YANGON, 6 Jan — The Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science held the graduation parade of its 3rd Intake at the parade ground of Defence Services Medical Academy, here at 7.30 am today, with an address by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye. Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, and Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thida Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Yangon Command Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, Military Appointment General Maj-Gen Hsuan Sint, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe Maung, Inspector-General of Defence Services Maj-Gen Thein Htike, Senior Military Officers and Directors of the Ministry of Defence, the deputy ministers, Rector Brig-Gen Min Thein and senior military officers of Defence Services Medical Academy, the parents and relatives of graduating cadets.

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected the companies of graduating cadets before taking their salute. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented the best cadet award and excellence in training award to Cadet Khun Aung Zaw Win and excellence in study award to Cadet Saw Pyae Phyo Wai. Later, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye delivered an address (the text of the address is reported separately) after his speech, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye left the parade ground. After the ceremony, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with the two award-winning cadets and their parents at the parlour of main lecture hall of the DSMA.

MNA
Inculcate the people with Union Spirit

The government has laid down and is implementing the seven-point Road Map for the emergence of a peaceful, modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

In this regard, it is giving priority to peace and stability of the State, economic development and human resources development.

The Union Solidarity and Development Association is striving together with the people for the emergence of a peaceful, modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Therefore, a series of courses are being conducted for the USDA members to keep abreast of changes and developments in the world today.

The Myanmar Affairs and International Studies Course No 10 of the Union Solidarity and Development Association concluded at the Pyidaungsu Hall of the association in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division on 5 January 2006 with an address by member of USDA Central Panel of Patrons Prime Minister General Soe Win.

In his address, Prime Minister General Soe Win stressed the need for USDA members to keep abreast of changes and developments in the world today.

The Myanmar Affairs and International Studies Course No 10 of the Union Solidarity and Development Association concluded at the Pyidaungsu Hall of the association in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division on 5 January 2006 with an address by member of USDA Central Panel of Patrons Prime Minister General Soe Win.

In his address, Prime Minister General Soe Win stressed the need for USDA members to keep abreast of changes and developments in the world today.

At the course, the USDA member trainees have already studied Myanmar history, national policy, political, economic and social development, the seven-point Road Map of the State, national defence and security and international affairs.

As the trainees have studied changes and developments of the nation and a string of international affairs, they are to accept knowledge, education, technology, idea and procedures obtained from the course as work guidelines.

Realizing the value of the Union, unity, peace and sovereignty, the USDA members are to try their utmost to inculcate the people with Union Spirit.

Such being the case, the USDA members, a strong national force, are to strive for the people to be imbued with the nationalistic spirit and Union Spirit while serving the interest of the State and the people.

Foreign Heads of Government send felicitations to Prime Minister General Soe Win

YANGON 7 Jan — The following are messages of felicitations from Foreign Heads of Government sent to General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 58th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

From Mr Wen Jiabao, Premier of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China

Upon this auspicious occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, I would like to, on behalf of the Government of the People’s Republic of China and in my own name, extend to Your Excellency and through you to the Government of Myanmar our warmest congratulations and best wishes.

In the past year, the Myanmar Government has made new progress in maintaining stability, developing economy, forwarding the national reconciliation process and broadening external relations towards which I share the heartfelt happiness.

The further development of the Sino-Myanmar friendly relations with the deepening of exchanges and cooperation in all fields has brought substantive benefits to both peoples. The Chinese Government treasures the Pak-Pak-Phaw friendship between China and Myanmar, and is willing to make joint efforts with the Myanmar side for continuous promotion of the traditional friendly relations.

May the Union of Myanmar enjoy prosperity and her people well-beings.

From Mr Phan Van Khai, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

On behalf of the Government and people of Vietnam, I have the honour to convey to Your Excellency and the Government and people of Myanmar the warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

I am pleased to see the excellent development of the traditional friendship and multifactaced cooperation between Vietnam and Myanmar in the past 30 years and confident that under the joint efforts of our two Governments and peoples, the relationship between the two countries would ever been consolidated and strengthened on bilateral basis as well as within the frameworks of ASEAN and other regional and international fora, in the interests of the two peoples and for peace, stability, cooperation and prosperous development in Southeast Asia and the world over.

May Your Excellency ever stay in the best of health and happiness. Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines

Excellency,

The people and Government of the Republic of the Philippines join me in extending warmest felicitations to Your Excellency and to the people of Myanmar on the auspicious occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence of the Union of Myanmar.

Your Excellency’s visit to the Philippines in February 2005 has given us the opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interests to both our countries. It has also infused our bilateral relations with a new impetus towards greater cooperation. I am confident that the ties that bind us will continue to strengthen for the benefit of our two nations, of the region and of the world.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

MNA

Free medical treatment given to patients with eye complaints in Pakokku

YANGON, 6 Jan—The eye specialist team led by Eye Specialist Professor Dr Kan Nyunt of Yangon Eye Hospital performed surgical operation on patients with eye complaints free of charge at Pakokku Hospital in Pakokku, Magway Division from 28 to 30 December 2005.

The medical team comprises Professor Dr Ye Naing, eye specialists of Yangon Eye Hospital Dr Aye Aye Khine, Dr Nilar Thein, Dr Nyo Nyo Min, Dr Saw Thwin Mon Thein and nurses and company staff of Alcon Co.

They performed 214 surgical operations on patients with eye complaints including 45 monks and 15 nuns.

Joint Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Pakokku Aletaik Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dhuja Bhaddanta Vicara, Col Maung Maung Ohn of Pakokku Station, Pakokku District PDC Chairman Li-Col Huy Do and heads of department, members of social organizations and well-wishers provided all the necessary assistance forthetc.

Well-wishers and medical companies such as Alcon, Ciba, Fourteen Star Network, KTZ, Cipla, Ashford and Hein Myanmar donated medicines and medical equipment for the operations. —MNA

Monks and eye patients seen after surgical operation performed by eye specialist team led by Eye Specialist Professor Dr Kan Nyunt of Yangon Eye Hospital. —MNA
Chinese V-P encourages defence industry innovation

BEIJING, 5 Jan — Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Ju said Wednesday that China should enhance the capacity of independent innovation in its defence industry and defence-related scientific and technological research.

Addressing the working conference on the industry, science and technology for national defence, Huang said the defence industry is of strategic importance.

It is an important sector of the advanced manufacturing industry and a significant force of the country's scientific and technological innovation system, he said.

Huang confirmed the new achievements made in the industry, such as the successful launching of China's second manned spacecraft Shenzhou-6 and improvements made in state-owned enterprise reform.

The scientific and technological research of China's defence industry should stick to the policy of combining peaceful use and wartime needs and integrating military with civilian purposes to improve industrial structures, said Huang.

High-technology sectors such as information, biology, new materials, new energy and aviation and spaceflight should be taken as a new growth sectors, he said.

Huang emphasized that the whole industry should make more efforts in enhancing its independent innovation capacities, advancing reforms of state-owned enterprises and improving the education and training of professional personnel.

US lobbyist Abramoff pleads guilty to fraud

WASHINGTON, 5 Jan — Lobbyist Jack Abramoff pleaded guilty to fraud charges on Tuesday and agreed to help US prosecutors in a corruption probe that could involve several top Republican lawmakers, including former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay.

Abramoff pleaded guilty to conspiracy, mail fraud and tax evasion before a federal judge in Washington.

He also will plead guilty to conspiracy and wire fraud in a separate case in Miami on Wednesday, his lawyer there said.

The long-awaited plea will give prosecutors valuable ammunition as they seek to prove that DeLay of Texas, Republican Representative Bob Ney of Ohio and other top lawmakers gave Abramoff and his lobbying clients favourable treatment in return for campaign contributions, Super Bowl tickets and other gifts.

Strong quake hits off Mexican coast

WASHINGTON, 5 Jan — A strong earthquake measuring 6.7 on the Richter Scale was detected in the Gulf of California off the Mexican coast on Wednesday, the US Geological Survey website said.

The quake occurred at round 2:32 am local time (0832 GMT) and its epicentre is 89 kilometres from Santa Rosalia, on the east coast of Baja California Peninsula.

Mexico's National Seismological Centre posted no initial report of the quake on its website.
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(Continued from yesterday)

Medals for Excellent Performance in Social Field (Second Class)
5. Dr Daw Pandora Aung Gyi, Leader of Myanmar Women’s Football Federation, Myanmar Football Federation.
6. U Maung Maung, Assistant Director, Sports and Physical Education Department.
8. U Hla Kyi, Deputy Director-General, Sports and Physical Education Department.
9. U Thein Aung, Deputy Director, Sports and Physical Education Department.
11. Dr Khin Pyone Yi, Associated Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
12. Prof Dr Thit Thwin, Professor (Orthopaedics), Yangon University Medical School.
13. Dr Mya Thaung, Medical Superintendent, North Okkalapa Hospital.
14. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
15. Prof Dr Aung Myint, Professor (Surgery), North Okkalapa Hospital.
16. Dr Shwe Nyan, Associate Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
17. U Aung Ho Ann, No 19/20, Mayanmyaing Road, Thanatpin District.
18. U Aung San Ngwe, Staff of Laboratory, Thanatpin Sports and Physical Education Department, Ministry of Sports.
19. U Khin Maung Htwe, JAT, BEMS 2, Nyangon No 2 Basic Education Department, Ministry of Education.
20. U Htwe Aung, Assistant Director, Myanmar District Sports and Physical Education Department, Ministry of Sports.
21. U Khin Maung Thin, Head of Section, Oo Kyi Kyi Junta, Lazimuddin Township, Yangon.
22. U Aung Maung, Technician 1, Mandalay District Sports and Physical Education Department, Ministry of Sports.
23. U Aung Kyaw Zin, No 230, 35th Street, 80x81 Division.
24. U Aung Kyaw Zin, No 230, 35th Street, 80x81 Division.
25. U Kyaw Yi, Employee of the Education Department (Rd), Shangyin Kyawngon Ward, Shwebo, Sagaing Div.
29. Dr Khin Pyone Yi, Associated Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
30. Prof Dr Thit Thwin, Professor (Orthopaedics), Yangon University Medical School.
31. Dr Mya Thaung, Medical Superintendent, North Okkalapa Hospital.
32. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
33. Prof Dr Aung Myint, Professor (Surgery), North Okkalapa Hospital.
34. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
35. Prof Dr Aung Myint, Professor (Surgery), North Okkalapa Hospital.
36. Dr Shwe Nyan, Associate Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
37. U Aung Ho Ann, No 19/20, Mayanmyaing Road, Thanatpin District.
38. U Aung San Ngwe, Staff of Laboratory, Thanatpin Sports and Physical Education Department, Ministry of Sports.
39. U Khin Maung Htwe, JAT, BEMS 2, Nyangon No 2 Basic Education Department, Ministry of Education.
40. U Htwe Aung, Assistant Director, Myanmar District Sports and Physical Education Department, Ministry of Sports.
41. U Khin Maung Thin, Head of Section, Oo Kyi Kyi Junta, Lazimuddin Township, Yangon.
42. U Aung Maung, Technician 1, Mandalay District Sports and Physical Education Department, Ministry of Sports.
43. U Aung Kyaw Zin, No 230, 35th Street, 80x81 Division.
44. U Aung Kyaw Zin, No 230, 35th Street, 80x81 Division.
45. U Kyaw Yi, Employee of the Education Department (Rd), Shangyin Kyawngon Ward, Shwebo, Sagaing Div.
46. U Kyaw Hla, Teacher, Kyauktan Township, Mandalay.
47. U Hla Maung, Carpenter, No 366-B, U Bayin Lan, Myayang Ward, Myalamone, Myitkyina.
49. Dr Khin Pyone Yi, Associated Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
50. Prof Dr Thit Thwin, Professor (Orthopaedics), Yangon University Medical School.
51. Dr Mya Thaung, Medical Superintendent, North Okkalapa Hospital.
52. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
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58. Prof Dr Thit Thwin, Professor (Orthopaedics), Yangon University Medical School.
59. Dr Mya Thaung, Medical Superintendent, North Okkalapa Hospital.
60. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
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65. Dr Mya Thaung, Medical Superintendent, North Okkalapa Hospital.
66. Dr Shwe Nyan, Associate Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
67. Dr Khin Pyone Yi, Associated Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
68. Prof Dr Thit Thwin, Professor (Orthopaedics), Yangon University Medical School.
69. Prof Dr Aung Myint, Professor (Surgery), North Okkalapa Hospital.
70. Dr Khin Pyone Yi, Associated Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
71. Prof Dr Thit Thwin, Professor (Orthopaedics), Yangon University Medical School.
72. Dr Mya Thaung, Medical Superintendent, North Okkalapa Hospital.
73. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
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75. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
76. Prof Dr Aung Myint, Professor (Surgery), North Okkalapa Hospital.
77. Dr Shwe Nyan, Associate Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
78. Dr Khin Pyone Yi, Associated Professor, Surgeon, Yangon People’s Hospital.
79. Prof Dr Thit Thwin, Professor (Orthopaedics), Yangon University Medical School.
80. Dr Mya Thaung, Medical Superintendent, North Okkalapa Hospital.
81. Prof Dr Khin Maung Han, Professor, Head of Department (Orthopaedics), North Okkalapa Hospital.
82. Prof Dr Aung Myint, Professor (Surgery), North Okkalapa Hospital.
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**MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE PERFORMANCE IN SOCIAL FIELD**

36. Maung Aung San Oo, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
37. Maung Htoo Kyaw, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
38. Maung Aung San Oo, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
39. Maung Min Tun, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
40. Maung Aung Moe, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
41. Maung Soe Min Oo, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
42. Maung Aung Moe, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
43. Maung Nyi Nyi Tun, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
44. Maung Nay Hlaing, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
45. Maung Hla Aye Htwe, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
46. Maung Bo Than, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
47. Maung San Lwin Oo, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
48. Maung Kyaw Zaw Naing, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
49. Maung Aung San Oo, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
50. U Kyaw San, Deputy Director, SPED, the Ministry of Health.
51. Maung Kyaw Kyaw Khaing, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
52. Maung Htoo Kyaw, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Health.
53. Maung Aung Moe, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
54. Maung Soe Min Oo, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
55. U Maung Ko, Sayay Village (East), Sagaing.
56. Dr Khin Aye Soe, General Hospital, Sittway, the Ministry of Health.
57. Dr Khin Aye Soe, General Hospital, Sittway, the Ministry of Health.
58. U Maung Ko, Loihein Co, Room-14, Building-14, Sethmu Yeiktha, Ward 12, Hline Township, Yangon.
59. Dr Aye Pe, Medical Superintendent, Insein General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
60. Dr Soe Myint, Staff Manager (Retd), Hsinmyashin Water Transport, the Ministry of Transport.
61. U Than Oo, Merchant, No 40/2, Plot-702, Yammionol Ward, Chanay Thazan Township, Mandalay.
63. U Khin Maung Maung, Merchant, No 40/2, Plot-702, Yammionol Ward, Chanay Thazan Township, Mandalay.
64. U Khin Maung Maung, Merchant, No 40/2, Plot-702, Yammionol Ward, Chanay Thazan Township, Mandalay.
65. U Thaung Swe, Patheingyi Township Communications (P.O), the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs.
66. U Kyaw Kyaw, Goldenhill, West Amarathar Ward, between 80th and 81st Streets, Aungzane Thazan Township, Mandalay.
67. U Kyaw, Mechanic-4, Engineering Department, No 6/b , Saw Mill (Wataba), Myanmar Timber Enterprise, the Ministry of Forestry.
68. U Zaw Thaung, Company Staff, No 33, 89th Street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon.
69. U Kyaw Kyaw, Driver, NoYa/1171, Yahazura Street, South Okkalo Pa, Yangon.
70. Dr Kyaw Myo, Loihein Co, Room-14, Building-14, Sethmu Yeiktha, Ward 12, Hline Township, Yangon.
71. U Khin Maung Ngwe, Secretary, Shan State Meteorology Branch, Irrigation Department, the Ministry of Defence.
72. U Maung Ko, Sayay Village (East), Sagaing.
73. Dr Zaw Wai Soe, Yangon General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
74. Dr H Shar Cole, Yangon General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
75. Dr Ohn Khaing, North Okkala General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
76. Dr Aye Pe, Medical Superintendent, Insein General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
77. Dr Sein Win, Insein General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
78. Dr Aung Kyi Win, Insein General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
79. Dr Maung Maw, Medical Superintendent, Yangon East General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
80. Dr Tun Oo, Yangon East General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
81. Dr Myo Lwin, Yangon General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
82. U San Kyi, Staff Nurse, Yangon General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
83. Daw Kyi Nwe Htun, Insein General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
84. Daw Tin Win Myaung, Senior Nurse, Yangon East General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
85. Dr Tin Tin Mar, North Okkala General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
86. Dr Saw Phone Ni, North Okkala General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
87. Daw Mya Than Aung, Matron, North Okkala General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
88. Daw Sein Mya, Staff Nurse, North Okkala General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
89. Daw Than Aung Aye, Nurse, New General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
90. Daw Wai Myo, Staff Nurse, Insein General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
91. Daw Tin Yi, Matron, Yangon East General Hospital, the Ministry of Health.
92. Dr Khin Aye Soe, General Hospital, Sittway, the Ministry of Health.
93. U Thaung, Chindwin Nyakka Blanket Factory, Yadana Ward, Monywa.
94. U Hla Hla, Merchant, No 25/6, Bogoye Road, Aungmingyi Township, Mandalay.
95. U Soe Myint, Staff Manager (Retd), Hsinmyashin Board of Trustees, Saguang.
96. U Maung Ko, Sayay Village (East), Sagaing.
97. U Thein Kyu, Chairman of Sonkon Village-tract Peace and Development Council, Monyo Township.
98. U Khin Maung Ngwe, Secretary, Shan State Volleyball Sub-committee, Taunggyi, Shan State.
99. U Kyaw Hlaing Soe Bo, Head of People’s Militia, Nanyo People’s Militia, Mongphyat Township, Shan State.
100. U San Win, West Eikpyet Village, Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Division.
101. U Yu Htaw, Laydaungtkan Road, No 336, Laydaungtkan Road, Thingangyun Township, Yangon.
102. Dr Kyaw Myo, Loihein Co, Room-14, Building-14, Sethmu Yeiktha, Ward 12, Hline Township, Yangon.
103. Daw Naw Min Lin, Coach, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
104. U Maung San Lwin Oo, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
105. Maung Bo Than, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
106. Maung Naing Lin Tun, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
107. U Than Tun Aung, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
108. Dr Khin Aye Soe, General Hospital, Sittway, the Ministry of Health.
109. Dr Aung Kyaw Soe, Branch Clerk, Construction-8, No 31 Navy Signals, the Ministry of Defence.
110. U Shwe, 2 Ward, Pyinsalu, Labutta Township, Ayeyawady Division.
111. U Saw Lwin, Assistant Lecturer, Mandalay UDE, Sethmu Yeiktha, Ward 12, Hline Township, Yangon.
112. Dr Khin Aye Soe, General Hospital, Sittway, the Ministry of Health.
113. Dr Kyaw Myo, Loihein Co, Room-14, Building-14, Sethmu Yeiktha, Ward 12, Hline Township, Yangon.
114. Daw Myo Min Latt, Selected Myanmar athlete, Myanmar Football Federation, the Ministry of Sports.
115. Dr Kyaw Kyaw, Security (Watch), Director’s Office, Mandalay Township, Mandalay.
117. Maung Kyaw, Taxi Driver, No 28, Pattamy Road, 19 Ward, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon.
118. U San Thein, Mechanic-4, Dala Shipyards, Inland Water Transport, the Ministry of Transport.
120. U Than Oo, Merchant, No 40/2, Plot-702, Yammionol Ward, Chanay Thazan Township, Mandalay.
121. U Khin Maung, Merchant, No 128/8, Datan, Thalyataung Township, Mandalay.
122. U Khin Maung Maung, Merchant, No 40/2, Plot-702, Yammionol Ward, Chanay Thazan Township, Mandalay.
123. U Than Oo, Merchant, No 40/2, Plot-702, Yammionol Ward, Chanay Thazan Township, Mandalay.
125. U Ohn Maung, Mechanic-3, Myanmar Shipyards, the Ministry of Transport.
126. U Thein Htn, Captain, Inland Water Transport, the Ministry of Transport.
127. U Thaung Swe, Patheingyi Township Communications (P.O), the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs.
128. U Kyaw Kyaw, Goldenhill, West Amarathar Ward, between 80th and 81st Streets, Aungzane Thazan Township, Mandalay.
129. U Kyaw Kyaw, Mechanic-4, Engineering Department, No 6/b , Saw Mill (Wataba), Myanmar Timber Enterprise, the Ministry of Forestry.
130. U Zaw Thaung, Company Staff, No 33, 89th Street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon.
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132. U Maung Kyaw, Taxi Driver, No 28, Pattamy Road, 19 Ward, Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Yangon.
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134. U Than Oo, Merchant, No 40/2, Plot-702, Yammionol Ward, Chanay Thazan Township, Mandalay.
Development of industries in the time of the Tatmadaw Government

AGM of MTEA taken place

YANGON, 6 Jan — An annual general meeting of Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association took place at International Business Centre yesterday evening with an address by Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung. Chairman of the association U Aung Lwin spoke on the occasion. The association members approved annual report and financial statements. The minister presented K 8.43 million to the association through the chairman who made concluding remarks.—MNA

Huawei Tech plans to double cell phone sales

YANGON, 6 Jan— Huawei Technologies Co planned to sell 25 million mobile phones this year, more than double last year’s level, mainly in overseas market, the Shenzhen-based telecom giant said yesterday. Third-generation handset sales will also contribute to Huawei’s 2006 performance.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. Second best time is now.
YANGON, 5 Jan — The State is making efforts for filling urban-rural development inequality gap. Kapaing model village in Yinmabin Township in Monywa District, Sagaing Division has enjoyed fruits of development thanks to the collaborative efforts of the State, the Tatmadaw, the people and members of Union Solidarity and Development Association. Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and CEC member of USDA Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint inspected the developments of the model village and attended to the needs. The commander and the minister attended a ceremony to put 1.125 acres of land into use under 1,500 jatropha curcas which were fostered by previous generations of leaders of both countries enjoy continuous consolidation and enhancement and I am fully confident that with joint efforts of both sides, the traditional friendship and cooperation of mutual benefit between China and Myanmar based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence would yield more fruitful results.

May the Union of Myanmar enjoy prosperity and her people well-beings and wish Your Excellency every success.

Dr Win Myint Aung, Secretary of Division USDA presented a BEHS equipped with multimedia classrooms in the village and two-storey school building has also been constructed. In health sector, the station hospital built at a cost of 9.974 million kyats was successfully further developed. It was funded by commander, the ministers, members of USDA and the villagers. In addition, the village was equipped with library facility as well and the villagers have now used fly-proof latrines cent per liter and we had kept on striving for further developments so as to set an example to others, he added.

On behalf of local villagers member of MCCA Daw Mya Mya Win also spoke words of thanks for ensuring better transport and communication, live stock breeding and agricultural sectors of the village. The commander and the minister spoke and presented 20 dozens of exercise books to the village BEHS and a 21-inch TV set to village hall. Dr Win Myint Aung, secretary of Division USDA presented publications, sports gear and a TV set together with a battery and an inverter donated by USDA Secre tariat member minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsuan to Toetat Aung library. Chairperson of Sagaing Division WAO Daw San Myint donated the uniforms to village WAO. — MNA

From Mr Hu Jintao, President of the People’s Republic of China

Upon this auspicious occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar, I would like to, on behalf of the Chinese people and in my own name, extend to Your Excellency and the Government and people of Myanmar of the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of Myanmar. I take this opportunity to send our best wishes for the personal well-being and happiness of Your Excellency as well as for the peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Myanmar in the years ahead.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King of Bhutan

The people of Bhutan join me in extending our warm felicitations to Your Excellency and the Government and people of Myanmar on behalf of the people and the Government of the Kingdom of Nepal and on our own we extend to Your Excellency our cordial felicitations and best wishes for Your Excellency’s personal health and happiness and for the progress and prosperity of the people of Myanmar.

We are confident that the friendly relations between our two countries will grow further in the years to come.

From Mr Tran Duc Luong, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

On behalf of the state and people of Vietnam and in my own name, I have the great honour to convey to Your Excellency and the people of Myanmar the warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

May the people of Myanmar continue to record yet greater achievements in their cause of building a Myanmar of prosperity, wealth and happiness.

We are much delighted to see the fine development of the traditional friendship and multi-faceted cooperation between Vietnam and Myanmar in the past 30 years and strongly believe that the fine relations will be further strengthened and consolidated, in the interest of the people of our two countries and for peace, stability and cooperation and development in the region and the world over.

May Your Excellency ever stay in the best of health and happiness. Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines

On the auspicious occasion of the 58th Anniversary of the Independence of the Union of Myanmar, the Government and people of the Republic of the Philippines join me in extending best wishes and warm felicitations to the Government and people of the Union of Myanmar.

Relations between our two countries continue to strengthen. The past year has seen our Governments and people work together through the visit to the Philippines of HE Prime Minister Soo Win in February 2005. I am confident that the benefits derived from enhanced cooperation will serve the interests of our two countries.

I wish to assure Your Excellency of my Government’s continued support for the national development efforts of your Government, that will redound to the benefit of the Myanmar people, and to our region as a whole. Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration. — MNA

People of Kapaing Model village enjoy fruits of developments due to collaborative efforts of State, Tatmadaw and members of USDA

YANGON, 7 Jan — The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of State sent to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council on the occasion of the 58th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.

From Yangon, 7 Jan — The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of State sent to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council on the occasion of the 58th Anniversary Independence Day of the Union of Myanmar.
The emergence of a new constitution is imperative in building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with discipline flourishing in Myanmar. So, the ongoing National Convention is discussing and laying down detailed basic principles to be included in framing the State constitution.

Those basic principles also include the ones regarding the State objectives. They are: (1) Non-disintegration of the Union; (2) Tumultuous integration of national solidarity; (3) Perpetuation of sovereignty; (4) Flourishing of genuine multi-party democracy system; (5) Further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State; and (6) For the Tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the State.

It is learnt that internal and external anti-government groups are opposing and decrying the last objective — For the Tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the State. They are levelling accusations saying that the Tatmadaw’s participation in national political leadership role of the State is not a democratic way from the general point of view.

In this context, I write this article to enable readers to objectively learn points on historical background of Myanmar, prevailing conditions of the State and practices of some global nations.

Soe Mya Kyaw: I’ve learned that some are highly critical of the Tatmadaw’s participation in the national political leadership role of the State, one of the necessities of the State. Could you explain it to me?

Kye Kyee Mya: To say it in short, they are using various ploys for neo-colonialists and their minions to get control of the country by sidelining the Tatmadaw, which has always stood by the people in times of emergency.

Bagyi Soe: That’s the point. According to the law of cause and effect, I think it’s fair to say that the Tatmadaw is trying to play the national political leadership role of the State.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Well, as you know, the Tatmadaw was formed by patriotic politicians in accord with a national political objective of liberation from subjugation. It was chronicled that the Tatmadaw was conceived of national politics as it was formed with national politicians who were part of the Tatmadaw.

Kye Kyee Mya: It’s spine-tingling to say that we saw with our own eyes the Tatmadaw and the people being oneness, chanting a slogan of ‘If the Tatmadaw is strong, so will the Tatmadaw be strong, let’s give it a helping hand.

Bagyi Soe: There had been various wicked schemes to break up the Tatmadaw. There were those who wanted to wield political and military role in our country, lackeys of colonialists and national traitors. They had a strong dislike to the united strength of the Tatmadaw and the people.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Right, Bagyi. We are required to guard against their ill attempts that have been made from the times of fascism, colonialism and parliamentary democracy to date.

Kye Kyee Mya: They also made attempts to install pocket army troops and to abolish the Tatmadaw that stood up for the people when the country’s political parties split in the period of parliamentary democracy in 1958 and replace it with the former.

Bagyi Soe: Being jealous of the Tatmadaw striving in all aspects for the country’s transition into a peaceful, modern and developed democratic one, those relying on external elements with negative views are attempting to weaken the strength of the Tatmadaw with intent to grab the State power with the belief that they will realize their aim only if the Tatmadaw breaks up.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Looking back to the history of Myanmar, comrades, who once worked together sharing weal or woe for the cause of national politics by giving utmost priority to the independence, met their tragic ends as a result of clashes between one another when they came to have a penchant for their own party politics.

Bagyi Soe: In the time of multi-party democracy, governments may hold different isms but the Tatmadaw cannot do so. The Tatmadaw and the people must be in unison. The Tatmadaw is to cooperate with every government that comes to power. Victories resulting from the united strength of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw must be passed on to the future.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Of course. However, external and internal destructionists are shouting at the government and the party in power was no longer in a position to save the Union from the danger of disintegration. This time also, it was the Tatmadaw that rose to the occasion.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Maung Kyaw, you yourself experienced the fourth crisis. It was in 1988. Due to various kinds of instigation by destructive elements aboveground and underground and within and without the nation, the entire administrative machinery came to a halt and the whole nation was in chaos. Sovereignty was about to be lost. This forced the Tatmadaw to take the responsibilities of the State.

Soe Mya Kyaw: We saw the 1988 disturbances for ourselves and so we don’t want recurrence of any such trouble.

Bagyi Soe: Looking at today’s international situation, you will find that some big nations are trying to interfere in domestic affairs of others. In doing so, they usually resort to unscrupulous methods of mass media to sow the seeds of suspicion and discord in the minds of the people living in the targeted nation. When cracks have begun to appear in the unity of the people, they invade that nation on various pretexts. It is one of the challenges of the 21st century and our people and Tatmadaw must be prepared to be able to cope with this challenge.

Kye Kyee Mya: In the history, armed conflicts occurred in the country due to political dissenion and disunity among the national races and the Tatmadaw discharged the duty of national politics. At present also, the Tatmadaw is also discharging national political duties under various circumstances.

Bagyi Soe: It is obvious that the Tatmadaw is making endeavours to possess political, economic and defence strengths in every sector. Efforts are being made for the future government to be able to steadfastly lead the nation which achieved better foundations when there takes place transfer of the State duties in accordance with the upcoming constitution. It is an effort to be welcomed, isn’t it?

Soe Mya Kyaw: I see, Bagyi. National politics is the main factor that brings about long-term interest of the country. The Tatmadaw is marching with national politics, not party politics. It is certain that every person who wants national interest will be pleased with this.

Bagyi Soe: Therefore, the Tatmadaw’s participation in national political leadership role of the State is in accord with the history of our country and prevailing conditions.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, of course. However, external and internal destructionists are shouting at the...
Bagyi Soe: Please go into detail, Bagyi.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Right, Bagyi. Thank you very much.

Bagyi Soe: There are 30 nations that have appointed and assigned duties to non-elective members at the central level. One can clearly see that the Tatmadaw is not democratic. We must ask them not to do it. That something is democratic or not must be measured with the use of the yardstick whether it affects the essence of democracy or not. Every bill submitted to the Hluttaw at different levels must be approved in accord with the majority of the vote. Participation of the Tatmadaw members does not affect the essence of democracy and there is full democracy essence.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes. According to the democratic practice, 110 Tatmadaw member delegates cannot dominate the 330 elected delegates in the Pyithu Hluttaw and 56 Tatmadaw member delegates cannot dominate the 186 elected delegates in the Amyotha Hluttaw. The number of Tatmadaw member delegates is not dominant one but will only see to the check and balance.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Of course, Maung Kyaw. In the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw there will be 498 elected delegates and only 166 Tatmadaw member delegates. It is obvious that Tatmadaw member delegates cannot dominate the elected delegates but they are to play the role of check and balance.

Bagyi Soe: So, Tatmadaw’s participation is found to be democratic practice as it is not detrimental to the essence of democracy. This will contribute to national interest and will prevent the recurrence of bitter experiences suffered in the Myanmar history. Hence, as for as I see, this is not only in accordance with democratic practice but it is in harmony with the past and the present situations as it is fully endowed with the essence of democracy.

Kyee Kyee Mya: I would like to add some points. The Tatmadaw members have gained ample experience since they shouldered the political, economic and social duties in addition to military duty in successive eras according to the demand of the nation. Those experiences are human resources of the nation. And they are to be used for national interests.

Soe Mya Kyaw: That’s right. Only when all the human resources are fully utilized will the nation develop with added momentum. For all the national people to be able to serve the national interest with might and main with full essence of democracy, the Tatmadaw will have to participate in it. Everyone with nationalist spirit will be in favour of it.

Kyee Kyee Mya: Not only our country but most of the global nations are appointing and assigning duties to Hluttaw representatives in the interest of own nations according to the prevailing situation of their own instead of electing them at the Hluttaw levels. Let me know about it, Ko Soe.

Bagyi Soe: There are about 30 nations that have appointed and assigned duties to non-elective members at the central level. One can clearly see that the Tatmadaw is not democratic. We must ask them not to do it. That something is democratic or not must be measured with the use of the yardstick whether it affects the essence of democracy or not. Every bill submitted to the Hluttaw at different levels must be approved in accord with the majority of the vote. Participation of the Tatmadaw members does not affect the essence of democracy and there is full democracy essence.

Soe Mya Kyaw: As many as that? Let me know about it in detail.

Bagyi Soe: To my knowledge, they are Algeria, Bahrain, Bhutan, Brunei, India, Chile, Egypt, Fiji, Gambia, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Spain, Sudan, Uganda, Tonga, UAE, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Britain, etc.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Even in Britain, which has been dubbed ‘grandfather of democracy’, there are MPs who were appointed and assigned duties automatically without elections.

Bagyi Soe: Of Course. In the United Kingdom (UK), there is House of Lords. All 659 representatives of the House of Lords are non-elective members. It is learnt that members of the House are peers and peers’ esses plus personalities honoured by the Queen.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Please go into detail, Bagyi.

Bagyi Soe: In the Council of Nation of Algeria, 48 seats, one third of 144 seats have been appointed directly by the President, and the remaining two-thirds have been elected by the Municipal Council. In Bahrain, all 40 seats of the Consultative Council have been appointed by the King. There are 160 seats in the National Hluttaw of Bhutan. Of them, one-third has been appointed by the King. However, in Brunei, it is learnt that there is no Hluttaw, and the ministers’ council appointed by the King is taking care of administration.

Kyee Kyee Mya: What about India, Ko Soe?

Bagyi Soe: At the Council of State of India, on the basis of brilliant performance in literary, science and social fields, there are 12 MPs appointed directly by the President. At the House of People, it is learnt that there are 545 seats. Of them, two seats for Anglo-Indian half-castes have been appointed directly by the President. In Chile, there are altogether 48 seats in the Senate and ten have been directly appointed. Under the constitution of Chile, the ex-presidents have been designated as permanent representatives of the Senate.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Please go into detail, Bagyi.

Bagyi Soe: As the Advisory Council of Egypt, there are 264 seats. Of them, 88 have been appointed by the President. At the People’s Assembly, there are 454 seats. Of them, ten have been appointed by the President. At the Senate of Fiji, there are 32 seats. Fourteen nominated by heads of ethnic groups, 9 nominated by the Prime Minister, 8 nominated by the opposition party and one for Rotuma Island have been directly appointed by the President. There is only one Hluttaw in Gambia with 53 seats. Of them, five seats have been directly appointed by the President.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Let me know about other nations.

Bagyi Soe: There are 60 seats at the Seanad Eireann of Ireland. Of them, 11 have been appointed directly by the Prime Minister. All 40 seats constituted at the Senate of Jordan have been appointed by the King and approved by the House of People. The President of Kazakhstan has directly appointed 7 seats out of 39 seats constituted in the Senate. Thus, it is only one Hluttaw in Kenya with 210 seats. Of them, 12 have been appointed by the President, the Attorney-General and the Hluttaw Chairman. In Kiribati, there is only one Hluttaw made up of 41 seats. Of them, only two have been appointed and assigned duties.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Yes, Bagyi.

Bagyi Soe: The Chamber of Advisers of Morocco is made up of 270 seats. Of them, 60 per cent have been elected indirectly by the regional councils. The remaining 40 per cent have been elected by economic organizations and labour unions. There are 60 seats in the National Council of Nepal. Ten have been appointed by the King, 35 by the lower house and 15 by heads of village, township and district. The Chamber of Deputies of Romania is made up of 346 seats. Of them, 19 have been reserved for ethnic groups. At the Senate of Spain, there are 207 seats directly elected and 4 seats representing the regions.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Go ahead, please, Bagyi.

Bagyi Soe: In Sudan, there is only one Hluttaw which is made up of 360 seats. Of them, 98 seats have been elected indirectly. In Uganda also, there is only one Hluttaw that is made up of 292 seats. Of them, 78 were particularly formed with special organizations. In Tonga also, there is only one Hluttaw made up of 11 seats appointed by the King, 9 seats elected by leaders of ethnic groups and 9 seats elected directly. The UAE is made up of the Federal National Council. All 40 members of the Federal National Council have been appointed and assigned duties. There is only one Hluttaw in Zimbabwe with 158 seats. Of them, 8 have been appointed directly by the President. In Zimbabwe also, there is only one Hluttaw with

The Tatmadaw members have gained ample experience since they shouldered the political, economic and social duties in addition to military duty in successive eras according to the demand of the nation. Those experiences are human resources of the nation. And they are to be used for national interests.

Bagyi Soe: The House of Representatives of Indonesia practised in the past?

Bagyi Soe: The House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia was made up of 500 seats. It is learnt that according to the new constitution, 38 seats out of 500 had been set aside for the Tatmadaw up to 2004.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Looking at this situation, it is obvious that the global nations are serving the interest of their own to their utmost in conformity with the history and prevailing conditions there and democracy.

Bagyi Soe: Certainly. In Myanmar also, systematic steps are being taken democratically to serve the national interest to the most possible degree in line with the prevailing conditions of the nation.

Soe Mya Kyaw: Right, Bagyi. Thank you very much for enlightening me that the Tatmadaw is the national force of fine tradition, that has always been serving the interest of the State and the people risking their lives, and it will be constantly at the service of the State and the people in the future also.
Tatmadaw has taken systematic steps to serve the interests...

(From page 1)

They have courage to overcome any difficulties. This is why all the people greatly admire and put trust in them. The people and the Tatmadaw fought against the fascists together.

After the fight against the fascists, Tatmadaw leaders struggled for the independence by entering into national politics. They, after building national reconsolidation, founded the Union of Myanmar as the sovereign nation.

National consolida-
tion plays a vital role in national politics of Myanmar where over 100 national races have been residing unitedly since yore. So, the patriotic Tatmadaw has always upheld Our Three Main National Causes — Non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national consolidation and perpetuation of sovereignty. Comrades, According to the motto of Defence Services medical unit, you are responsible for the good health of the Tatmadawmen and their families. Besides, you are to provide health care to the public as well wherever you are assigned.

Knowledge and prevention are perquisites for good health. To be fit, we need to live in a healthy lifestyle. You are also urged to apply traditional as well as western medical science. As Myanmar traditional medical science is effective, the Ministry of Health is taking measures for the improvement of traditional medical science by establishing Traditional Medicine Department. So, the traditional medicine has flourished and paper-reading session are being held annually. Since rural people rely on traditional medicine, it is more popular in rural areas.

Traditional medical science should be studied thoroughly as Myanmar traditional medicine is potent and its herbal plants are growing in all parts of the country.

You, comrades, responsible for public health care are to strive to become qualified ones as you will have to take more advanced training courses.

Comrades, When the Tatmadaw started assuming State duties, the country was in poor condition in all aspects as a result of anarchy. To build a genuine democratic nation according to the wishes of the people, peace and stability of State is essential. The citizens need to be economically strong and have good education.

Graduation parade of 3rd Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science saluting Vice-Senior General Maung Aye. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents excellence in training award to Cadet Khin Aung Zaw Win. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents excellence in study award to Cadet Saw Pyae Phyo Wai. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects companies of graduating cadets of 3rd Intake of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science. — MNA

(See page 11)
Tatmadaw has taken systematic steps to serve the interests ...

(from page 10)

Therefore, priority has been given to peace and stability and rule of law. At the same time, systematic measures have been taken to improve political, economic and defence powers by laying down the State 12 objectives.

In building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the Head of State himself initially supervised the work for the progress of border areas and national races. To ensure the equitable development of all regions of the State, 24 special development regions were designated to improve regional economy, health and education. Five rural development tasks are being undertaken in rural areas where 70 percent of the population live. A network of economic and social infrastructures have been built in all corners of the country.

Hence, GDP has improved more than targeted. Per capita incomes have also increased many times compared to the past.

In conclusion, I would like to urge you, comrades, to safeguard the 12 fine traditions of the Tatmadaw; to show your skills when there arises occasion to fight in battles; to make coordinated efforts for the fitness of the people; and to try your utmost to become qualified ones in accord with the objectives of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science by upholding Our Three Main National Causes. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives two award-winning cadets of 3rd Intake of DSINPS and their parents. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife

(from page 16)

Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thura Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and their wives, Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife, senior military officers, the ministers, the deputy ministers, senior military officers of Mingaladon Station, departmental heads, rectors of DSMA and DSINPS, advisors, professors, graduating cadets and their parents and relatives.

After the ceremony, those present were entertained with songs and dances by artists of Myawady Music Troupe, Myawady Anyeint and Myanmar Music Asayone. — MNA

Plenary Session of National Convention...

(from page 16)

Development Party, Union Kayin League, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (or) Khani National Solidarity Organization, independent representatives-elect, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan State (South), Shan State (North), and Shan State (East), Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan State (South), Shan State (North), and Shan State (East), Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia and delegates of workers from (See page 12)
Plenary Session of National Convention...

(From page 11)

Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan State (South), Shan State(North), and Shan State (East), Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of State service personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President’s Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General’s Office, the Auditor-General’s Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the 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 Commission members, NCC Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, NCC Management Committee Chairman Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairman of sub-committees, officials, delegates of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel, and other invited delegates signed in the attendance books at the Pyidaungsu Hall and recreation hall for the delegates.


Director (Meeting) U Than Aung of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Office acted as Master of Ceremonies and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi as co-master of ceremonies.

The MC announced the validity of the meeting as 1,066 delegates out of 1,079 were present, accounting for 99.07 per cent.

Delegates to the National Convention submitted their proposals on detailed basic principles to be laid down for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Region or State Hluttaw.

First, U Nyein Maung of Shan State (North) presented the proposals of Delegate Group of Workers.

(The presentation will be reported.)

Next, U Min Myint Maung Lay of Mon State presented the proposals. The plenary session took a break.

(The presentation will be reported.)

When the plenary session resumed, U Poe Yei Aung Thein of Kayah State presented proposals of Delegate Group of Workers.

(The presentation will be reported.)

Next, U Tha Aye of Rakhine State presented the proposals and the session went into recess.

(The presentation will be reported.)

When the plenary session resumed U Aung Thein of the Ministry of Construction presented proposals of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia.

(The presentation will be reported.)

Next, Prof Daw Mya Mya Win of the Ministry of Education presented the proposals.

(The presentation will be reported.)

Next, Dr Maung Maung Wint of the Ministry of Health presented the proposals.

(The presentation will be reported.)

The Plenary Session of the National Convention adjourned at 12.25 pm.

The Plenary Session of the National Convention continues on 9 January at noon. — MNA

Exhibition to mark the 600th Anniversary of Western Voyage of Peace Envoy Zheng He opened

YANGON, 6 Jan—The exhibition to mark the 600th Anniversary of Western Voyage of Peace Envoy Zheng He from the People’s Republic of China sponsored by Chinese Embassy to the Union of Myanmar was opened at the embassy on Khayaybin Street in Dagon Township here this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Chinese Ambassador Guan Mu, the diplomats of foreign missions, resident representatives of UN agencies, heads of department, members of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club and those from News and Periodicals Enterprise and guests.

First, the Chinese Ambassador explained the purpose of the exhibition.

Next, Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win, Transport Deputy Minister U Pe Than, Information Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein and the Chinese Ambassador formally opened the exhibition.

Those present on the occasion viewed around the exhibition.

There are all together 177 booths displayed at the exhibition. The exhibition will be open to the public free of charge until 16 January. — MNA

Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2006 to be held

YANGON, 6 Jan — Organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, a press conference in relation to holding of Grand Royal Special Reserve Golf Championship 2006, sponsored by International Beverage Trading Co Ltd and Executive U Chan Han of MGF also spoke.

The officials answered queries raised by those present.

The championship, offering handsome prizes to be awarded, will be held at Mantaung Golf course in Mandalay, Myitkyina Golf course, Lashio Golf course, Yangon Golf course and Pan Hlaing Golf course.

It was also organized by Han Event Management and co-sponsors are Air Mandalay, Crusher Club soda, Srixon and Grand Plaza Park Royal Hotel. — MNA

Bakari Idd on 11 February

YANGON, 6 Jan — The Government of the Union of Myanmar today announced that 11 February 2006, Wednesday, is a public holiday as it is Bakari Idd Day, under section 25 of Negotiable Instruments Act. — MNA
The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw shall convene the regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw at least once a year.

**U Tin Win of Kyakklat Township constituency-2, MNA**

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) Submitting, discussing and recording the reports presented to the Region or State Hluttaw
(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
(j) Submitting proposals to Region or State Hluttaw

- Regarding the convening of a special or emergency session of the Region or State Hluttaw, the points—
  (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 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 Hluttaws shall convene a special session of region or state as soon as possible at least one-fourth of the Region or State Hluttaw members ask to convene it properly, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

- Regarding the convening of the first regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw, the points—
  (a) The day the term of Region or State Hluttaw comes into force is the same as 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.

- Regarding the convening of the first regular session of the Region or State Hluttaws, the points—
  (a) The State Peace and Development Council shall convene the first regular session of Region or State Hluttaws 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 Constitution shall convene the first regular session for the next terms of Region or State Hluttaw properly, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

- Regarding Region or Hluttaw members’ taking oaths, the points—
  (a) Members of Region or State Hluttaws 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 are proper, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

- Regarding the fixing of the number of regular sessions of the Region or State Hluttaw to be convened at least in a year, the point—
  (a) The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw shall convene the regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw at least once a year.
  (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 in accordance with the bylaw, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures concerned; the Region or State Hluttaw members who have the right to attend a session of Region or State Hluttaw are present properly, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

- Regarding the fixing of a sufficient number of Hluttaw members necessary to form quorum for validity of Region or State Hluttaw sessions, the points—
  (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 in accordance with the bylaw, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures concerned.

- Regarding the fixing of the matters save as otherwise provided by the Constitution through voting in the Region or State Hluttaw by a majority of votes of the members present and the right of the Hluttaw Speaker to vote, the points—
  (a) Save as otherwise provided by the 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 Hluttaws, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes properly, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

- Regarding the taking of action against Hluttaw members who are absent from Region or State Hluttaw without leave, the point—
  (a) Matters that requires decision, assent and approval of Region or State Hluttaw shall be implemented as follows.

- Regarding the seeking of a decisions or assent or approval of the Region or State Hluttaw, the points—
  (a) Matters that requires decision, assent and approval of Region or State Hluttaw shall be implemented as follows.

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The Speaker ...

(from page 13)

Regarding the submission of a bill to the Region or State Hluttaw, the points—

(a) Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, the Region or State level organizations formed under the Constitution, can submit bills on matters under their management to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions are proper, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Regarding the right of members of the Region or State Hluttaw to have freedom of speech and vote at the Region or State Hluttaw concerned, subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, the right of members or persons who are permitted or invited to attend Region or State Hluttaw session to have freedom of speech at the Region or State Hluttaw, members of Regional or State Hluttaw or committee or organization and members, the points—

(a) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members of Regional 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 such discussions, they shall be privileged except under the Region or State Hluttaw Law.

(b) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members of Regional or State Hluttaw have freedom of speech and voting at the Region or State Hluttaw committee and organization. Concerning such discussions and functions, a Region or State Hluttaw member 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 are proper, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Regarding the ways, if need arises, to arrest members of the Region or State Hluttaw or committees or bodies thereof, the points—

(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 head 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 Hluttaw while the Hluttaw or the committee or the organizations is in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw Speaker.

are proper, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Regarding the reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority, the points—

(a) The reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw and the leading bodies of self-administered, Division of self-administered areas, and the date on which a law comes into force, the points—

(1) The Region or State Chief Minister shall sign and promulgate as a law within seven days after receiving it.

(2) The bill shall come into force in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the fixed time.

(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 attending a session of the committee or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the committee or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.

(d) 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 are proper, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Not only the government and governmental organizations but also members of Hluttaws at different levels have the right to submit bills. So, the national Parliament and the regional Parliament has the two Hluttaws, and they live and that can bring progress and prospects to the people of their regions. Moreover, there can emerge the laws that represent the desire of the people through their representatives at the Amyotha Hluttaw based on the formation of the Union, and at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, that represents the entire nation.
Spain cancels Bolivian debt

May 3, 2006—Bolivian president-elect Evo Morales said on Wednesday that Spain had agreed to forgive most of its $120 million US dollar debt burden and support the country’s desire to regain control of its natural resources. He told a news conference.

Speaking on the first leg of a 10-nation tour after his election win, the former coca leaf farmer was nevertheless adamant about the South American country’s desire to regain control of its wealth. “Bolivia needs economic partners, not owners of its natural resources,” he told a news conference.

Following a meeting with Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, Spain agreed to cancel most of Bolivia’s debt in exchange for spending on education. Further details would be provided in coming days, officials said. Madrid would also help Bolivia to develop more modern farming methods, the president-elect said. Especially in the area of irrigation. — MVA/Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZHE HAI 315 VOY NO (043)

Consignment of cargo carried on MV ZHE HAI 315 VOY NO (043) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.1.2006 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: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

WEATHER

Thursday, 6 January, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Sagaing Division, Kachin and Eastern Shan States, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Tannethai Division, Southern Shan and Mon States and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night tempera-
tures were Pinlaung and Mogok (2°C) each, Namhsan and Haka (3°C) each, Putao, Heho and PyinOoLwin (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 6-1-2006 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 7-1-2006 was 60°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 7-1-2006 was 78%. Total sunshine hours on 6-1-2006 was (8.5 hours) approx.

Rainfalls on 6-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from North at (10:20) hours MST on 5-1-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 7-1-2006: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Rakhine State and Tannethai 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 slight decrease of night temperatures in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-1-2006: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-1-2006: Fair weather.

Weather outlook for second weekend of January 2006: During the coming weekend, weather will be generally fair in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

EARTHQUAKE REPORT

(Issued at 12.00 hours M.S.T., Today)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.6) Richter Scale with its epicenter over the sea near Andaman Islands (India Region) about (280) miles south west of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory, was recorded at (10) hrs (56) min (53) sec M.S.T on 6th January 2006.

* Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newslight, PO Box No. 43. Telephone: Editors 296115, Manager 296684, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296843, Accounts 296545, Administration 296161, Production 297032 (Office) /297028 (Press).
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend graduation dinner of 3rd Intake of DSINPS

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San attend the graduation dinner of the 3rd Intake of the Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science.

YANGON, 6 Jan — The Plenary Session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnhapin Camp in Hmauhy Township, Yangon Division, at 9 am today.

It was attended by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work 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 (See page 11)