Document victories of the Tatmadaw, State service personnel and entire national races

We will have to document with honour the victories achieved through the harmonious endeavours of the Tatmadaw members, who have restored and safeguarded the independence and who are the offspring of the national people, the State service personnel and the entire national races.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From message sent to the 56th Anniversary Independence Day)

Work harder in every task to serve the interest of people

Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects Kengtawng Hydroelectric power project site

YANGON, 2 Jan — Prime Minister General Soe Win, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, the ministers, the deputy ministers and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, left here on 31 December and arrived in Namhsan in southern Shan State.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed at Namhsan Airport by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Pe Than, Brig-Gen Thaung Aye of Mongnaung Station, Brig-Gen Nyunt Hlaing of Mongpan Station, Brig-Gen Thura Myint Thein of Namhsan Station and officials.

(See page 6)

As the future nation will guarantee the flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy coupled with the noblest and worthiest of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality, accusations and fabrications such as injustice and inequality will fade away with the emergence of the new State constitution.

PAGE 8+9 SOE MYA KYAW

* About 18 miles southeast of Kengtawng lies Kengtawng Waterfall and the Kengtawng Hydroelectric power project is being implemented on Nantain Creek.
* Three 18-megga watt turbines can generate 472 million kilowatt hours annually.
* Forty six per cent of the project is now complete.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Work together for discipline-flourishing democratic state

The government is making every endeavour for speedy implementation of regional development projects in the interests of the entire national peoples. At the same time, the government is building transport infrastructure, the key to development of the economic, social, education and health sectors. Improvement in the transport sector will not only enable the national peoples to cement their friendship through frequent contacts but also contribute to smooth and easy transportation of local products.

Therefore, the government is building networks of new motor roads, railroads and bridges all over the nation to bring all-round development to various regions of the Union.

A ceremony to commission the Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Namhsan-Mongnai rail-road into service was held at the Namhsan railway station, Namhsan Township, Shan State (South) on 1 January and it was attended by Prime Minister General Soe Win.

In his address on the occasion, Prime Minister General Soe Win said that the Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Namhsan-Mongnai rail-road was successfully built through the united efforts of the members of the Tatmadaw, staff of Myanmar Railways, and local people and that, in the same way, a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic state had to be built through the united strength of the entire national forces.

Because of the new railroad, nearly 700,000 people in 1360 villages in Shwenyaung, Taunggyi, Hopong, Hsihseng, Loilem, Namhsan and Mongnai townships can easily travel from one place to another not only by car but also by train. Before 1988, there were only Mandalay-Lashio railroad in Shan State (North) and Thazi-Shwenyaung railroad in Shan State (South). After 1988, not only Shwenyaung-Yaksawk, Aungban-Pinlaung, Pinlaung-Loikaw and Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Namhsan-Mongnai railroads were built.

As a result of the government’s efforts for parallel development of various regions in the Union, there have been tangible results in the same way, a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic state had to be built through the united strength of the entire national forces.

Meeting on Third Year Region-wise National Immunization Days

YANGON, 2 Jan — The meeting of Central Leading Committee for organizing the Third Year Region-wise National Immunization Days took place at Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar) in Dagon Township this afternoon with an address by Committee Chairman Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint. First, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint made a speech.

Dr Tin Win Maung of Director-General of Health Department and officials reported on functions to be taken for the Days and the Central Leading Committee members made suggestions.

The minister made concluding remarks and the meeting ended.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, directors-general, managing-directors of the departments and Enterprises under the Ministry and others.—MNA

Education Minister observes School Family Day

YANGON, 2 Jan — Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein attended the concert and skill demonstration shows to mark School Family Day for 2005-2006 held at Diamond Jubilee Hall in Kamayut Township this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, directors-general of the departments under the Ministry of Education, teachers and students.

Minister Dr Chan Nyein enjoyed music, skill demonstration and dance performed by the students, viewed photos and documents and cordially greeted the students, teachers and guests.—MNA

Teacherson course on reproductive health opened

YANGON, 2 Jan — The teacherson course on reproductive health conducted by Dawei Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association was opened at Township MCWA hall on 15 December. It was attended by officials of Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and MCWA.

Dr Myint San of Township Health Department and health staff gave lectures to 45 trainees who will continue to conduct the same courses in 20 villages in the township.—MNA

In memory of late U Win Pe, Dr Thet Khaing Win, Daw Mar Win Khaing and daughters present K 100,000 for Hninzigon Home for the Aged to Joint Treasurer of Administrative Board U Maung Maung Gyi.—(ii)
Hu Jintao vows peaceful, cooperative development

BEIJING, 1 Jan — Chinese President Hu Jintao marked New Year’s Eve on Saturday with a speech pledging peaceful, cooperative development, but reiterated a standard warning that China would not tolerate independence for Taiwan.

“The Chinese people love peace, and yearn for a good life,” Hu said. “I stress again, China’s development is peaceful, open, cooperative and harmonious.”

Last week, Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Aso said China’s military build-up was a threat, triggering an angry retort from Beijing.

Fears have also been raised in Washington that China could use its growing economic clout to increase its influence in Asia at the expense of the United States and its regional allies.

Hu offered his New Year greetings to people in Taiwan and said Beijing would strive to promote cross-strait stability while pushing for peaceful development.

He also spoke of harmonious.”

How Beijing would deal with them in the coming year.

China announced its third confirmed death from the deadly H5N1 strain of the bird flu virus earlier this week, and has reported over 30 outbreaks in poultry this year.

On the economic front, Hu said China would continue to open its markets and improve the investment environment, at the same time as working to help developing countries.

Premier Wen Jiabao, shown on state television visiting people in southeastern Jiangxi Province, which was hit by an earthquake in November that killed 14 people. — MNA/Reuters

Cuba, Bolivia to strengthen cooperation despite US worries

HAVANA, 2 Jan — Cuban leader Fidel Castro and Bolivian President-elect Evo Morales said on Saturday their countries will strengthen bilateral cooperation despite US worries about more nations allying with Cuba.

The two leaders announced a 30-month plan to erase illiteracy in Bolivia.

Havana also agreed to provide free eye operations to up to 50,000 Bolivians with vision problems and 5,000 full scholarships for Bolivian youths to study medicine in Cuba.

During his visit to Cuba for no more than 24 hours, Morales stressed his desire to boost the ties with Castro and other leaders in the region. “We have agreed to the first measures of cooperation,” Morales said, adding that his meetings with Castro had been “an encounter of two generations in the struggle for dignity ... of two revolutions”.

The president-elect said he would not allow himself to be pressured by the United States while in power. “I never had good relations with the United States, but rather with the American people,” the Bolivian president-elect said.

Morales won the presidential elections on 18 December with nearly 54 percent of the votes. Castro is the first head of state that Morales met with before taking office on 22 January. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian President pledges to reduce high inflation in 2006

JAKARTA, 1 Jan — Indonesia will make great efforts to reduce high inflation in 2006, which threatens sustainability of economic growth, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said on Saturday night.

“The high inflation has reduced people’s purchase power and threatened the sustainability of economic growth. So the government must restore economic stability,” President Susilo said during his year-end speech at the Cipanas Presidential Palace in West Java.

The President said Indonesia will maintain a sufficient growth to reduce unemployment. — MNA/Xinhua

Guerillas explode 13 car bombs in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 Jan — Militants blew up 13 cars in three hours on Sunday, injuring at least 20 people while 13 Iraqis were killed in other violence that fed the turmoil following last month’s contested parliamentary elections.

Sunni Arabs made their opening bid in what could be protracted negotiations to form a new government. Leaders of the minority’s main political group, the Iraqi Accordance Front, travelled to the northern city of Irbil for a Monday meeting with the president of the Kurdish region. (Related story: Sunni Arabs put to hold talks with Kurds)

Sudan, meanwhile, said six kidnapped embassy employees were freed on Saturday, a day after Sudan announced it would close its Baghdad mission as demanded by al-Qaeda in Iraq. A Cypriot kidnapped four months ago also was freed after his family paid a $200,000 ransom, a relative said. A third hostage, a Lebanese engineer kidnapped four days ago, was also released, Lebanon’s official National News Agency reported on Sunday. — Internet

Bomb near Baghdad refinery causes minor damage

BAGHDAD, 2 Jan — A bomb exploded near one of Iraq’s largest oil refineries on Sunday but the Oil Ministry said the blast would have no impact on the plant’s operations.

An Oil Ministry spokesman said the blast set fire to a pipeline feeding the Doura refinery in Baghdad, one of the three largest in the country, but had no impact on operations.

It was the second sabotage attack in the past few days on a pipeline feeding the refinery in Baghdad.

The blast comes as Iraq grapples with a fuel crisis stemming from the closure of a major refinery in the north that has prompted panic buying of fuel and long queues at petrol stations.

Fire leaves 5,000 people without shelter in northern Uganda

KAMPALA, 1 Jan — Fire has burnt over 200 huts, leaving about 5,000 people without shelter in Aromo internally displaced persons’ (IDP) camp near Lira Town in northern Uganda, reported local Press in Soroti.

Camp commandant David Eli said the fire broke out on Wednesday and property worth over 10 million shillings (about 6,000 US dollars) was destroyed, including foodstuffs distributed by the World Food Programme.

Eli said one businessman, Richard Ojok, lost eight bags of sesame, eight bags of salt, two cartons of biscuits and eight cartons of sugar. The camp is populated of about 42,240 displaced persons.

This was the second fire outbreak in the camp this month. 64 huts in the same camp were burnt down, leaving over 140 people without shelter and food earlier this month.

Eli appealed for immediate humanitarian assistance from the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness to assist the victims with food and tents, saying that the victims resorted to sleeping under trees. Over 1.4 million people have been displaced by the Lord’s Resistance Army rebels in their 19-year rebellion in northern Uganda. The current drought season is a threat to crowded huts constructed in the displaced persons’ camps. — MNA/Xinhua

Shoppers struggle to get hold of their favourite lucky bags at the beginning of a New Year sale in a Tokyo department store, on 2 Jan, 2006.

— Internet

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Morales won the presidential elections on 18 December with nearly 54 percent of the votes. Castro is the first head of state that Morales met with before taking office on 22 January. — MNA/Xinhua

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR   Tuesday, 3 January, 2006   3
Nearly 100 mil Chinese receive social assistance last year

BEIJING, 1 Jan— With the improvement of relief mechanism in China, nearly 100 million people received social assistance last year in China.

Li Xueju, Minister of Civil Affairs in China, said in an interview with Xinhua that 15.76 million people in disaster-hit areas were properly resettled, thanks to various aiding programmes launched nationwide aimed at different groups in poor conditions.

In urban areas, Li said, the bottom line life insurance is guaranteed for ill, handicapped, and jobless people. In rural areas, the bottom line life insurance system has been set up in areas with proper conditions, and medical aiding programmes have been pushed forward.

Li stressed a national information network has been launched for wanderers and beggars, and policies concerned are under drafting. So far, aid for wandering children has been strengthened.

According to Li, there are around 22 million people receiving the bottom line life insurance in urban areas, and six million people in rural areas. More than 9.4 million people in rural areas have received medical assistance and 700,000 wanderers and beggars received social assistance.

In general, Li said, China's social assistance is still difficult, despite being brought by a large population, gained fruitful results last year with most residents in rural and urban areas receiving assistance in time.—MNA/Xinhua

South Africans urged to help poor in New Year

JOHANNESBURG, 1 Jan—South African President Thabo Mbeki Saturday called on all South Africans to do everything in their power to create jobs and fight poverty to give renewed hope to millions in the country that 2006 will be a happy and prosperous year for them as well. On the eve of the New Year, Mbeki said in his New Year message, "We all know that as the year 2005 ended, with many of us enjoying ourselves in the traditional festivities, which will continue as we welcome the New Year, there are also many who did not have the possibility to celebrate." This year was undoubtedly the worst for the ruling party headed by Mbeki since they assumed power in 1994. The country was forced to weather countless storms emanating from a government that appeared to be harnessed by court cases, corruption and scandal.

The President said in the message that many fellow citizens could not join the festivities because of the poverty which still affects so many people.

"These are fellow South Africans who do not have enough to eat even on normal days, who do not have proper housing, and are everyday exposed to diseases of malnutrition and poverty," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

French warship leaves Toulon for dismantling in India

PARIS, 1 Jan—French decommissioned aircraft carrier Clemenceau on Saturday left the country's Toulon naval base for India where it will be dismantled.

The Clemenceau, undocked with boats setting up a 200-metre security cordon as a helicopter and a Navy plane provided air cover, French news channel TF1 reported.

Officials said the decommissioned carrier would be taken out of the harbour by several tugboats before being towed to the Alang naval yard, in northwestern India, the world's biggest ship-breaking yard, said the report, adding that it was expected to arrive in India in two months' time.

The Paris administrative court gave greenlight Friday to the Clemenceau's departure for its dismantling in India, by rejecting some French ecologist and anti-asbestos groups' petition saying that the Indian shipyard workers are not properly protected from the hazards of working with asbestos, which can cause a form of lung cancer.

Greenpeace and other three anti-asbestos groups said in a report earlier this month that countries which send ships for scrapping in India and other developing countries in Asia are overlooking a system that claims thousands of workers' lives each year and that almost half of the world's ships end up in India for dismantling after their sailing lives terminate.

They estimated that around 100 tons of asbestos remain inside the Clemenceau.

MNA/Xinhua

Two policemen killed, ten wounded in bomb attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 1 Jan— Two policemen were killed and 10 others wounded in separate bomb attacks in central and south Baghdad early on Saturday, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

"A roadside bomb went off at about 9:20 am (0620 GMT) near a police patrol in Bab al-Mu'adham, killing two policemen and wounding six people including a police officer," the source said on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, a second roadside bomb detonated near a police commande patrol at about 8:30 am (0530 GMT) on the highway which runs through Baghdad's southern Doura District, the source said.

The blast injured four commando members and badly damaged their vehicle, the source added.

Guerrillas often attack Iraqi security forces in Baghdad and other cities, accusing them of collaborating with the US occupation forces.

MNA/Xinhua

A gauge is seen at a Ukrainian main pipeline in the village of Boyarka near the capital Kiev, on 1 Jan, 2006.—INTERNET

Canadian Foreign Minister slightly injured in robbery

OTTAWA, 1 Jan— Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew suffered injuries to his nose and mouth after being attacked outside a Montreal subway on Wednesday night, local media reported on Friday.

In what is believed to have been a botched robbery attempt, Pettigrew was attacked while using his cellphone as he entered a west-end Montreal station, according to the French-language all-news channel LCN.

He did not have his bodyguard with him at the time. But a 19-year-old man helped him, and his phone was returned to him, LCN reported.

MNA/Xinhua

Number of nations sending troops to Iraq declining

WASHINGTON, 1 Jan—The number of countries providing troops to serve in Iraq as part of the American-led coalition is declining, and some key US allies have announced plans to keep forces there only at reduced levels. These developments come as the United States plans to roll back the size of its own 155,000-member force that was in place for 15 December Iraqi parliamentary election and considers deeper troop cuts later in 2006.

The number of countries providing troops peaked at 38 earlier in the war, which the United States launched with an invasion in March 2003 to topple President Saddam Hussein's government.

The number of non-US foreign troops has fallen by several thousand in the past year. Following the United States and Britain, the next largest current troop contributors are: South Korea with 3,200; Italy with 2,900; and Poland with 1,500.—INTERNET

Iraqi firemen move the wreckage of a vehicle destroyed by a car bomb to the side of a road in Kirkuk, about 250 km (150 miles) north of Baghdad, on 1 Jan, 2006.—INTERNET

Four rival Sunni sheikhs injured in bomb blast in Baghdad

IRAQ, 1 Jan— Four rival Sunni sheikhs were injured in a roadside bomb blast on a main road in a Baghdad district in the south of the Iraqi capital Monday, security sources said.

The blast wounded four sheikhs who were on their way to a Sunni mosque in the district of Jurf al-Sakhr in the south of the city.

Four other sheikhs were wounded Sunday in a second bomb blast in the district, the sources said.

MNA/Xinhua

A body is seen inside the wreckage of a car bomb in Kirkuk, about 250 km (150 miles) north of Baghdad, on 1 Jan, 2006.—INTERNET

Four wounded as blast hits Kirkuk

KIRKUK, 1 Jan— Four people were injured Sunday when a car bomb exploded near a police station in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk, security sources said.

The blast occurred as local residents were gathering in the street outside the police station in the city's Khurmat neighborhood.

MNA/Xinhua

South Korean troops arrive in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 1 Jan— South Korean troops arrived in Iraq on Monday as part of the international coalition in the war against terrorism, the South Korean foreign ministry said.

The South Korean troops were deployed in the southern Iraqi city of Basra as part of the international coalition in the war against terrorism.

MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua
Vigour of Independence

* Myanmar is…
Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin
Those who join and help
Like Mon, Bamar, Rakhine, Shan
Who are of one mind.
Never are they happy
In subjugation of others.
We’re happy and contented
In our home, on the home stead
In our communities, on our farms.

* Myanmar is …
United when need be
When in emergency, consolidated
That’s Myanmar’s tradition.
When necessary seek concurrence
That’s the spirit of equality.
Just as we do no wrong
The sword of our race is sharp
And our prestige untainted.

* Myanmar is…
Hand stretched to stretched hand
United and helpful
That’s the way we deal.
On others
We find no fault, do no wrong.
If one bears a grudge
See wrong and utter nonsense
We will repulse word for word
That’s Myanmar’s feeling.

* The bulk of our Myanmar brethren
Do not encroach others’ estate
We don’t move even one step.
If they make any false move
We shall drive them out.
History provides evidence
There is cohesion in Myanmar.
For the sake of regaining Independence
We had to sacrifice much blood and life
That we had given much, Myanmar’s
Worldwide has spread evidence of our vigour.

Soe Moe (Pathein) (Trs.)

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Independence Day

Communication sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of communication in the time of the Tatmadaw government

Modern communication technologies are being effectively applied in political, economic and social sectors of the Union of Myanmar in parallel with ever changing information and communication technology.

One can witness the increased use of mobile telephones and auto telephones in the time of Tatmadaw government. The following table shows increasing numbers of auto telephones and mobile telephones.

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Work harder in every task to serve...
(from page 1)
The Prime Minister and party arrived by helicopter in Kengtawng Hydroelectric power project site in Nantain Creek (Kengtawng Waterfall), south east of Kengtawng.

At the briefing hall, Director of Construction 7 of Hydro-electric Power Department U Hlwai Moe reported on data of the project, progress of work on No 1 and No 2 diversion weirs, intake structures, canal and other facilities.

Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myo Myint reported on project on hydro-electric power station, arrival of equipment, arrangements for power supply, utilization of machinery, construction of small scale power station and construction of two bridges across Nantain Creek.

Tactical Operations Commander of regional battalion Col Myint Wai reported on Kholan-Kengtawng-Mongnai road and Mongpan-Kengtawng road and Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint gave a supplementary report.

In his discussions, Prime Minister General Soe Win said he was glad to see the progress of work on hydro-electric power project and the completion of the project.

He said construction of two bridges across Nantain Creek also contributes much towards regional development.

The Prime Minister and party observed Kengtawng Waterfall and inspected diversion weirs and canals.

About 18 miles south east of Kengtawng lies Kengtawng Waterfall and the Kengtawng Hydroelectric power project is being implemented on Nantain Creek. Three 18-mega watt turbines can generate 872 million kilowatt hours.

Implementation of the Kengtawng Hydroelectric power project contributes towards the higher living standard of the local people.

Prime Minister General Soe Win presents offertories to a Sayadaw in Kengtawng. — MNA

On 1 January, the Prime Minister and party attended the inauguration of Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Saikhaung-Namhsan-Mongnai Railroad. They went to Panglong by helicopter and attended the cash donation ceremony for construction of Mahararhabhi Samaggi Pagoda. They also inspected the Union Monument and measures undertaken for beautifying of its environs.

The Prime Minister and party had photo taken in front of the monument. They then went to Loilem by car.

They inspected stockpile of raw materials and fly wheel 21, manufacturing of parts the vehicle and grinding machine for jetropha curcas. They were conducted round by Ayethaya Industrial Zone in-charge Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and officials.

They inspected display of products of Ayethaya Industrial Zone. Secretary of Shan State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Ye Tun Sein reported on arrangements for cultivation of jetropha curcas in townships and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint on arrangements for the cultivation in stations.

(See page 7)
Prime Minister inspects construction of Maharatha Bhsamaggi Pagoda

YANGON, 2 Jan — Prime Minister General Soe Win, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, officials of the State Peace and Development Council office and departments concerned, on 31 December inspected the construction of Maharatha Bhsamaggi Pagoda built on Wikathini Hill in Panglong, Loilem District, Shan State (South), where Managing Director of Asia World Co U Tun Myint reported on progress of construction work.

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint reported on progress of construction of reliquary, replica, throne and measures being taken for hoisting of Shwehtidaw to the Prime Minister who attended to the needs.

Afterwards, the cash donation ceremony followed at the chamber of the pagoda.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win accepted the cash donations—K 110 million by (Golden Flower Construction), K 10 million by U Thein Win - Daw Ni (Shwehtanwin Co), K 10 million by U Tera (Hho Trading Co), K 10 million by U Chit Naing (Edin Group Co), K 10 million by U Win Myint (Golden Dragon Co), K 10.8 million by U Shwe Kyiing (Wha Win Construction), K 5.4 million by U Maung Maung (Asia Express Co), K 5 million by U Htay Myint (Yuzana Construction), K 5 million by U Win Aung (Dagon International Ltd), K 5 million by U Saw Naing (Shan Star), K 3 million by U Ko Ko Htwe (Taw Win Construction), K 2.5 million by U Soe Myint (Nwe Hsin Co), K 2.5 million by Dr Khin Shwe (Zeabka Construction), K 2.5 million by U Sai Tat Aung (Naungton Construction), K 1 million by U Aung Than Oo, K 1 million by U Tin Win, K 1 million by U Yan Win, K 500,000 by U Sein Thit, K 500,000 by U Thein Han, K 300,000 by Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, K 200,000 by U Kyaw Naing Oo, and K 14.47 million by departments, K 30 million by U Tun Myint Naing (Asia World Co), K 30 million by U Aung Ko Win (Kabawaza Bank), K 8.09 million by well-wishers, K 10 million by Maung Weik Family Co, K 10 million by U Tint San (ACE Construction), K 10 million by U Aung Htwe.

Family of Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe donates K 2.1 million to Maharatha Bhsamaggi Pagoda. — MNA

K 500,000 by U Myint Kyi-Daw Khin Ma Ma.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister and party inspected Seinphudaw, Hngetmyatna-daw and Shwehtidaw to be hoisted atop the pagoda, Buddha statues and reliquary.

Later, the Prime Minister greeted well-wishers, townsenders and local national races.

Prime Minister General Soe Win views running of power tiller.

Prime Minister General Soe Win cordially greets townsenders and local national races. — MNA

Work harder in every task to serve... (from page 6)

Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint also reported on arrangements for cultivation of jatropha curcas by departments, private entrepreneurs and battalions. The Prime Minister and Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions.

The Prime Minister and party observed booth on jatropha curcas and milling, fertilizers, Shan Star Jeep, trucks, light trucks and fibre goods and power tillers and others produced in Ayethaya Industrial Zone.

They inspected running of power tiller and Trailer jeep with the use of jatropha curcas oil. The Prime Minister and party arrived back here in the evening.

CEC members of USDA Maj-Gen Aung Min presented exercise books to basic education schools in Loilem and Langkho Districts, Brig-Gen Tin Naing They 100 bags of rice to monastery and President of UMFCCI U Win Myint 100 bags of rice and K 1 million to officials. — MNA
Over 100 national races are residing in Myanmar and her population is over 54 million. The State will practise a genuine multi-party democracy system in the future and sovereignty is in the hands of the national people. However, over 54 million people cannot gather at one place and decide their affairs. Therefore, the people designate the term of delegates elected by vote to decide State affairs and carry out laws. Laws will have to be enacted and amended if necessary.

In the future State, the delegates elected by the people and Tatmadaw member delegates will discharge their duties in the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on behalf of the people. Similarly, the delegates elected by the people and Tatmadaw member delegates will carry out their duties at Region Hluttaws, state Hluttaws and leading bodies of self-administered areas.

It is very interesting that the future State is being shaped to enable the majority and the minority to enjoy equitable rights in the forming of the Hluttaws shaped to enable the majority and the minority to enjoy equitable rights in the forming of the Hluttaws. Moreover, I’ve learned that there are 330 delegates elected according to the democratic principles; how the rights of the various national races are to be incorporated; and how the Tatmadaw is to play a leading role in national politics.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, Bagyi! It is obvious that all nationals are in a position to enjoy equitable rights. I have learned that Tatmadaw will be formed in respective states and regions. Can you explain to me, please?

Bagyi Soe: Well, every township of the states and divisions shall have two seats in the State and Region Hluttaws.

Soe Mya Kyaw: It is found that the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw (Central Level) have the limited number of seats whereas the State and Region Hluttaws have no limited number. Why is it so, Bagyi?

Bagyi Soe: States and regions have the different number of townships. So, supposing the number of Hluttaw representatives is restricted, how can it be a fair democratic way?

Soe Mya Kyaw: Oh, I get it, Bagyi. The next thing I would like to know is about the elections of State / Region Hluttaws.

Bagyi Soe: Preliminarily, every township of the states and regions shall have to elect two representatives.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Go ahead, please, Bagyi.

Bagyi Soe: There are opportunities for the townships as well as for ethnic minorities. For instance, Shan nationals already have a state in their Shan State. Likewise, national races such as Danu, PaO, Palaung, Kokang and Wa national races have laid self-administered zones / division. Therefore, other national races which have not

(See page 9)
had the equal rights shall be permitted to have one seat each in state hluttaws if they have 0.1 percent and above of the State population as a whole. For example, suppose the population of Akha nationals in Shan State accounts for 0.1 percent and above, they will be able to have one seat in Shan State Hluttaw.

Kye Kyee Mya: Great idea! National Convention delegates should be appalled for their decisions and judgements that are paving the way for the rights of ethnic minorities with 0.1 percent and above of the State population.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Certainly. Apart from the elections of representatives from national ethnic groups, are there any other representatives to be involved?

Bagyi Soe: First, we have explained to you, besides the total number of two hluttaw representatives each from the townships and those of the regions/states, self-administered division and ethnic minorities which have not had self-administered zones, there will be delegates of Tatmadaw members nominated by Defence Services Commander-in-Chief in conformity with the laws. The representatives of Tatmadaw members shall have to account for one-third of the total number mentioned above.

Soe Mya Kyaw: If so, each and every national race will have legislative powers if they have 0.1 percent and above of the country’s population whatever region/state, or self-administered area they live in.

Bagyi Soe: That’s right. Such basic principles were laid down with a view to strengthening our national solidarity.

Soe Mya Kyaw: It is a great joy for ethnic minority groups which have not enjoyed specific rights to have seats in Region/State Hluttaws. Do they have legislative powers only? Any other rights?

Bagyi Soe: Not only that. They may become cabinet ministers of the states or regions concerned. President of the State shall appoint them as members to carry out and decide the affairs of national races.

Kye Kyee Mya: I want to cheer up those who at first felt discouraged because of their being smaller ethnic groups and not having states/regions or self-administered areas of their own to jump up with great joy.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Despite the efforts for shaping a fair democratic system, it’s disgusting that there are internal and external destructive elements who are inventing fabricated accusations.

Bagyi Soe: Those saboteurs will continue to act their misdeeds as they will be able to sleep and eat well only if they can do so. Our country and people are now faced with various slanders. So, the best way for the people is to continue our strenuous efforts with vigilance for the well-being of our country.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Of Course, Bagyi. Regarding the sharing of legislative powers for the future of the State, are there any more detailed points?

Bagyi Soe: Yes, there are. The more we go into details, the more we learn of the essence. We’ll know the essence of democracy more if we learn the formation of leading bodies of self-administered areas.

Soe Mya Kyaw: May I know about it, Bagyi?

Bagyi Soe: I have said before that leading bodies of self-administered areas can exist legislatively as well as executive powers.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Although we call them leading bodies of self-administered areas, they have been entrusted with legislative powers like regional Hluttaws. Is that right?

Bagyi Soe: Yes, a basic principle has been laid down to prescribe that there shall have to be at least 10 members in forming the leading bodies.

Soe Mya Kyaw: So, this means that more can be added to the 10 members in the leading bodies if they want to. Why is it so?

Bagyi Soe: You know, I have told you that every township of the states and divisions shall have two seats in the State Hluttaw.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, Bagyi. But isn’t it for only Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw?

Bagyi Soe: Right. But the elections of self-administered areas will not be held separately. Only two representatives each from townships elected for Region or State Hluttaw shall be members of leading bodies of self-administered areas.

Soe Mya Kyaw: I’m a little bit confused. Can you make it clearer, Bagyi?

Bagyi Soe: For example, altogether four delegates—two each from Ywangan Township and Pindaya Township in Dhanu self-administered zone, are to be elected to Shan State Hluttaw.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Of course, Bagyi.

Bagyi Soe: The four persons who have been elected as delegates to Shan State Hluttaw from Ywangan Township and Pindaya Township will automatically become members of leading body of Dhanu self-administered zone formed with Ywangan Township and Pindaya Township.

Soe Mya Kyaw: So, members of leading bodies of self-administered areas will not only be able to directly serve the interests of their own regions and local national races but also be able to do so by attending Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw. Isn’t it, Bagyi?

Bagyi Soe: Right. There are only four members of leading body of Dhanu self-administered zone. The detailed basic principles state that the leading body is to be formed with ten members at least. Therefore, three Tatmadaw members, a quarter of ten members, will have to be nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services as members of the leading body of Dhanu self-administered zone.

Soe Mya Kyaw: All right, Bagyi. So, there are still only seven members of the leading body—four elected from Dhanu self-administered zone and three nominated by Tatmadaw.

Bagyi Soe: That’s right. The seven members will have to choose the Chairman of leading body of Dhanu self-administered zone. In this regard, the three Tatmadaw members have no right to be elected as the Chairman but the Chairman is to be elected out of the four who have been elected from the townships.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, Bagyi. Which position and which right could the elected Chairman of leading body of self-administered area, have?

Bagyi Soe: The Chairman of leading body of self-administered area is the delegate of Region Hluttaw or state Hluttaw and will become the minister of Region government or state government.

Soe Mya Kyaw: For the Chairman has the right to address the matters of self-administered area as the minister of Region government or state government as well as the delegate of Region Hluttaw or state Hluttaw, it is obvious that steps have been taken for him to enjoy extensive rights.

Bagyi Soe: More than that, Maung Kyaw. The detailed basic principles state that the leading body of self-administered area is to be formed with ten members at least. As there are still seven members only of Dhanu self-administered zone, the Chairman and members will have to choose and appoint each delegate from ethnic groups with population at least 10,000 and above out of the remaining ethnic groups, apart from Dhanu nationals who have already had self-administered zone, as members.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, Bagyi. The number of members of leading body will be ten if elected in accordance with the principle. If there remain ethnic groups, which have population of over 10,000 and conform to the principle, what should be done?

Bagyi Soe: Don’t worry about that, Maung Kyaw. As the number of members of the leading body has been prescribed ten at least, the number can be increased if necessary. So, each ethnic group, which has a population of over 10,000 and conforms to the principle, could win a seat.

Soe Mya Kyaw: This is an ample opportunity for a minority ethnic group, Bagyi. However, suppose the number of leading body is still less than ten and there are no ethnic group with a population of over 10,000, what should be done?

Bagyi Soe: As you have asked, if the situation is such, the Chairman and members of the leading body can choose and appoint suitable persons residing in the self-administered area.

Kyi Kyi Mya: At this juncture, although the number of delegates at the Central level Hluttaw has been limited, the leading bodies of self-administered areas have the right to choose and appoint the members needed if necessary in order to widely address the matters of their own.

Soe Mya Kyaw: All right. It is obvious that in the future nation that is to emerge under the State constitution, the entire national people will have the right to be elected as the Hluttaw representatives or members of leading bodies in line with the set requirements. Moreover, systematic steps have been taken for them to have the right to elect and be elected.

Bagyi Soe: As the future nation will guarantee the flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy coupled with the noblest and worthiest of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality, accusations and fabrications such as injustice and inequity will fade away with the emergence of the new State constitution.

Soe Mya Kyaw: That’s right. Both the form and essence of legislation of the future nation is clearly clarified through this discussion, we believe that the national people will be pleased and delighted like us.

Translation: NVST/TS

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw consists of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw for enacting the Union laws. It can be found that there are 330 delegates elected according to the population, 168 delegates from regions and states and 166 Tatmadaw member delegates in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
Suggestions on detailed basic principles...

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Court, the Attorney-General’s Office, the Auditor-General’s Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the Office of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Development Committee, and ministries concerned, other invited delegates, delegates of national race groups that have returned to the legal fold and exchanged arms for peace.

Before the Plenary Session of the National Convention at 7.30 am, Chairman of the NCCC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and members, NCC Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, NCC Management Committee Pyidaungsu Hall and recreation hall for the delegates. Member of National Convention Convening Work Committee Dr Paik Tin presided over the conference. Other invited delegates, delegates of national races, other invited delegates, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel, and other invited delegates signed in the attendance books at the Convention Convening Work Committee.

The MC announced the validity of the meeting as 1,071 delegates out of 1,080 were present, accounting for 99.17 per cent. Next, Meeting Chairman Dr Paik Tin delivered a speech saying that the National Convention resumed on 17 May 2004 to lay down detailed basic principles for formulating the enduring State Constitution; that on 3 March 2005, detailed basic principles for sharing of legislative powers included in the judicial sector and formation of financial commission has laid down; that on 12 December 2005, detailed basic principles for sharing of executive and judicial powers has laid down; and that on 13, 14 and 15 December 2005, the chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee clarified matters on detailed basic principles that should be laid down for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Region or State Hluttaws.

The chairman continued that after thoroughly discussing the clarification, the delegates have made discussions at their respective delegate groups and compiled papers.

He went on to say that now, the delegate groups will present their papers to the Plenary Session. Legislation of Hluttaws is the last part of the judicial sector and thus if the detailed basic principles will be laid down, the functions of the judicial, executive and legislative sectors be completed, he said.

In conclusion, the chairman urged the delegates to thoroughly discuss the proposals presented to the Plenary Session.

Next, U Tun Yin of the Democratic Party read out the party’s suggestions for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw.

(The presentation will be reported.)

Next, U Mann Tin Aung of Union Kayin League. — MNA

U Mann Tin Aung of Union Kayin League. — MNA

Next, U Kya Shi of the Lahu National Development Party read out the organization’s suggestions for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaws.

(The presentation will be reported.)

Next, U Sein Tun of the Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization read out the organization’s suggestions for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaws.

(The presentation will be reported.)
Suggestions on detailed legislation

League’s suggestions for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw.

The presentation will be reported.

The plenary session of the National Convention went into recess at 11.30 am. When the plenary session of the National Convention resumed U Yan Kyint Kan of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party read out the party’s suggestions for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw.

The presentation will be reported.

Next, U Nyi Palop of Wa National Development Party read out the party’s suggestions for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw.

The presentation will be reported.

The plenary session of the National Convention adjourned at 2.30 pm.

The plenary session of the National Convention continues at 9 am tomorrow. — MNA

**It is appropriate to convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at least once a year**

U Tun Yi
of National Unity Party.

(a) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to make laws for the whole or any part of the Union concerning the matters stated in the Union Legislative List. *(b)* If a bill initially presented at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw is approved by both houses and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or Amyotha Hluttaw, it shall be presumed that the bill is approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. *(c)* When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacts a law, it shall —

(i) entrust the right to issue rules, regulation and bylaws concerning the law to the Union level organizations formed according to the Constitution.

(ii) authorize the respective organizations or authorities to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.

(b) The rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by an Act shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.

(c) If both the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw decide to annul or amend any one of the rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be presumed that the rules, regulations or bylaws are annulled or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(d) If there is any disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning the said rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be decided by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(e) If a decision is made to annul or amend any of the rules, regulations or bylaws according to the para (c) or para (d), the decision shall be without prejudice, however, to the validity of any action previously taken under the rules, regulations or bylaws.

In the NUP’s view, the para (e) fails to mention the responsibility concerning the mistake whose consequences may have adverse effects on the nation and the people. The fact that whether the mistake is committed innocently or not and whether the mistake does have adverse effects on the nation and the people should be considered.

The NUP has no further suggestions concerning the detailed basic principle ‘The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall’.

In the NUP’s view, the para (e) gives the decision on matters in connection with ratifying, cancelling and withdrawing from international agreements, regional treaties or bilateral agreements submitted by the President.

‘(b)’ fix the international, regional or bilateral agreements that do not need Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s

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It is appropriate to convene...

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approval and delegate the President to ratify, cancel and annul rules.

In the NUP's view, the detailed basic principle “(a) Of the matters included in the Union legislative list, the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, shall have the right to submit bills on matters within their management, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the rules. (b) Bills on national plans, annual budgets and taxation, which are to be submitted exclusively by the Union government shall be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed provisions for decision.” appropriate as it defines the functions and rights sector-wise.

The detailed basic principle “If the need arises to scrutinize the bills that are to be discussed and approved exclusions from the Constitution while to be scrutinized jointly by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw bill committee and the Amyotha Hluttaw bill committee and the bills together with the findings and comments of the joint committee can be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with prescribed provisions.” is to scrutinize the bills before presenting them to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. It is an appropriate principle.

The detailed basic principle “If there arises disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning a bill, the bill should be discussed and approved at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.” for solving disagreements. Thus, it is a suitable principle.

The NUP supports the detailed basic principle “(a) Within 14 days after the date the President receives the bills sent to him by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after approving them and the bills in like manner as if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have approved them, he shall sign the bills and shall promulgate them into law.”

“(b) The President shall send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the 14 days. He shall promulgate it into an Act.”

“(c) Although the President does not send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, if the Bill is not signed by the President within 14 days after the date of presentation, the same shall become an Act in like manner as if he had signed it on the last of the said 14 days.” The NUP has no further suggestions on the detailed basic principle 21.

The detailed basic principle “The Acts signed by the President and the Acts deemed to have been signed by the President shall be promulgated in the gazette. The Act shall come into force on the date of the notification unless the contrary intention is expressed.” is found to be appropriate.

In NUP’s view, the detailed basic principle “Members of the organizations representing the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution shall attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker shall explain the bills and other matters in connection with their respective organizations.” helps facilitate the work of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the organizations concerned. Thus, it is an appropriate principle.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker has four main functions which reflects his important role in successful convening of the Hluttaw. The detailed basic principle concerning the Speaker’s functions are appropriate. The fact that Union level organizations can make submissions concerning their work only with the approval is also appropriate. The detailed basic principle “The Union level organizations formed under the constitution shall submit their general condition, necessary to be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with the permission of the Speaker.” is aimed at facilitating the functions of the Union level organi-

(See page 15)
Indian truck drivers on fast lane to AIDS

New Delhi, 2 Jan — About 40 per cent of India’s truck drivers and their helpers are infected with AIDS, reveals a survey that calls for awareness among this community to check the spread of the fatal disease. “The findings are certainly alarming. One in every three truckers visits commercial sex workers. The shocking part is that only 18 per cent of them use condoms,” Indo-Asian News Service quoted Alok Srivastava, chief project manager for the study, as saying. According to the survey, conducted by the Centre for Media Studies (CMS), though many truckers have heard about HIV and AIDS, only two per cent of them know the difference between the two. — MNA/Xinhua

US will miss CAFTA implementation target

Washington, 1 Jan — The United States will miss the target date of 1 January for implementing a US-Central American Free Trade Agreement, a spokesman for the US Trade Representative’s office said on Friday.

“I can confirm we will miss the target date of 1 January for implementation with our CAFTA partners,” said Steve Norton. “It’s not uncommon for the implementation process to take several months. We want to do this as soon as possible but we want to make sure it is done the right way,” he added.

The pact, also known as CAFTA, between the United States, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic was narrowly approved by Congress in the summer after a bitter fight. All of those countries, apart from Costa Rica, have reserved the pact but are still in the process of writing it into law, the USTR spokesman said.

The United States is now focusing on January and March as the next targets for implementing the agreement, he added. “We will do it on a rolling basis, as countries make changes in law and regulation necessary to meet the CAFTA commitments,” Norton said. — MNA/Reuters

British police gain greater arrest powers

London, 1 Jan — British police will be able to arrest anyone for any criminal offence, including minor misdemeanours such as dropping litter, under new laws which come into force on Sunday.

Until now police have had the power to arrest only those suspected of committing an offence carrying a sentence of at least five years in prison.

The new law requires only that the police have reasonable grounds for believing that a person’s arrest is necessary. This can include a suspect’s refusal to give their name and address.

The changes are part of the Serious and Organized Crime Act 2005, which removes the distinction between “arrestable” and “non-arrestable” offences.

Offences that have until now been non-arrestable include impersonating a police officer, not stopping a vehicle when ordered to do so and making or selling an offensive weapon.

Police will in future be allowed to photograph suspects on the street where they have been arrested or issued with a fixed penalty notice, rather than back at a police station. “The introduction of a single rationalized power of arrest simplifies arrest powers,” said Home Office Minister Hazel Blears.

“These tough new powers make a significant contribution to creating a modern, efficient police service equipped frontline officers with the tools they need to fight modern crime effectively and keep our neighbourhoods safe.”

MNA/Reuters

Spring city entitled Chinese home for black-headed gull

KUNMING, 1 Jan — China’s “spring city”, Kunming, was entitled “the home for black-headed gull” on Friday by the China Wildlife Conservation Association for its nice treatment of migrant seagulls in the last 20 years.

The large numbers of seagulls that come to Kunming, capital of southwestern China’s Yunnan Province, reflects local residents’ love for life and nature, said Zhao Sheng, deputy secretary-general of the association. The environment in Kunming is good judging by these birds, he added.

Kunming is the only city in China visited by black-headed gulls regularly in the long term, according to Vice-Mayor Yang Wen. The local government has set aside special funds to protect the red-beaked birds and has encouraged citizens to feed them, the official said.

MNA/Xinhua

Mental disorders cost most among all diseases in China

HAIKOU, 1 Jan — Expenses of mental healthranked first among all diseases in China, making up 20 per cent of the total spending, said a spokesman from the Ministry of Health at a recent medical-care symposium held in this capital city of south China’s Hainan Province.

The proportion is expected to reach 25 per cent in 2020, said Qi Xiaooqiu, head of the disease control and prevention department of the ministry. According to Qi, there are approximately 16 million mental disorder sufferers in China.

Abnormal behaviours of children, psychological problems of students, senile dementia and depression, drug abuse and suicide attempts are on the rise across the nation. Qi said China has built 600-plus medical institutes targeted at mental disorders, involving 120,000 beds and 15,000 doctors for the sufferers.

MNA/Xinhua

Claims day notice

MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (631)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (631) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.1.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MIS ADVANCE CONTAINER Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

ClaIms Day notice

MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (20)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (20) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.1.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MIS WONG SA MUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO, LTD, BANGKOK Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Claims Day Notice

MV BANG SA PHAN VOY NO (44)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG SA PHAN VOY NO (44) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.1.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.P.1 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: MIS WONG SA MUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO, LTD, BANGKOK Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Dancers from the northern Romanian region of Moldova perform a ritual for good luck in the New Year in Bucharest, Romania, on 30 Dec. 2005.

INTERNET
Indonesia to compete in 15 sports at Asiad

JAKARTA, 2 Jan — The Indonesian National Sports Council (KONI) has expanded the number of sports it will compete in at the 2006 Asian Games and has set itself the target of retaining the four gold medals collected in 2002.

The 15 sports are archery, badminton, bowling, canoeing, cycling, chess, karate, soccer, beach volleyball, weightlifting, rowing, wind surfing, tae kwon do, table tennis and tennis.

"The national training for the Asian Games will start on 15 January," the Jakarta Post Saturday quoted Agum Gumelar, chairman of the KONI as saying.

Agum said he expected the athletes to retain the country's medal collection of four golds, seven silvers and 11 bronzes from 2002 in Bangkok.

KONI had previously been grooming athletes in 11 sports under the Indonesia Awakening (IA) training programme before Friday's announcement with a view to enhancing Indonesia's medal prospects at the 2006 Asian Games.

Sportsmen and women in the athletics and shooting categories were dropped from the list thanks to Indonesia's strong showing in these sports in the Philippines.

Bowling, table tennis, canoeing and rowing were put on the list to improve their fitness and attempt to log 2008 kilometers of jogging each by the year 2008 as a symbolic gesture of support for the games. — INTERNET

CUBA champion Huqiao beats CBA's Bayi to reach semis

WUHAN (Central China), 2 Jan — Huqiao University beat CBA's Bayi youth team 72-60 while Guangdong youth team defeated host Wuhan Technology University 105-73 at the CUBA vs CBA youth team basketball tournament here on Saturday.

Both winners advanced into the semifinals.

Forward Zhang Jiabin had 23 points and nine rebounds to give Huqiao their second win over the CBA youth teams.

Bayi, the military team, demonstrated their discipline in the first half to take the lead 15-14.

Huqiao fought back from the second quarter and took the lead 29-25 by the end of the first half.

Bayi did not give up until the end of the third quarter when Zhang led Huqiao to a 12-4 run to extend their lead to 12 points.

Chen Rongren contributed 16 points to Huqiao, Gu Nijia added seven points and four assists, while Zhang Bo led Bayi with 14 points and Feng Lei took nine.

Under the deafening cheering and applause for the host Wuhan Technology University team, Guangdong did not lose their concentration.

Guandong took the command from the very beginning to lead 29-15 in the first quarter, and extended their lead to 47-25 by the end of the first half.

Guoye had a game-high 27 points and contributed six rebounds, while Han Dejun led Wuhan with 17 points and 12 rebounds.

Wu Jun grabbed 18 points and 11 rebounds to lead Shandong to enter the semifinals, while Taiyuan Technology University also qualified after beating CBA's Shandong 65-61.

In the women's competition, Guangdong youth team, Tianjin Finance University team, Huazhong Science University, and Liaoning youth team entered the semifinal.

Aiming at improving the level of the Chinese youth basketball, CBA and CUBA organized this tournament, which will run until 4 January, 2006.

The tournament features eight teams, which came from this season's top four CUBA and CBA teams respectively. — MNA/Xinhua

Sampdoria striker Bonazzoli damages knee ligament

MILAN, 2 Jan — Sampdoria striker Emiliano Bonazzoli damaged a knee ligament in training on Sunday and could be out for the rest of the season, the Italian news agency ANSA reported.

Bonazzoli, who has scored nine goals in Serie A this season, suffered partial rupture to the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee, according to club doctor Giuliano Cerulli.

Sampdoria have asked for the return of striker Corrado Colombo, who is on loan at Serie A rivals Ascoli. — MNA/Reuters

Celtic break Hearts with 3-2 comeback win

GLASGOW, 2 Jan — Defender Stephen McManus struck two late goals to give Celtic a dramatic 3-2 win over 10-man Hearts on New Year's Day and send them seven points clear in the Scottish Premier League.

The leaders, who were two goals down inside eight minutes of a terrific tussle at Tynecastle, have 51 points to Hearts' 44 after 21 games.

Hearts were a man short for the last quarter of an hour after Greek defender Panagiotis Fyssas was dismissed for a last-man foul on Shaun Maloney.

Celtic manager Gordon Strachan does not believe the result means the title race is over, saying: "I don't expect Hearts to go away. It's not over — far from it.

"Hearts are a big, tall side and we could not deal with that in the first half. We couldn't handle it in the first 20 minutes and to come back from that (2-0 down) was excellent," he told BBC Radio Scotland.

Lithuanian striker Edgaras Jankauskas slid in to meet a low cross from Paul Hartley and forced the ball off Celtic's Ross Wallace for the sixth-minute opener.

Two minutes later captain Steven Pressley powered a header high into the net from close in when he met an inswinging corner by Czech Republic forward Rudi Skacel.

Celtic surged back 10 minutes into the second half with substitute Stephen Pearson, who been on for only six minutes for injured midfielder Slavian Petrov, side-footing a close-range volley home from Shaun Maloney's teasing knee-high cross.

With three minutes to go and Hearts a man down, Celtic equalized when McManus headed in a corner by Japan midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura.

McManus screwed home a killer third two minutes later with an angled shot across keeper Craig Gordon from six metres following a Nakamura free kick. Strachan praised Nakamura for creating McManus' goals.

"For Nakamura to deliver these at that time (was great), ... because it is not easy," he said.

Hearts manager Graham Rix was angry with the dismissal of Fyssas and said: "There's a big decision that in my view changed the game."

"I don't think he (Maloney) would have got the ball and he was going away from goal. Fyssas was last man, but I am not even sure he touched him."

"It is disappointing to lose it because of what could be a contentious decision. It was 2-1 at the time and we were looking fairly steady," Rix said.

MNA/Reuters

In this image released by the Association of Surfing Professionals, Australia's Laurie Towner cuts back on a wave during round two of the Billabong World Junior Championships at North Narrabeen, about 40 miles north of Sydney, Australia, on 1 Jan, 2006. — INTERNET

Jutta Kleinschmidt from Germany steers her Volkswagen through the 2nd stage of the 2006 Lisbon-Dakar rally between Portimao and Malaga in Spain, on 1 Jan, 2006, in Martim-Longo, Algarve, Portugal. The 28th Dakar Rally started on Saturday from Portugal's capital to reach Dakar, Senegal on 15 Jan, 2006. — INTERNET

Students lead a pledge near the logo for Beijing's 2008 Olympic Games during a ceremony to promote fitness ahead of the Games in Beijing, China, on 1 Jan, 2006. Students pledge to improve their fitness and attempt to log 2008 kilometers of jogging each by the year 2008 as a symbolic gesture of support for the games. — INTERNET
It is appropriate to convene...

(from page 12)

...and explain the matters concerning bills are appropriation or State Hluttaw concerned. The rights of members prescribed.

...and decision if Region and State governments submit as the matter of presenting annual budgets, and bill is of Region or State in accord with the procedures prescribed.

In our view, the Chief Minister should have the power to give comments on the bills sent by the Region or State Hluttaw concerned. The rights of members of Region and State Hluttaw to discuss and vote and explain the matters concerning bills are appropriate. The powers and function of the Speakers of the Region and State Hluttaw are in conformity with those of the Hluttaw at central level.

In addition, they help implement the tasks of Region or State Hluttaws. Concerning the physical assaults, the party would like to state the detailed basic principle concerned as follows:

"(c) action shall be taken against members and persons stated in the paragraph (a) and (b) in accord with the rules and regulation of the Region or State Hluttaw and laws if they commit physical assaults."

As the points contained in the detailed basic principle No 22 and its sub-paragraphs are in conformity with the detailed basic principles of the Hluttaw at central level, we have no further discussion concerning them. Moreover, the NUP finds the detailed basic principle No 23 appropriate.

The detailed basic principles for the legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Region and State Hluttaws, presented by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee are found to be in accord with the nation’s objective conditions.

The Work Committee presented them after thoroughly studying the constitutions of the world nations, the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution. The detailed basic principles are also within the framework of the six objectives of the National Convention and 104 basic principles laid down by the Convention.

Thus, the detailed basic principles concerning the legislation of the Hluttaw at all levels presented by the Work Committee Chairman are appropriate for the Constitution. The NUP would like to make a request to consider its suggestion as necessary for the interests of the nation and people.

Oklahoma City firefighters hose down halves of hay that caught on fire outside of Jones, Okla, on 30 Dec. 2005. —INTERNET

Tuesday, 3 January
View on today

7:00 am
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottama-thara
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
7:50 am
5. မြို့ရှင်လိုင်မြို့
8:00 am
6. အိက်ခြင်းသား
8:10 am
7. ကုန်ကျင်းသည်များ
8. မောက်ကြီး စောင်ပြေး
9. International news
8:45 am
10. Let’s Go
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
3. ပုဒ်မှာစိတ်ကြွ စက်စိုးဝင်း;
နောက်ပိုင်း သင်မယ်;
စက်စိုးလောင်;
(သင်မယ်)
4:45 pm
4. Dance of national races
4:55 pm
5. အိပ်ထီးသား;
ကျွမ်းကျင်း
(သင်မယ်)
5:05 pm
6. မြို့ရှင်လိုင်မြို့;
(သင်မယ်)
5:15 pm
7. Sing and Enjoy
6:00 pm
8. Evening news
6:30 pm
9. Weather report
6:35 pm
10. တစ်ပါတွင်;
မျည်စွာ;
(သင်မယ်)
7:00 pm
11. ချမ်းရင်းချမ်းအောင်;
(သင်မယ်)
7:30 am
12. ကြိုးနှုန်း;
နောက်ပိုင်း သင်မယ်;
နောက်ပိုင်း;
(သင်မယ်)
7:45 pm
13. ကြောင်းကြောင်း;
နောက်ပိုင်း;
(သင်မယ်)
8:00 pm
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. ဖျင်သည်;
(သင်မယ်)
18. The next day’s programme
Monday, 2 January, 2006
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST on 1-1-2006: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (7°C) below normal in Chin State, (3°C) below normal in upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (4°C) above normal in Mon State and Tanintharyi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (-2°C), Mindat (2°C) and Pinaung (3°C).

Maximum temperature on 1-1-2006 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 2-1-2006 was 56°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 2-1-2006 was 73%. Total sunshine hours on 1-1-2006 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5 m) south from Northwest at (17.00) hours MST on 1-1-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 3-1-2006: Isolated rain are likely in Tanintharyi Division and weather will be generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of decrease of night temperature in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-1-2006: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 3-1-2006: Fair weather.
Suggestions on detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region and State Hluttaws presented

Plenary Session of the National Convention continues

Chairman of NCCC Lt-Gen Thein Sein signs in the attendance register. — MNA

YANGON, 2 Jan — The Plenary Session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, at 9 am today.

It was attended by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairmen and officials of the respective sub-committees, delegates of National Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party, Union Kayin League, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, and Wa National Development Party will be published in newspaper. — MNA

Chairman of the Plenary Meeting of the NC Dr Paik Tin delivers an address at the meeting. — MNA

Presentations of political parties to be published

YANGON, 2 Jan — Presentations made today at the Plenary Meeting of the National Convention by the Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, the Lahu National Development Party, the Union Kayin League, the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party and Wa National Development Party will be published in newspaper. — MNA