multi-purpose dam is built along the Paunglaung river near Kyitaung-Khawma village ten miles east of Pyinmun. It was constructed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the Ministry of Electric Power. The purpose of the dam is to generate hydro-electric power and irrigate 35,000 acres of farmland. The underground power station with 70-megawatt turbines can generate 280 megawatts.

The Paunglaung hydro-electric power station is the largest and most modern one the government has ever built. The upper Paunglaung hydro-electric power station is also being built at a place 26 miles east of Pyinmun. The upper Paunglaung hydro-electric power station is to be installed with 70-megawatt turbines. The Nancho hydro-electric power station, on completion, will be able to generate 48 megawatts.

At a time when the government is striving for all-round development of the nation, we would like to call on all those responsible and construction workers to put their energies into their work for speedy completion of their respective projects.
China hopes to upgrade relations with Laos to higher level

BEIJING, 21 Dec— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here Tuesday that China hopes to catapult its ties with Laos to a higher level.

Wen told Saman Vinhakhet, president of the National Assembly of Laos, said China has always attached great importance to its relations with Laos and is ready to work with Laos to upgrade the bilateral ties.

Wen hailed the China-Laos ties, saying that the friendly cooperation between the two countries in various fields has produced remarkable results. He also congratulated Saman on the achievements that the Laotian people have made in economic and social development.

He expressed his belief that the Lao people will make continuous progress in developing their country under the leadership of the Lao People’s Revolutionary Party (LPRP).

Saman, also a member of the LPRP political bureau, described the relations between Laos and China as “good neighbours, good friends, good comrades and good partners.”

He said his country appreciates China’s long-term selfless assistance and hopes to further the good-neighbourly friendship with China.

He also expressed his hope that the National Assembly of Laos and China’s National People’s Congress (NPC) would enhance exchanges and cooperation in a bid to deepen bilateral ties.

Saman is in China as guest of Wu Bangguo, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee.

Indian plane makes emergency landing at LA Airport

LOS ANGELES, 21 Dec—An Air India Boeing 747-400 airliner made an emergency landing at Los Angeles International Airport after a tyre burst late Monday, airport authorities said.

Television footage showed that sparks were flying from the passenger plane when it made an emergency landing.

The Air India Flight 136, which carried 273 passengers and crew members, took off from the airport at 8:33 pm heading for New Delhi via Frankfurt.

Spokesman of the airline S. Venkat said a tyre burst on takeoff and the plane was recalled as a precautionary measure.

The plane made a safe emergency landing within an hour after dumping fuel, the spokesman said.

More than 100 local firemen and medical workers were called to brace for worst situation, but no injuries were reported.—MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen attack civil defence members in Baghdad, 3 wounded

BAGHDAD, 21 Dec — Unknown gunmen opened fire at a vehicle of the Iraqi civil defence members in western Baghdad on Tuesday, wounding three of them, police source told Xinhua.

“Armed men ambushed a civil defence vehicle in Ameriyah District and opened fire with small arms, wounding three of them,” Captain Ahmed Abdullah said. Separately, the Iraqi police discovered four trucks totally charred on the highway near Abu Ghurab area in western Baghdad, the source said.

2,158 US troops killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 21 Dec—As of Wednesday, 21 Dec, 2005, at least 2,158 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,694 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is two fewer than the Defence Department’s tally, last updated at 10 am EST Wednesday. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 2,019 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 1,385 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.—Internet

US to cut troop level in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 21 Dec—US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has signed orders that will reduce the number of American troops in Afghanistan to 16,000 from 19,000 by next spring, The New York Times reported on Tuesday.

The orders mean the Louisiana-based Fourth Brigade of the 10th Mountain Division will only deploy 1,300 soldiers to Afghanistan instead of all 4,000 troops as previously scheduled, a senior military official was reported as saying. The troops staying at home will be on standby, the official told the newspaper, speaking on condition of anonymity. Pentagon spokesman Larry Di Rita told the newspaper the decision to reduce a portion of the Army unit scheduled to replace the 173rd Airborne Brigade, now in southern Afghanistan, was based on recommendations from the senior US commanders in Afghanistan and the Middle East. “The overall level of security forces in the country, NATO’s role, and the political developments are all moving in the right direction,” Di Rita was quoted as saying.

A Pentagon spokesman was not immediately available for comment.

Canadian peacekeeper killed in Haiti

OTTAWA, 21 Dec — A Canadian peacekeeper was killed Tuesday during an ambush in Haiti’s capital Port-au-Prince.

Retired Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer Mark Bourque and another peacekeeper were patrolling in a Port-au-Prince suburb when they were ambushed by two unknown gunmen.

Their car came under intense fire and Bourque was fatally wounded in the leg. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) reported citing Damien Anses Cardona of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

Cranes on a construction site are dwarfed by the Jingguang Centre, until recently the city’s tallest building, in Beijing, on 21 Dec, 2005. —INTERNET

Relief supplies sent as floods overwhelm S Thailand

BANGKOK, 21 Dec—Full-scale relief operations are carrying emergency supplies to Thailand’s flood-stricken south. Army, Air Force and Naval units are cooperating to relieve both isolated local populations and some 2,000 foreign tourists stranded in the Gulf of Thailand.

Army helicopters loaded with relief supplies are flying missions to distribute basic necessities to villages and inaccessible areas, Army chief General Sonthi Boonyaratkalin was quoted by the Thai News Agency as saying.

All Fourth Army Area Command helicopters are now transporting supplies to flood victims in otherwise inaccessible areas.

Nearly 500 military and government emergency workers were dispatched to help local people deal with the emergency. Sonthi said on late Monday, and more personnel are coming from Bangkok.

Fifty flat-bottomed boats and equipment for drilling artesian wells were sent into the area, as distribution of supplies by road is now not possible and many water sources have been contaminated, raising concerns of medical problems arising from water-borne diseases.

Two Iraqi soldiers inspect a burned police vehicle in Baghdad, Iraq, on 21 Dec, 2005. —INTERNET
At the final session of the nationalities conference held in Yangon on 1 March 1962 were the then major political parties opposing the federal policy, explaining its loopholes and requesting federalists to abandon their demands, with the danger of Union disintegration as the main reason. But the federalists never gave up, instead demanding for the establishment of a federal state, from which states would separate and would join the SEATO as member nations.

Because of the situation, the Tatmadaw as it could no longer tolerate any act or scheme to break up the Union, detained the federalists leaders and took over the state duties on 2 March 1962. After forming the Revolutionary Council, the Tatmadaw initiated the drive towards socialism in accord with the majority's wish since the independence struggle.

Three days later, the Revolutionary Council met with leaders of the political parties, explaining that the taking over of the State duties was due to unavoidable circumstances and urging them to join hands in setting up a socialist country, which was also their very goal. The Revolutionary Council also said that because of the weakness of the 1947 Constitution, the Union nearly fell apart, suggesting them to take steps for drawing a new constitution.

The first draft was submitted in 1966 at Kyawkasasan Ground in Yangon, the chairman of the Revolutionary Council in his address delivered to 1,158 peasant representatives of 284 towns, said that the Revolutionary Council assumed the duties of the situation that the actual owner of the State power was the people themselves; and that the Revolutionary Council would transfer the power back to the rightful owner.

The chairman of the Revolutionary Council (RC) said that the drafting of a new constitution was the most important agenda of the RC’s fourth meeting. At the meeting held in November 1969, the RC chairman pointed out the weaknesses and loopholes of the 1947 Constitution, adding that its ultimate goal was a socialist state; that however Bogyoke Aung San gave directives for writing a constitution to set up a socialist state, his directives together with the goal of establishing a socialist state were not firmly stated in the constitution.

The RC held its first congress in 1971. While addressing the congress, the RC chairman said that non-exploitation and human rights should be embodied in the constitution.

The first congress laid down the basic guidelines to draw the new constitution, and formed a 97-member State Constitution Drafting Commission. The commission had nine subordinate bodies.

The commission also formed 15 sub-groups to tour states and divisions to explain the drafting of the new constitution and request the public to present suggestions. The people from all over the nation made suggestions to the commission office in Kanbawza Yeiktha, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yangon. The locals always gave advice to the sub groups during the tours.

The commission received over 100,000 letters of suggestions from the people. Many of the letters had the same option of setting up a socialist state that was free from exploitation in any form, that ensured human rights and unity and equality for all citizens to live in weal or woe, and to march under the leadership of a single party system, for the successful establishment of the socialist system.

Based on the suggestions, the commission drew the first draft of the constitution. After reviewing the constitution for many times, the commission presented it to the people down to the grassroots. In Yangon two press meets were held to explain the draft. Moreover, 13,928 articles were formed to explain the draft all over the nation and to seek suggestions from the people.

The commission drew the second draft and reviewed it from all angles for many times. The second draft was also explained all over the nation. The commission also asked advice from the people. Afterwards, it drew the third draft. There were differences between the drafts as amendments were made according to the public opinion.

On 16 August 1973, the Revolution Council enacted law proclaiming the 26-member National Referendum Commission led by U Dein Ra Tan. The government made arrangements to hold the referendum nationwide from 15 to 31 July 1973. Groups were formed with the participation of men of letters and artists to explain the referendum in townships all over the nation. There were 314 townships in the nation then.

According to 1973 census, the nation then had a population of over 28 million, including over 14 and a half million voters up to 15 December 1973.

According to the census taken completely, the nation’s population of adults stood at about 15 million (14,760,036). Of the adults, more than 13 million people cast votes in the referendum. A total of 13,312,801 people were in support of the 1974 Constitution of the Socialist Union. The referendum accounted for 90.19 per cent of the population. So, the Revolution Council declared the adoption of the Constitution on 3 January 1974.

The 1974 Constitution is made up of a preamble, 16 Chapters and 209 Articles along with an appendix of facts about the Constitution. In the Chapter II are the basic principles as follows:

5. A Socialist society is the goal of the State.
6. The economic system of the State is a Socialist economic system.
7. Socialist democracy is the basis of the State structure.
8. There shall be no exploitation of man by man nor of one national race by another in the State.
9. The State safeguards the interests of the working people whose strength is based on peasants and workers.
10. The State shall adopt a single-party system. The Burma Socialist Programme Party is the sole political party and it shall lead the State.

In accord with the aspiration of the majority of the people to exercise the Socialist system, it would exist as long as the people supported it. If the people no longer support the Socialist system due to its weak points, or become to prefer a better national economic system to the Socialist system, the 1974 Constitution will no longer work.

The system in the nation practised at that time was the Socialist economic system. After nationalizing factories, mills and economic enterprises, the State solely took all the responsibilities for production and distribution of goods, and commercial management functions, so it could not control the functions effectively, leading in the economic decline of the State. In the mid-1980s, the State was in deteriorating condition, beyond remedy of the situation. In 1988, the people showed their opposition of the Socialist economic system and the single-party system, thereby putting an end to the practice of the 1974 Constitution.

In the 1974 Constitution, states and divisions were designated as follows:—
(1) Kachin State
(2) Kayah State
(3) Kayin State
(4) Chin State
(5) Sagun Division
(6) Tanintharyi Division
(7) Bago Division
(8) Magway Division
(9) Mandalay Division
(10) Mon State
(11) Rakhine State
(12) Yangon Division
(13) Shan State
(14) Ayeyawady Division

Before May 1990, the Information Committee of the State declared the importance of the drafting of a constitution, through a press conference. In 1992, the representatives from 10 political parties that existed legally, representatives-elect, and the persons who were assigned duties by the government held a coordination meeting to convene a national convention for the emergence of a new enduring State Constitution. The National Convention was launched on 9 January 1993, as assented unanimously by the attendees at the meeting.

Translation: TMT + MS
(Kyemon: 22-12-2005)
Border areas witness sustained progress

Development of border areas in the time of the Tatmadaw government

The Tatmadaw government is throwing all its energies into carrying out the tasks of Our Three Main National Causes namely non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty. "Our Three Main National Causes" is the correct work programme for national consolidation and perpetuation of the Union.

In the past, national brethren living in border areas lagged behind in development due to evil legacy of colonialists, internal strife which was born together with independence and poor transport.

After assuming duties of the State, the Tatmadaw government first established peace in border areas. Border areas development projects have been implemented for socio-economic development of people living in hilly regions. As a result, narrow-minded racial views among national brethren have vanished. National race armed groups have returned to the legal fold and now they are taking part in regional development drives with might and main.

To accelerate the development undertakings in border areas, the Tatmadaw formed Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs in 1992. Moreover, Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races and Work Committees were also formed to carry out development tasks effectively. Tens of billions of money have been spent on border areas development projects.

As the saying goes, “actions speak louder than words” prevailing peace in border areas and its development are the tangible proof that the Tatmadaw has been energetically striving for border area development tasks. It has been paying serious attention to border area development projects which were unheard of in the past.

Thanks to the genuine goodwill of the Tatmadaw government, people are now witnessing development in border areas. The table shows progress in implementing border area development projects in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

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**Border areas development projects**

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The TV re-transmission station in Mongpauk, Shan State (East).

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Fifth Inter/State and Division Billiards and Snooker Contest opened

YANGON, 22 Dec — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended an opening ceremony of Fifth Inter/State and Division Billiards and Snooker Contest held on second floor of Asia Plaza yesterday evening.

After making a speech on the occasion, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint formally opened the contest. Also present on the occasion were officials of the Ministry of Sports, President of Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation U Soe Myint and executives, guests and sports enthusiasts.

First, the minister made an opening speech on the occasion while the president extended greetings and contestants took the sports oaths.

The final event will be held on 24 December morning and the prize presentation ceremony in the evening at Asia Plaza. — MNA
Although there are vacant... (from page 1)

majority as the minimum number of members for va-
lidity, some nations, one-tenth, one-fourth, or one-
third respectively. It is found that the minimum number of members is fixed based on the situations of respective nations.

As I explained in the sectors of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw in respect of fixing the minimum number of Hluttaw members for sessions of the Region or State Hluttaws, it shall be based on the number of Hluttaw members who have the right to attend Hluttaw ses-
sions. Only then, will it be possible to avert disputes over the point that the vacant seats that have not been filled due to the reasons, the seats for the members who have been elected but have not taken oath, and the seats of the members who have passed away should be counted or not. In this regard, it shall meet the number possible at any time to attend, but it shall not be very low to avoid the situation in which a decision is made just with the votes of the minority of members.

Some Hluttaw sessions are adjourned due to invalidity. Some valid Hluttaw sessions have to be extended because the matters have to be under discus-

sion for many days. So, it is required to take into con-
sideration the situations of postponed sessions and extended sessions in fixing the sessions to be valid or not.

The matters for fixing the minimum number of Hluttaw members for validity of the first day session of Region or State Hluttaw should be considered carefully.

The first day session of the Region or State Hluttaws shall be considered to be valid only if the majority of the members who have the right to attend the sessions are present.

If the first day session of region or sate Hluttaw is not valid, it shall be adjourned. The adjourned ses-
sions and the valid sessions that are extended shall be presumed valid if at least one-third of the members of region or sate Hluttaws are present. Only then, will it be possible to avoid unnecessary delay of Hluttaw func-
tions due to the fact that the session has to be ad-
journed many times because of invalidity.

So, with respect to fixing the minimum number of Hluttaw members for validity of the sessions of region and Hluttaws, discussions are to be held and suggestions to be made to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

(a) The first day session of the Region or State Hluttaw is valid if more than half of the number of members who have the right to attend a session of Region or State Hluttaw, are present. The ses-
sion if invalid shall be adjourned.

(b) The sessions that are adjourned due to invalidity in accordance with the sub-
para (a) as well as the valid sessions that are extended are valid if at least one-
third of the Hluttaw members, who have the right to attend a session of Region or State Hluttaw, are present. The ses-

sion or State Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

As the Speakers of the Region or State Hluttaws are responsible for supervising the sessions of respective Hluttaws, save as provided by the 1947 Constitution, a principle shall be adopted that they shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes.

So, in making a decision in a matter for which there is no specific principle in the Constitution and that does not call for specific number of votes of the members of Region or State Hluttaw, the detailed basic principle is adopted such that a matter shall be decided through a majority of the members of the Region or State Hluttaws.

As the Speakers of the Region or State Hluttaws are responsible for supervising the sessions of respective Hluttaws, save as provided by the 1947 Constitution, a principle shall be adopted that they shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes.

So, regarding the right of Speakers of the Re-
gion or State Hluttaws in making a decision for which there is no specific principle in the Constitution and that does not call for specific number of votes of Hluttaw members for decision, assent, and approval of Region or State Hluttaws, discussions are to be held and proposals to be presented to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

(a) Save as otherwise provided by this Con-
stitution, a matter that should be decided through vote of the members of Region or State Hluttaw shall be determined by a ma-

jority of votes of the members present and voting.

(b) The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker dischargin-
ging duties as the Speaker shall not vote in the first instance in the sessions of the Region or State Hluttaws, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the mat-
ters of an equality of votes should be adopted or not.

Now, I would like to deal with detailed basic principles to be adopted as regards the power of re-
presentative Hluttaw to take actions against members of the Region or State Hluttaws who are absent from a Hluttaw session.

Like members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, members of the Region or State Hluttaws shall attend the ses-
sions of respective Hluttaws regularly. In my expla-
nation on the sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, I made a detailed clarification that if Hluttaw members cannot attend a Hluttaw session due to other duty, illness, casual absence, or other cases, they may attend for leave. Today, communication systems are rapidly advanc-
ing, so in the Union, one can make a contact to an-
other person in a short time. If a Hluttaw member is absent without leave from a Hluttaw session for 15 days at a stretch, the Hluttaw concerned has the power to declare his seat vacant.

It shall be equality with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw in com-
puting absent days from a session of a member of Region or State Hluttaw. In computing 15 days of absence is just for a session of the Hluttaw concerned, and therefore it shall be an exception that the period a Hluttaw is not in session for adjournment shall be excluded.

Regarding absence of members of the Region or State Hluttaw from a session of the Region or State Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals to be put forward so as to decide the matter that a detailed basic principle:

“If for a period of 15 consecutive days a mem-
ber of Region or State Hluttaw is, without permis-
sion of the Hluttaw, absent from a session of Region or State Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw can consider the seat of the Region or State Hluttaw member vacant in accordance with prescribed pro-
visions. In computing the said period of 15 days, no account shall be taken of any period during which the session is prorogued, or is adjourned.” should be adopted or not.

I would like to deal with the matters that Hluttaw proceedings shall go on despite vacant seats of mem-
bers in the Region or State Hluttaw, and Hluttaw decisions shall be still valid even if it is exposed that some persons who are not entitled to attend a session or have not attended a session and had participation in the Hluttaw functions.

In my clarification to sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, I explained that some seats for Hluttaw members may be saved as elections are not available in some con-

stituencies due to a reason. Moreover, in a term of a Hluttaw, there may be some vacancies owing to resign-

ation and demise of some members. Despite vacant seats in the Hluttaws, respective Hluttaws shall have the power to carry on their duties and functions. Only then will Hluttaw functions be carried out regularly.

I also suggested that a detailed basic principle be adopted to be able to avert possible effects to the decisions and activities of the Hluttaws even if it is later discovered that an unqualified member accident-
ally elected or a person who is not entitled to attend a Hluttaw session sat, voted and took part in the Hluttaw functions.

The Region or State Hluttaws shall have equal rights with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. Hluttaw functions shall continue despite vacancies in a Region or State Hluttaw due to various reasons. A detailed basic principle shall be adopted that decisions and functions of a Region or State Hluttaw shall be still valid even if it is later dis-
covered that an unqualified member accidentally elected or a person who is not entitled to attend a Hluttaw session sat, voted and took part in the Hluttaw functions.

So, with regard to the matter to enable the func-
tions of the Hluttaw to go on despite some vacancies in the membership in the Region or State Hluttaw and to avert hindrance to the decisions and function of Hluttaws due to the fact that a person who is not en-
titled to attend the Hluttaw sat, voted and had partici-
pation in the functions of Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

“Although there are vacant seats, the Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.” should be adopted or not.

I would like to explain the fact that the people shall have the right to know the functions and records of the Region or State Hluttaw.

In my discussion about sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, I explained that the people shall have the right to know decisions and activities of the Hluttaw. The region and state Hluttaws would have the right to decide their activities and let the people know them. However, there might be a restriction under a law that a certain function of the Region or State Hluttaw shall not be released. There also might be a restriction enforced by
formed under the Constitution, or the authoritative body concerned shall be invested a power to release related matters. — MNA

Although there are vacant...

the Region or State Hluttaw has the right to issue an activity of the Hluttaw concerned due to a certain reason. Such a restriction under a law or a decision of Hluttaw shall be tackled in accord with the provisions and decisions of respective Hluttaws.

Concerning the right of the people to know activities and records of the region and state Hluttaws, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

“The functions and records of the Region or State Hluttaw shall be published for public information. Rule to Hluttaw with the arrangements restricted by law a law or decisions of the Region or State Hluttaw shall not be published.” should be adopted or not.

In my clarification to detailed basic principles to be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, I presented the matters of how to vest legislative power to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw made up of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. Now, I would like to explain duties and authority of the region and state Hluttaws including sharing of legislative power. In the Constitutions of some nations including Myanmar, legislative power is either central level and state level legislative bodies are promulgated in the constitutions. Sub-section (2) of Section 92 of the 1947 Constitution said that each State Council shall have power exclusively to make laws for the State or any part thereof with respect to any of the matters enumerated in List II of the said Schedule (hereinafter called “the State Legislative List”).

The matter exercised by the Region or State Hluttaws may cover entire region or state. Sometimes, a law or decision of the Region or State Hluttaw shall not be published.” should be adopted or not.

In my explanation on the submission of bills to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, I presented that the Union level organs formed under the Constitution have the right to submit, of the matters included in the Union Legislation List, bills on administrative measures the organs take themselves, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in line with the procedures prescribed; and that national plans, annual budget and bills on taxation shall be submitted solely by the Union Government and shall be under discussion only at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Region or state level bodies formed under the Constitution shall, of the matters stated in the Regional and State Legislative List, have the right to put forward bills on administrative matters to respective Hluttaws.

Region or state government knows well and can resolve the regional plans, annual budget and taxation. Except the matters to be solely submitted by region or state concerned, so, region or state government shall have the right to solicit the regional plans, annual budget and bills on taxation administered by region or state government in accord with the procedures prescribed. In this regard, procedures shall be prescribed in respective Hluttaw acts.

In respect of the right to present bills to Region or State Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

“(a) Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, the Region or State level organi- zations formed in the region or state have the right to put forward bills on matters under their management to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.

(b) Bills on regional state matters, annual budgets and taxation which are to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government shall be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.” should be adopted or not.

Members of Region or State Hluttaws shall have the power to submit bills to respective Hluttaws. The right to submit bills to Hluttaws is a privilege of members practiced parliaments of many nations.

— ANGON

Special movies to be shown to raise funds for Hlune victims

YANGON, 22 Dec — Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon has planned to raise funds for Hlune victims and that the Asiayon will present special movies— Acht-nal-sat, amone-yyo-yo on 23 and 24 December, Style on 25 and 26 December and Be-Lue from 27 to 29 December at Waza cinema hall.

The net income gained from the movies will be donated to the fire victims. MMPA has already reminded the world of movies to donate cash and kind to the fire victims. — MNA
NC Delegate groups hold meetings

YANGON, 22 Dec — Meetings of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia and Delegate Group of State Service Personnel were held at the designated places of Nyaungnhapin Camp in Hmawby Township this morning.

Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia

The meeting of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia took place at the meeting room-6 this morning.

Dr Thein Nyunt (Nyunt Wai-Katha) presided over the meeting together with members of the panel of chairmen Head of Office of the Ministry of Rail Transportation U Hla Myint and President of Myanmar Academy of Agriculture, Forest and Livestock Breeding Sciences U Tin Hlaing, Deputy Director U Than Win of Working Group-8 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee acted as MC together with co-MC Assistant Director U Nyein Myint.

The MC declared the validity of the meeting under the permission of the meeting chairman as there had been attendance of 55 out of 56 delegates or 98.21 per cent.

The meeting chairman delivered an opening speech.

NC delegate Director-General Dr Maung Wint

Signboard of Mon State Traditional Practitioners Association unveiled

YANGON, 22 Dec — The ceremony to unveil the signboard of Myanmar Traditional Practitioners Association (Mon State) was held at the Office of the Head of Mon State Traditional Medicine Department in Mawlamyine yesterday morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Deputy Commander Col Zaw Min, local authorities, departmental officials, and guests.

Head of Mon State Traditional Medicine Department U Tun Myint and officials, and guests.

Head of Mon State Traditional Medicine Department U Tun Myint explained matters related to holding the ceremony.

Members of Myanmar Traditional Practitioners Association U Kyaw Shein and U Tin Maung Win and Chairman of Myanmar Traditional Practitioners Association (Mon State) U Tin Shwe formally opened the ceremony, and the Commander unveiled the signboard.

Next, the Commander proceeded to Mawlamyine Airport where he heard reports on facts about the airport and extension tasks by Assistant Engineer U Zaw Min.

After giving necessary instructions, the Commander inspected construction tasks and the runway of the airport. — MNA
Region or State Hluttaw shall...

"Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, except those prescribed under the Constitution to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government, the members of State or Regional Hluttaws shall have the power to discuss and vote upon matters concerned. So, if in a couple of weeks is fixed a sufficient period during which the bills, approved and sent by self-administered division or self-administered region to the chief minister, shall be enacted as laws under the signature of the chief minister.

As I presented in the matters on Union bills, even though chief minister fails to ratify the bills in a fixed time, the bills shall be a law on the date after the expiry of the time fixed as chief minister ratifies the bills. A detailed basic principle shall be adopted that such laws shall be declared in the Union Gazette for the public information.

In my clarification to legislative functions, I explained that after being enacted by a legislative body, an act shall be declared for public information; that in doing so, it is stated in the daily newspapers as well as Union Gazette; that a declared law shall come into force not just for a period of a year, but it shall come into force from the date of declaration.

After a bill approved by Region or State Hluttaw is enacted, it shall come into force in the region or state. As it is stated as a detailed basic principle in the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, it should be stated in the legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw a law shall come into force from the date of declaration.

Concerning the declaration of bills as a law approved by Region or State Hluttaw and governing bodies of self-administered divisions and self-administered regions under the signature of chief minister, and the date such a law comes into force, discussions are to be held and a bill shall be made to assess the fact that the detailed basic principle:"

(a) The Region or State Chief Minister shall

(1) sign the bill approved by the Region or State Hluttaw and promulgate it as a law, within seven days after receiving it.

(2) sign the bill approved by the Self-Administered Region leading body and promulgate it as a law, within 14 days after receiving it.

(b) Although the Region or State Chief Minister does not sign the bill and promulgate it as a law with the fixed time, the bill shall come into force in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the fixed time.

(c) The bills signed by the Region or State Chief Minister and bills which have come into force in like manner as if they were signed by the chief minister shall be promulgated in the Union Gazette. The laws shall come into force on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention is expressed." — MNA

The reports, documents and records...

(from page 16)

permission of the Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw at the sessions of Region or State Hluttaw.

According to the detailed basic principles adopted for the formation of executive and judiciary, some ministers of region or state government may not be Hluttaw members. A detailed basic principle has been adopted that the attorney general, auditor general, chief justice and justices shall not be Hluttaw members. So, a principle should be adopted that a member representing a region or state level body formed under the Constitution, even if he was not a Hluttaw member, shall have the power to participate in the discussions at Region or State Hluttaw.

Therefore, regarding the right of a member representing a region or state level body formed under the Constitution to have participation in the discussions at Region or State Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals are to be submitted to assess the point that the detailed basic principle:

(a) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, members of Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to discuss and vote concerning bills or matters related to their organizations in the Hluttaw sessions.

(b) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, those members who are not Region or State Hluttaw members while attending the sessions of Region or State Hluttaw, Speaker shall have the right of discussing concerning bills or matters related to their organizations," should be adopted or not.

I would like to explain matters for laying down detailed basic principles with regard to duties and powers of a Region or State Hluttaw Speaker.

The heads of Hluttaw are mainly responsible for functions of Hluttaw sessions and supervising Hluttaw sessions. So, the duty to supervise Hluttaw sessions should be part of the duties and powers of Region or State Hluttaw Speakers.

In my explanation on Region or State Hluttaw sessions, I suggested that when the President of Region or State Hluttaw by the President of the State be put on record. The speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall invite the President, also the head of the State if the latter informs him of his desire to address a Region or State Hluttaw session.

If the region or state chief minister, also the head of region or state government informs that he wishes to deliver a speech at a session of Region or State Hluttaw, the Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall make arrangements for the chief minister to deliver a speech. So, a detailed basic principle should be adopted that if the chief minister of region or state government informs, the Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall make arrangements for the chief minister to deliver a speech in the session.

The sessions of Region or State Hluttaw to enact laws like at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Likewise, there might be many matters that needs discussions on policies and activities of region or state government and situations of Region or State Hluttaw. A matter that is under discussion and the signature of the chief minister or Region or State Hluttaw may be related to the matters for which a region or state level organ formed under the Constitution have to take responsibility. In this regard, the Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall, if he presumes it will enhance the interests of the people, have the right to invite a member or a person representing a region or state level body to a session of the Region or State Hluttaw to make clarification at the Region or State Hluttaw.

In my clarification to sessions of Region or State Hluttaw, and submission and approving of bills, I explained some of the duties and powers of Hluttaw Speaker. There may be many matters on duties and powers of Hluttaw Speaker in the detailed discussions along-side in the laws enacted by Region or State Hluttaw. A detailed basic principle should be adopted that the Speaker of Hluttaw shall resolve duties and powers concerning the matters related to the Region or State Hluttaw.

So, regarding the duties and powers of the Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals are to be submitted to decide the point that
the detailed basic principle:

“The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall—
(a) supervise Region or State Hluttaw session;
(b) invite the Union President if he informs him of his desire to address the Region or State Hluttaw session.
(c) make necessary arrangements when the Region or State Chief Minister informs him of his desire to address wishes.
(d) have the right, if necessary, to invite members or persons of region or state level organization formed under the Constitution to the Region or State Hluttaw session to make clarification as regards matters under discussion.
(e) perform other duties and responsibilities entrusted by the Constitution or a law.”

should be adopted or not.

I would like to explain the matters related to powers of members of Region or State Hluttaw.

One of the detailed basic principles adopted by the National Convention for the Legislative Framework said that duties, powers and privileges of members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw shall be prescribed under a law. The points I am going to present are aimed at adopting detailed basic principles enshrining duties, powers and privileges of members of Region or State Hluttaw under a law.

I have already explained the matters related to the privileges of members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

Like members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, members of region and state Hluttaw should have similar privileges. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and Hluttaw Act, members of region and state Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech and voting at respective Hluttaw, and committees and bodies formed by themselves. It should be a principle that action shall be taken against a member under region or state Hluttaw Act not under other laws if action is necessary regarding discussions and functions at the Hluttaw committees and bodies.

A member or a person representing a region or state level body formed under the Constitution who is attending, under the permission or invitation of the Hluttaw Speaker, a region or state Hluttaw session for ongoing discussions and matters should have similar privileges. In enjoying such a privilege, respective members and persons should refrain from committing physical assault in order not to tarnish the prestige of the Hluttaw. Action should be taken in accord with the laws against a member with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.

In my discussions on the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, I clarified the procedures to be carried out when need arises to arrest Hluttaw members attending Hluttaw session and persons of region or state level organization formed under the permission and invitation of Hluttaw Speaker or Speaker, rules to be followed when need arises to arrest members attending a session of Hluttaw committee, commission, or body, and the procedures to be carried out to arrest a Hluttaw member when Hluttaw, Hluttaw committee, commission, and body are not in session.

Referring the provisions of the 1974 Constitution and the traditions being exercised in world nations, I have explained in a matter in which a prompt action needs to be taken against under a law a Hluttaw member attending a Hluttaw session, by grappling with such a matter only after seeking the permission of the Hluttaw Speaker, the Hluttaw session will continue with prestige and systematization; that prior approval of Hluttaw Speaker shall be sought through heads of respective bodies when the committees and bodies under the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw are in session; and that reliable evidences in support thereof shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker concerned as soon as possible if any Hluttaw member is arrested while sessions are not being held. Similar privileges should also be practiced in Region or State Hluttaw.

So, regarding the procedures to arrest members of Region or State Hluttaw, or committee or body formed by Region or State Hluttaw under a law if action is necessary, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the principle:

"(a) If there arises a need to arrest a Region or State Hluttaw member attending a Region or State Hluttaw session or a person attending the Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker."

"(b) If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or an organization formed by the Region or State Hluttaw attending a session of the committee or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker through the heads of the committee or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker."

"(c) If there arises a need to arrest a member of Region or State Hluttaw or committee or organization formed by the Region or State Hluttaw while the Hluttaw or the committee or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw Speaker." should be adopted or not.

I would like to explain matters on reports, documents and Hluttaw records published and distributed by the Region or State Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

It is found that a privilege of exemption from being arrested is prescribed in the Constitution of many world nations as a privilege of Hluttaws with respect to reports, documents and records published and distributed by or under the permission of Region or State Hluttaw. Such a privilege is also promulgated in Sub-section (1) of Section (68) of the 1947 Constitution of our nation. A similar privilege should be prescribed in respect of records published and distributed by or under the permission of Region or State Hluttaw.

So, regarding the reports, publications and Hluttaw records published and distributed by or under the permission of Region or State Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the principle:

"The reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.” should be adopted or not.

MA

Detailed basic principles...

Constitution shall convene the first regular session for the next terms of Region or State Hluttaw.

3. (a) Members of Region or State Hluttaw shall take oaths before the chairman of Region or State Hluttaw at the first regular session of Region or State Hluttaw.

(b) Members of Region or State Hluttaw who have not taken oaths, shall take oath before the Speaker of the Hluttaw at the session of the Region or State Hluttaw they first attend.

4. The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw shall convene the regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw at least once a year. The interval between two regular sessions shall not exceed 12 months.

5. The following matters are carried out at the session of the Region or State Hluttaw:

(a) Recording the address delivered by the Union President.

(b) Reading out and recording messages sent by the President and other messages permitted by the Speaker.

(c) Recording the address delivered by region or state chief minister.

(d) Submitting, discussing and making decision on a bill.

(e) Discussing and deciding the matters the Region or State Hluttaw shall implement in accordance with provisions of the Constitution and the existing laws.

(f) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Region or State Hluttaw. (See page 11)
Detailed basic principles...

(g) Submitting proposals, holding discussions and making decisions.
(h) Raising questions and giving replies.
(i) Implementing matters permitted by Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw.

6. (a) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaw can convene special session or emergency session of Region or State Hluttaw if necessary.
(b) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaw shall convene a special session or emergency session of region or state as soon as possible when the Region or State Chief Minister informs to do so.
(c) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaw shall convene a special session of region or state as soon as possible if at least one-fourth of the Region or State Hluttaw members ask to convene it.

7. (a) The first day session of the Region or State Hluttaw is valid if more than half the number of members who have the right to attend the session of the Region or State Hluttaw, are present. The session if invalid shall be adjourned.
(b) The sessions that are adjourned due to invalidity in accordance with the sub-para (a) as well as the valid sessions that are extended are valid if at least one-third of the Hluttaw members, who have the right to attend a Region or State Hluttaw session are present. The session shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes.

8. (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting in the Region or State Hluttaw shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.
(b) The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker discharging duties as the Speaker shall not vote in the first instance in the sessions of the Region or State Hluttaw, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes.

9. If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Region or State Hluttaw is, without permission of the Hluttaw, absent from a session of Region or State Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw can declare the seat of the Region or State Hluttaw member vacant in accordance with prescribed provisions. In the said period of 15 days, no account shall be taken of any period during which the session is prorogued, or is adjourned.

10. Although there are vacant seats, the Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.

11. The functions and records of the Region or State Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But, the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Region or State Hluttaw shall not be published.

12. Region or State Hluttaw has the power to make laws for the whole or any part of the Region or State since members stated in the Region or State Legislative List.

13. (a) When the Region or State Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —
(1) entrust the right to issue bylaws, rules and regulations concerning the law to a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution.
(2) authorize the organization or authority to organize, order, order and procedures concerning the law.
(b) The bylaws, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by a law shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.
(c) after issuing a bylaw, rules or regulations under the law enacted by Region or State Hluttaw, the organization concerned shall circulate the bylaw, rules or regulations to Hluttaw members during the nearest regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw with the arrangement permitted by the Hluttaw Speaker.
(d) If the bylaw, rules or regulations are found to be not consistent with the provisions of the law concerned, Region or State Hluttaw members can submit a proposal to annul or amend the by, law, rules or regulations to Region or State Hluttaw within 90 days from the date they are circulated.
(e) If a decision is made by Region or State Hluttaw to annul or amend a bylaw, rules or regulations, the decision shall not affect however, without prejudice to the validity of any action previously taken under the bylaw, rules or regulations.

14. (a) Matters that requires decision, assent and approval of two days after receiving it shall be implemented as follows:
(1) If the Region or State Hluttaw is in session, the matter shall be decided at that session.
(2) If the Region or State Hluttaw is not in session, the discussions and decisions on the matter shall be made at the nearest Region or State Hluttaw session.
(3) A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.

15. (a) Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, except those prescribed under the Constitution to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
(b) Bills on region or state plans, annual budgets and taxation which are to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government shall be submitted by the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.

16. Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, except those prescribed under the Constitution to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government, the Region or State Hluttaw members can submit bills on other matters in accordance with the prescribed provisions.

17. Region or State Hluttaw shall make a decision when Region or State Government submits region or state budget in accordance with the prescribed provisions.

18. (a) The Region or State Chief Minister shall
(1) sign the bill approved by the Region or State Hluttaw and promulgate it as a law, within 14 days after receiving it.
(2) sign the bill approved by the Self-Administered Region leading body and promulgate it as a law, within 14 days after receiving it.
(b) Although the Region or State Chief Minister does not sign the bill and promulgate it as a law with the fixed time, the bill shall come into force in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the period of such promulgation unless the contrary intention is expressed.

19. (a) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, members of Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right of discussing and voting concerning bills or matters related to their organizations in the Hluttaw sessions.
(b) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, those members who are not Region or State Hluttaw members while attending the session with the permission of Hluttaw Speaker shall have the right of discussing concerning bills or matters related to their organizations.

20. The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall
(a) supervise Region or State Hluttaw sessions.
(b) invite the Union President if he informs him of his desire to address the Region or State Hluttaw sessions.
(c) make necessary arrangements when the Region or State Chief Minister informs him of his desire to address he wishes.
(d) have the right, if necessary, to invite members or persons of region or state level organization formed under the Constitution to the Region or State Hluttaw session to make clarifications as matters under discussion.
(e) perform other duties and responsibilities entrusted by the Constitution or a law.

21. (a) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Law, members of Region or State Hluttaw have freedom of speech and voting at the Region or State Hluttaw as well as at Region or State Hluttaw committee and organization. Concerning the discussions and functions, a Region or State Hluttaw member shall be privileged except under the Region or State Hluttaw Law.
(b) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions of the Region or State Law, members or persons who are permitted or invited to attend Region or State Hluttaw session have freedom of speech at the Region or State Hluttaw or Region or State Government and all committees and organizations. Concerning such discussions, they shall be privileged except under the Region or State Hluttaw Law.
(c) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub-para (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.

22. (a) If there arises a need to arrest a Region or State Hluttaw member or any person attending the Region or State Hluttaw session or a person attending the Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.
(b) If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or an organization formed by the Region or State Hluttaw, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.
(c) If there arises a need to arrest a member of Region or State Hluttaw or committee or organization formed by the Hluttaw while the Hluttaw or the committee or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw or the organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.

23. The reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.

I would like to urge the delegates to hold discussions and submit proposals to decide whether the detailed basic principles I have presented shall be adopted or not, regarding the legislation of the Region or State Hluttaw.
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70(1), Bo Chein Street,

Pya Road, Hlaing Township,

Yangon, Myanmar.

Phone: 951-514194

Fax: 951-514208

**DATE AND TIME OF COLLECTION**

23rd December 2005 to 17th January 2006

Monday to Friday

10 am and 5 pm

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (394)**

Consignes of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (394) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.12.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR:** M/S EAGLE CORPORATION

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE**

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Used in respect of:-

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**TasteK**

B.A (LAW) LL.B, LL.M (UK)

Phone: 248108/723043

Dated: 23 December 2005

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**BANGLADESH TO BECOME TRANSPORT HUB OF SOUTH ASIA**

**DHAKA, 21 Dec—** The Asia Development Bank (ADB) noted that Bangladesh is going to become the transport hub of the South Asia and South East Asian region, but a well-planned infrastructure was a precondition to higher economic growth.

The Independent, on Tuesday quoted Hua Du, country director of the ADB as saying that Bangladesh is going to become the transport hub of the region, a gateway for other countries connecting east and the west, but a well-planned infrastructure is required to use its full potential.

Disclosing her organization’s plan, she said ADB would provide one billion US dollars to Bangladesh over the next decade to develop its railway communications. She said improved infrastructure, with private sector investment, would generate various social welfare activities, leading to a boost in the economic activities of rural areas of the country.

Infrastructure will be the major potential growth centre for Bangladesh and will open an economic corridor connecting the eastern gate of Chittagong port with the western gate of Bangladesh. Hua said.

The ADB mission chief observed that Bangladesh will be benefited through regional cooperation as it is placed centrally among other South Asian countries.

The ADB supported a number of projects in the country including Dhaka-Chittagong corridor, chittagong port development project and other infrastructure development programs including water, power and gas supply.

But, Hua expressed her dissatisfaction with the slow pace of implementation of various projects by government agencies.

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**Lose weight, doctors tell Sharon after stroke**

**JERUSALEM, 21 Dec—** Prime Minister Ariel Sharon’s doctors have told him to lose weight after he suffered a mild stroke, Israeli media reported on Tuesday.

A medical expert, consulted by one newspaper, said it might be too late for Sharon to change his eating habits but suggested he take light exercise and reduce his intake of salt. Yediot Ahronoth, one of the country’s leading newspapers, said.

Sharon, 77, who has often joked about his legendary appetite and considerable girth, laughed heartily at his doctors’ orders, the Yediot Ahronoth newspaper said.

Sharon is a health risk as he seeks a third term. The new policy is designed to protect UN whistleblowers.

**UNited Nations, 21 Dec—** UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has signed a new whistleblower protection policy, to take effect on 1 January, aimed at ensuring that the world body functions in an open, transparent and fair manner, a UN spokesman said on Tuesday.

“Retaliation against individuals who have reported misconduct or who have cooperated with audits or investigations violates the fundamental obligation of all staff members to uphold the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and to discharge their functions and regulate their conduct with the best interests of the Organization in view,” the new policy states.

The policy, signed on Monday by Annan, is officially called as “Protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations.”

As its name makes it clear, this new policy provides protection from retaliation to those who report misconduct as well as those who cooperate in audits or investigations,” spokesman Stephanie Dujarric told reporters.

“This policy represents ‘best practice’ from many nations and international organizations,” he added.

The new policy is designed to address concerns raised by staff in last year’s integrity perception survey.— MNA/Reuters

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**Annan signs new policy to protect UN whistleblowers**

**United Nations, 21 Dec—** UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has signed a new whistleblower protection policy, to take effect on 1 January, aimed at ensuring that the world body functions in an open, transparent and fair manner, a UN spokesman said on Tuesday.

The new policy is designed to protect UN whistleblowers.

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**Cambodian leader meets with world-known Chinese artists**

**PHNOM PENH, 21 Dec—** Cambodian National Assembly President Prince Norodom Ranariddh on Tuesday appealed to strengthening the cooperation and culture exchange between Cambodia and China to further promote the traditional friendship of the two countries.

The Prince made the remarks during meeting with visiting delegation of world-known Chinese artists.

Ranariddh said that culture exchange is one of the important parts of the relations between the two countries. He believes that the paintings made here by Chinese artists will make more Chinese people know the Kingdom of Cambodia as well as the world-well-known Angkor Wat temples.

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**A New Yorker cycles into Manhattan on the second day of the transit workers strike in New York City, on 21 Dec, 2005. —INTERNET**
Scientists sequence woolly mammoth's genome

LOS ANGELES, 21 Dec—An international research team reported recently that it has mapped part of the genome of the woolly mammoth, a huge relative of today’s elephant extinct for about 10,000 years.

Using a combination of novel techniques, the researchers have sequenced a chunk of ancient DNA belonging to remains of a woolly mammoth and “fellow travelers,” including a sample of the bacteria, fungi, viruses and plants that lived at the same time as the mammoth.

The remains of the mammoth, which lived in Siberia about 28,000 years ago, were well preserved in the permafrost, the researchers from Canada and the United States said in the December 22 online edition of the journal Science.

This breakthrough allows for the first time a novel technique called pyrosequencing.

The researchers identified that 13 million base pairs, nearly half of the total base pairs in the bubble, as belonging to the mammoth, which are very similar to the African elephant genome.

“Thanks to exceptional sample preservation and use of a novel emulsion polymerase chain reaction and pyrosequencing technique, 13 million base pairs (45.6 per cent) of the sequencing reads were identified as mammoth DNA,” said the researchers. “Sequence identity between our data and African elephant (Loxodonta africana) was 98.55 per cent, consistent with a palaeontologically based divergence date of 5 to 6 million years,” they wrote in the paper.

This was a “surprising finding,” according to the researchers, as it demonstrated that the analyzed material was frozen for so many years.

The findings indicate that any organism that has been trapped in frozen ice or a permafrost environment for up to 1 million years will be “an open book,” they said.

“Thanks to this level of genetic information from extinct species makes it possible to consider detailed analysis of functional genes, and fine scale refinement of mutation rates.”

Elephants in Bangladesh critically endangered

DHAKA, 21 Dec — Elephants in Bangladesh are critically endangered as a result of poaching and lack of effective measures in the conservation and monitoring of the biggest mammal.

The elephant population in Bangladesh is now 250, which was 450 as per the animal census conducted 25 years ago, local daily New Age quoted wildlife experts as saying on Tuesday.

About 55,000 to 60,000 elephants in 13 Asian countries are in an endangered condition, experts said, adding that the factors responsible include destruction of elephant habitat, human settlement, expansion of agriculture, shifting of cultivation, food scarcity associated with human-elephant conflicts. In Bangladesh, 43 elephants died due to poaching-conflicts with human being, accidents and illness in the past one decade while over 200 people were killed and about 500 injured in attacks by elephants. — MNA/Xinhua

Colossal dinosaur fossil unearthed in S-W China

CHENGDU, 21 Dec—A huge buried fossil of a sauropod, or a large, long-necked herbivorous dinosaur, has been unearthed in southwest China’s Sichuan Province.

After one month of excavation, the fossil was finally uncovered in the park of the Zigong Dinosaur Museum in Zigong City. “It must have been a big guy when it lived in the middle Jurassic period, about 160 million years ago.” Li Fei, an archaeologist, said at the excavation site. “It is over 20 metres long and its longest rib measures 1.93 metres.”

So far, no long cervical vertebra fossils have been found instead, under the sauropod, excavators found shishbone and thighbone fossils.

In addition, there is a 109-millimetre-long tooth fossil in the sauropod’s rib. Six broken teeth fossils were found nearby, which probably belong to a carnivorous dinosaur, according to Li Fei.

“Based on this discovery, we conclude that this sauropod might have been killed by a predaceous dinosaur,” said Li. Besides the huge dinosaur fossil, some fossilized fish scales and tortoise shells were also discovered at the site.

The sauropod fossil is the largest among the dinosaur fossil cluster found in Zigong in 1979, on top of the 18-metre-long Omeisaurus tianfuiensis, which was excavated in the same park and conferred as “Asia’s No. 2.”

The Zigong Dinosaur Museum, known as a “treasury of fossils,” is one of the world’s three dinosaur treasuries. It houses the complete fossils of more than 100 dinosaurs.

SingTel launches new fibre-optic submarine cable

SINGAPORE, 21 Dec—Singapore Telecommunications (SingTel) announced on Tuesday the launch of a new fibre-optic submarine cable, SEA-ME-WE 4, which spans some 20,000 kilometres from Singapore to France through South East Asia, Middle East and Western Europe.

The fourth cable connecting Asia, North Africa and Europe, SEA-ME-WE 4 has a design capacity of 1.28 terabits per second, which is “equivalent to more than one million Internet users simultaneously having real-time access to a 1 Mb (megabits) file,” a SingTel statement said. The telecommunications operator said that it has invested 40 million US dollars and owns 8 per cent of this cable project, which was completed by a consortium of 16 telecommunications companies recently.

SingTel expects the new cable, an additional reliable infrastructure, to enhance its services to customers including Internet Service Providers, carriers and multi-national corporations that wish to expand operations into Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

With the launch of the new cable, SingTel will open two offices in the United Arab Emirates and Bangladesh and offer full suite of services including high-speed Internet access and value-added Internet phone services in Europe from January next year.
Arsenal into League Cup semis after shoot-out

LONDON, 22 Dec — Arsenal scraped into the League Cup semi-finals on Wednesday but needed a penalty shootout to get past Third Division Doncaster Rovers after the teams had drawn 2-2 following extra time.

Home side Doncaster seemed set to continue a giant-killing run that had already accounted for Premier League Manchester City and Aston Villa when they led 2-1 with 120 minutes on the clock.

But Brazilian World Cup winner Gilberto Silva scored in extra-time in injury time and Arsenal fielding a largely second-string team, then confidently won the shootout 3-1.

The victory earned them a semifinal meeting with Wigan Athletic, who secured their first major last four appearance by beating Bolton Wanderers 2-0 on Tuesday.

In Wednesday’s other quarterfinal Paul Dickov’s 90th-minute goal earned Blackburn Rovers a 1-0 win at 2004 League Cup winners Middlesbrough.

In the semis they will play Manchester United, who won 3-1 at Birmingham City on Tuesday.

Arsenal were stunned in the fourth minute when Michael McIndoe slipped through to beat goalkeeper Manuel Almunia at the near post.

An injury that ended Robin van Persie’s involvement after half an hour added to Arsenal’s frustration.

Almunia made two good saves early in the second half and Arsenal were looking increasingly desperate. They found a fortunate way back into the game with a deflected shot by Quincy Owusu-Abizie in the 63rd minute.

Doncaster, who returned to the Football League two years ago following their relegation to the conference in 1998, had captain Stephen Foster to thank in extra time when cleared a Sebastian Larsson shot off the line.

Senders then made a terrible hash of trying to clear a McIndoe cross, allowing substitute Paul Green to slide in and put Doncaster back in front in the 104th minute.

It looked enough until Gilberto converted a low cross by Emmanuel Eboue and the late blow seemed to knock the heart out of the Third Division players as Almunia saved twice and watched a third home penalty hit the post.

Wednesday’s other tie was a dour affair endured by a sparse Riverside crowd.— MNA/Reuters

Real end miserable year with 2-1 home defeat

MADRID, 22 Dec — Real Madrid ended their year in miserable fashion as they were jeered off the pitch after a 2-1 defeat by Racing Santander at the Bernabeu on Wednesday.

Real’s fourth home loss of the season came two days after the club confirmed caretaker coach Juan Ramon Lopez Caro as the man in charge until the end of the season.

Real are fourth in the Primera Liga 11 points adrift of leaders Barcelona who notched up their 13th consecutive win in all competitions with a 2-0 victory over Celta Vigo at the Nou Camp on Tuesday.

The defeat was another setback for the Parisians who have racking up a sixth consecutive defeat and may seal the fate of coach Laurent Fournier, who has been in charge until the end of the season.

Mats Hummels and Arjen Robben each scored twice in the 1-0 win to rise to 36 points.

Toulouse sink PSG to reach League Cup quarters

PARIS, 22 Dec — Toulouse scored two late goals to overcome Paris St Germain 2-0 and reach the League Cup quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Striker Fode Mansore broke the deadlock three minutes from time then former France international Daniel Moreira wrapped up the game with a stoppage-time penalty.

The defeat was another setback for the Parisians and may seal the fate of coach Laurent Fournier, who is at odds with club chairman Pierre Blayau.

Blayau has criticized Fournier for poor results with the ambitious club standing sixth in Ligue 1, 13 points adrift of runaway leaders Olympique Lyon.

Toulouse, battling to avoid relegation from the top flight, join Nice, Girondins Bordeaux and Second Division En Avant Guingamp in the last eight after they all won on Tuesday.

Auxerre were the other big name of the Ligue 1 to make an early exit when they were eliminated by Le Mans 4-1 in a penalty shootout. The two sides had been level 1-1 after extra time.

Baptiste Martin put the Burgundy side ahead on the hour before the visitors equalized through Martin Douillard.

Monaco struggled to tame Lille 1-0 on their home turf thanks to a late goal from their midfielder Cemer Meriem.

Second Division clubs Montpellier and Lorient both went down to elite sides.

Montpellier lost 1-0 to AC Ajaccio at home, with the Corsicans scoring the winner through Lucas Pereira.

PSV secure easy cup win over Twente Enschede

AMSTERDAM, 21 Dec — Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink struck twice to guide PSV Eindhoven into the Dutch Cup quarterfinals with a 3-0 win over Twente Enschede on Tuesday.

Vennegoor of Hesselink set up Jefferson Farfan for the opening goal just before the interval. The Dutch international then doubled the lead 15 minutes after the break before completing the rout with his second goal in injury time.

A Klaas-Jan Huntelaar penalty and a strike from Georgios Samaras was enough to give Heerenveen a comfortable 2-0 win over second division side VVV Venlo in the fourth round.

Second division side MVV Maastricht secured a stunning 3-1 upset win over top flight strugglers and last season’s Cup finalist Willem II Tilburg.

Juventus beat Siena 2-0 to maintain Serie A lead

Rome, 22 Dec — Serie A leaders Juventus maintained their eight-point cushion at the top of the division with a 2-0 win over Siena on Wednesday.

The Italian champions now have 46 points from 17 matches. Inter Milan remain second, 10 points behind Manuel Pellegrini’s side in fourth. The Basque side have five ahead of second-placed Osasuna who will defend a 100-per-cent home record against Atlético Madrid in the final game of the year on Thursday.

Juventus two-0 victory was enough to give Heerenveen a
draw against Lazio on Saturday. Juventus’ players were keen to clump their authority on the championship.

Fabio Cannavaro gave them the ideal start, heading in from a corner in the 13th minute.

Juve continued to dominate possession, though Si- ena created a few chances of their own, the best of which came just before halftime when former Juve defender Igor Tudor narrowly failed to connect with a dangerous-looking cross in front of goal. David Trezeguet wrapped up the win nine minutes after the restart when he ran on to a Mauro Camoranesi chip, rounded the keeper and finished into an empty net.

Russian tennis star Maria Sharapova gives tips to a Japanese boy during a tennis clinic at her Japan Tour 2005 in Osaka, western Japan, on 21 Dec, 2005. The 18-year-old Russian kicked off her three-city promotional event which will also take her to Nagoya, central Japan, and Tokyo.— INTERNET

Arsenal’s Gilberto Silva, centre, scores at the end of extra time to equalise against Doncaster during their League Cup quarter final soccer match at The Earth Stadium, Doncaster, England, on 21 Dec, 2005.—INTERNET
Three burglars arrested in Mandalay

YANGON, 22 Dec — Three culprits who committed burglary in Aungmyethazan Township in early December were arrested by Members of Mandalay Division Police Force.

They broke into the house of Daw Hnin Hnin Hlaing, a gem merchant, in Aungmyethazan Township on 9 December, and stole K 600,000 and 48 golden ornaments worth over K 56.2 million while the house owner was away.

One of the culprits, Aung Tun Lwin, 21, son of U San Tun, was arrested during a raid by the police on the house of Ma Khin Hla Htwe in Yanbyin C Ward in Chanayethazan Township on 18 December. Police also seized K 550,000 and stolen ornaments during the raid.

After questioning Aung Tun Lwin, police also arrested Ye Myint (a) Ko Ye, 43, son of U San Tun, on 20 December who also committed the burglary.

Aung Tun Lwin confessed that he and Ye Myint (a) Ko Ye burgled the house, and Ma Khin Hla Htwe were charged with burglary under Section 454 at No 1 Police Station in Mandalay.

WEATHER

Thursday, 22 December, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin State and Taninthayi Division, isolated in Kachin State and weather has been partly cloudy to cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (4°C) below normal in Yagon Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Chin State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Division, (7°C) above normal in Kayah State and above normal in the remaining areas. The significant amount of rainfall recorded was Kalay (0.32) inch.

Maximum temperature on 21-12-2005 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 22-12-2005 was 57°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 22-12-2005 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 21-12-2005 was (7.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 22-12-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (103.62) inches at Mingaladon, (102.87) inches at Kaba-Aye and (80.44) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mps from Southeast at (12:20) hours MST on 21-12-2005.

Bay information: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday’s tropical depression over Southwest Bay has moved slowly some Northerly direction and has centred at about (260) miles East of Chennai, India. It is forecast to move some Northerly direction slowly. Weather is cloudy in Southwest Bay and West Central Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23-12-2005: Isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Chin, northern Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%). State of the sea: Strong Easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and on along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35) to (40) mps.

Outlook for subsequent days: Continuation of likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-12-2005: Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-12-2005: Cloudy.

*Storm News* (Issued at (10:00) hrs MST on 22-12-2005)

According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday’s tropical depression over Southwest Bay has moved slowly some Northerly direction and centred at about (260) miles East of Chennai, India. It is forecast to move some Northerly direction slowly.
Prime Minister sends felicitations to Japanese PM

YANGON, 23 Dec— On the occasion of the birthday of His Majesty Akhito, Emperor of Japan, which falls on 23 December 2005, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitation to His Excellency Mr Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan.

Region or State Hluttaw shall make a decision when Region or State Government submits region or state budget in accordance with the prescribed provisions

YANGON, 22 Dec— The following is the presentation on clarification made by the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on detailed basic principles for legislation of Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the legislative sector in formulating State Constitution by Secretary of the National Convention Convening Work Committee U Thaung Nyunt at the plenary session of the National Convention held on 15 December at Nyaungnhapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.

I would like to explain matters to vest power to enact law, rules, regulations, orders, directives and procedures in an act.

In my clarification to the sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, I explained there shall be a provision that a Union level body formed under the Constitution or respective authorities concerned shall, in promulgating an act, be invested a power to release bylaws, rules, regulations, orders, notifications, orders, directives, and procedures that are related to the act if necessary. These bylaws, rules, regulations, orders, notifications, orders, directives, and procedures shall be in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution, and the provisions of respective laws. In particular, if it is discovered a bylaw, rule or regulation prescribed under an act are not in conformity with the provisions of respective acts, there shall be a power to annul or amend such a bylaw, rule or regulation.

There shall be a provision in enacting a law in Region or State Hluttaws, a region or state level body (See page 7)

The reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged

YANGON, 22 Dec— The following is the presentation on clarification made by the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on detailed basic principles for legislation of Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the legislative sector in formulating State Constitution by Member of the National Convention Convening Commission Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein at the plenary session of the National Convention held on 15 December at Nyaungnhapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.

In my clarification to legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, I explained that members representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution shall have the power to submit a bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; that it shall be the power to submit the matters, prescribed in the Constitution, that are to be resolved in accordance with the decision and approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; that members representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution shall have the power to submit the bills and matters related to their body, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw under the permission of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. I also explained that the legislative functions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

Regarding the bills and matters related to the organs at region or state level formed under the Constitution, members representing respective bodies shall have the right to attend and hold discussions under the (See page 10)

Detailed basic principles for the chapter ‘Tatmadaw’ and the chapter ‘Citizens and their fundamental rights & duties’ will be presented

YANGON, 22 Dec— The following is the presentation on clarification made by the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on detailed basic principles for legislation of Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the legislative sector in formulating State Constitution by Member of the National Convention Convening Commission Supreme Court Judge Dr Tin Aung Aye at the plenary session of the National Convention held on 15 December at Nyaungnhapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.

Based on the findings and reviews I have clarified, I would like to present the detailed basic principles as a whole that shall be adopted regarding the proceedings for the legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw that are to be included in the legislation of the Constitution as follows:

“1. (a) The day the term of Region or State Hluttaw comes into force is that of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
(b) The first regular session of Region or State Hluttaw shall be convened within 15 days after the commencement of the term of the Hluttaw.

2. (a) The State Peace and Development Council shall convene the first regular session of Region or State Hluttaw after the Constitution has come into force.
(b) The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw who continues to perform his duties in accordance with the provisions of the (See page 11)