Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconciliation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

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* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Smooth transport among regions will contribute toward forging friendly relations among national brethren and flourishing of Union Spirit

Senior General Than Shwe sends message of congratulations to Kuwait

YANGON, 18 Jan—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Highness Sheikh Saad Al-Abdulla al-Sabah, on his accession as Emir of the State of Kuwait. —MNA

Myanma Railways is performing construction of the approach railways at Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) on both sides. So far, the construction tasks of the approach railways have been completed by 78 per cent on Mawlamyine bank and 76 per cent on Mottama bank.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects construction of approach railroad at Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine)

YANGON, 18 Jan—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, accompanied by Prime Minister General Soe Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Maung Bo, Li-Gen Ththa Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Than, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers, and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, left Myeik for Mali Island of Palaw Township on 16 January morning.

At Malikyun Yeiktha, Commodore Win Shein reported on transport links to Mali Island, and agriculture and livestock breeding tasks on the island. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave necessary instructions.

At Mali Hall, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with officers, other ranks and family members of Tatmadaw (Navy) and presented gifts to them.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected the port at Mali Island. At Malikyun Affiliated BEHS, they were welcomed by townsenders, Headmistress Daw Hla Hla Aye, teachers and students. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected the classrooms and school buildings and attended to the needs.

They flew to Palauk of Palaw Township by helicopter. Col Tin Myint of Palauk Station briefed them on progress of Palauk Station, regional development tasks, agriculture and livestock breeding undertakings. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave necessary instructions. At Aung Nan Taung Hall in Palauk Station, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with Tatmadawmen and family members, and presented gifts for them to Col Tin Myint of Palauk Station.

(See page 8)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party observe physic nut saplings, seeds and grafts. —MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
**PERSPECTIVES**

Thursday, 19 January, 2006

**Work together for regional development**

As Myanmar is rich in aquatic and terrestrial resources and extending cultivation of crops by making full use of these resources, agricultural production is on the rise. Cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy can not only ensure self-sufficiency in food but also contribute to economic development.

As Taninthayi Division has vast areas of vacant and virgin land and a lot of potential for economic enterprises, it is necessary to grow more crops suitable to the soil and climate of the region. In the same way, priority should also be given to fisheries and mineral and natural gas industries.

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, accompanied by responsible officials, visited Myeik Township-level departmental personnel and entrepreneurs at the meeting hall of the Coastal Region Command, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that the third 5-year short-term plan had been successfully implemented, that the fourth 5-year short-term plan was to be implemented based on achievements of the third and that there would be continued progress in all sectors only if the government, the people and the Tatmadaw worked in concert.

Taninthayi Division is a region where oil palm thrives and therefore oil palm is being grown widely to meet domestic consumption of edible oil. The government is providing all the necessary assistance to national entrepreneurs.

**Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State**

Thura Aye Myint, Daw Wai Wai Khang, wife of the commander and Patron of Sagaing Division Organization for Women’s Affairs, local authorities, departmental personnel, social organizations and Naga nationals presented souvenirs to the commander, the minister and officials.

The commander and the minister presented TV set, satellite receivers, cash for township water supply functions, a computer, a copier, cassette players, food, clothes, paddy seeds for highland cultivation, maize seeds, tea saplings and farm implements for the Naga people of various townships. Officials also presented ministry-wise donations to the Naga national races. Diamond Palace Company and hoteliers and tour companies also presented K 5 million for the Naga region development. Naga traditional food was served and Naga traditional dances were entertained.

Later, sports competitions were held to hail the New Year. The commander and the minister presented prizes to the winners. In the evening, a bonfire was held where Naga people entertained the guests with traditional dances.

**Naga traditional New Year festival held in Leshe, Sagaing Division**

**Yangon, 18 Jan** — The Naga traditional New Year festival was held in Leshe, Hkamti District, Sagaing Division, on 14 January.

Present were Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Central Executive Committee member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Sports Brig-Gen presented souvenirs to the commander, the minister and officials.

The commander and the minister presented TV set, satellite receivers, cash for township water supply functions, a computer, a copier, cassette players, food, clothes, paddy seeds for highland cultivation, maize seeds, tea saplings and farm implements for the Naga people of various townships. Officials also presented ministry-wise donations to the Naga national races. Diamond Palace Company and hoteliers and tour companies also presented K 5 million for the Naga region development. Naga traditional food was served and Naga traditional dances were entertained.

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**Fifth leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour opened**

**Yangon, 18 Jan** — The fifth leg of Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour, jointly organized by Myanmar PGA and MGF and sponsored by Air Bagan Ltd, was opened at Regina Golf Club in Tachileik yesterday morning. MPGA and MGF President Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Reid), Deputy Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Wai Lin, Tactical Operations Commander Col Myint Han, Air Bagan Ltd Chairman U Teza and Mr Surapongrung Ruam of Regina Hotel and Golf Club opened the tour.

A total of 100 golfers — 19 Thai professionals, 27 Myanmar professionals, 46 Myanmar and eight Thai amateur golfers — are taking part in the golf tour. Bunlue Maneerat (Thailand) led the professional division by shooting a three-under-par 69 in the first round. Palawat Sangsai (Thailand), Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon), and Min Naing (Srixon) tied in the second position by scoring a two-under-par 67 each.

Bo Bo and Aung Win (Monywa) who shot 73 each. Taunggyi Gems Master will present K 500,000 and Regina Hotel and Golf Club 10,000 bahts to hole-in-one scorers.
Roosevelt Avenue, Queens. Heavy smoke billowed between No 69 and No 74 subway stations on the cause of the explosions and any possible casualties, according to a police officer near the site who would not confirm any news reports at the United Nations headquarters in Manhattan. According to the UN office, nothing else was known other than that by some 8000 gallons of gas reportedly carried by dangling under the bridge, apparently burnt down sprinkling where heavy smoke was billowing from. A bridge of the Line 7 railway, with firefighters casting her voice. Iraq captors threaten to kill journalist

Baghdad, 18 Jan—The abductors of US journalist Jill Carroll have threatened to kill her if the United States does not free Iraqi women prisoners within 72 hours, reports Aljazeera.

Aljazeera aired a brief video on Tuesday showing Carroll speaking to the camera, without broadcasting her voice.

The Qatar-based station said the kidnappers identified themselves as members of a previously unknown armed group calling itself the “Brigades of Vengeance”. Al Jazeera confirmed its rejection of all forms of violence against journalists and demanded Carroll’s immediate release.

Carroll, a 28-year-old who was working for The Christian Science Monitor, was abducted earlier this month while her Iraqi interpreter was killed.

Carroll had been on her way to a meeting with Adnan al-Dulaimi, a Sunni Arab leader whom she had intended to interview, the newspaper said.

Iraqi Energy Ministry to raise number of NGV vehicles

Bangkok, 17 Jan—The Energy Ministry of Thailand has set a target to increase the number of vehicles with engines modified for natural gas for vehicles (NGV) to 500,000 units in 2010, Thai News Agency said on Monday.

Cherdpong Sirivich, the permanent secretary for energy, said the ministry wanted to see 70,000 vehicles installed with NGV kits this year and had a target to raise the number to 300,000 and 500,000 units in 2008 and 2010 respectively.

The ministry also intended to see the number of NGV service stations increase to 420 and 740 in 2008 and 2010, the report said.

At present, there are 10,400 units of vehicles with NGV kits. The number is smaller than targeted since shops providing the installation services are in small number. Cherdpong said the Energy Business Department had come with a workshop programme to train and increase the number of skilled technicians to ensure the installation of NGV kits for 76,600 units of vehicles more.

Two feared dead in Pakistan’s quake-zone landslide

Badhaba (Pakistan), 17 Jan—At least two Kashmiri men were feared dead after being swept off a cliff by a landslide triggered by heavy rain in Pakistan’s earthquake zone on Monday, Reuters witnesses said.

A Reuters television cameraman had been filming a party of villagers, including women and children, trying to traverse a stretch of mountain road covered by earth and rock from an earlier landslide when the next one struck.

At least three other people were injured in the accident near the village of Badhara in Pakistan’s Kashmir. Sudhir Awan, a Pakistani soldier on leave, managed to escape the falling rocks and was bleeding from a head injury.

More Ethiopians need food aid after poor rains

United Nations, 17 Jan—About 1.75 million Ethiopians will need emergency food aid in the first half of 2006 due to poor rains in parts of the country, adding to the 5.5 million Ethiopians already getting food shipments, the United Nations said on Monday.

Last year’s rainy season got off to a late start and was not heavy enough to support good crop growth in Ethiopia’s southern Somali region and south-central Oromia region, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said.

The spreading humanitarian crisis in the country of about 70 million people stems from a prolonged drought that has left more than 11 million people at risk across eastern Africa this year, the UN office said.

Djibouti, Somalia and Kenya are among those suffering as well, it said. There is enough food in Ethiopia to meet immediate needs, but security or logistic woes could threaten future supplies, according to the World Food Programme, the United Nations’ food distribution arm.
Singapore, Japan collaborate to provide personnel training for ASEAN

SINGAPORE, 17 Jan— The International Trade Institute of Singapore (ITIS) said on Monday that it will continue working with a Japanese organization to provide personnel training for the ASEAN countries.

“Together with AOTS (Japan’s Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship), ITIS is pleased to continue offering itself as a platform for AOTS to implement strategic training programmes for officials from both the government and private sectors in the ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) countries,” said ITIS’ Chairman Ted Tan. Speaking at an event celebrating the 10th anniversary of the collaboration between the two organizations, Tan noted that ITIS and AOTS have conducted over 20 programmes and trained more than 400 participants from the ASEAN countries in the past 10 years. These programmes covered such areas as the export market development, international business financing, train-the-trainers on expanding business through exports, practical corporate management, trade and export promotion strategies, as well as streamlining trade procedures.

A subsidiary of the city state’s external trade development agency, International Enterprise Singapore, ITIS provides training, consulting and research in the fields of international trade and business leveraging on Singapore’s experience.

Nuclear Engineer Craig Mariano, a contractor for the Department of Energy, demonstrated on 16 Jan, 2006, some of the radiation detection devices that will be used during the New Horizons mission launch. The spacecraft launch is scheduled for a Tuesday afternoon lift-off on a 9 - 14 - year trip to Pluto. — INTERNET

Four dead, several missing in Indonesian boat accident

JAKARTA, 17 Jan — A passenger boat with 34 people onboard sank off Indonesia’s East Nusa Tenggara Province early on Monday, leaving four passengers dead and seven more missing.

The boat was hit by tidal waves and sank at 02:00 local time (1800 GMT Sunday) near the Alor Island, some 2,100 kilometres east of Jakarta.

Alor regent Ans Takalapeta confirmed the accident, adding that the evacuation process was hampered by bad weather.

According to him, torrential rains and tidal waves were seen at the scene when rescue team was arriving.

“We have coordinated measures to suspend all inter-island travels until the waters back to normal, because we witness heavy rains and giant waves at present,” he was quoted by the Antara news agency as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

S’pore to set up 24-hour tsunami, earthquake warning centre

SINGAPORE, 17 Jan — Singapore will set up a round-the-clock tsunami and earthquake warning centre by the end of this year, Channel NewsAsia quoted Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Yaacob Ibrahim as saying at Parliament on Monday.

He said that Singapore’s National Environment Agency (NEA) under his ministry has been developing a tsunami monitoring and early warning system as part of the Indian Ocean Warning System for the region. — MNA/Xinhua

Norwegian doctor made up cancer study

OSLO, 17 Jan— A Norwegian cancer expert made up fictitious patients for an article it was thought to report on oral cancer published in a leading medical journal, the hospital said on Sunday.

“The material was fabricated,” said Trine Lind, spokeswoman of the Norwegian Radium Hospital where Jon Sudbo has worked as a doctor and a researcher. “We are shocked. This is the worst thing that could happen in a research institution like ours.”

Sudbo, 44, invented patients and case histories for a study of oral cancer that was published in the British medical journal the Lancet in October 2005, she said. The Norwegian daily Dagbladet said that 250 of his sample of 908 people in the study all shared the same birthday.

Lind said Sudbo, who has not commented publicly on the hospital’s charges and could not be contacted on Sunday, had admitted falsifying the data for the article.

The hospital has set up a commission to investigate why Sudbo falsified data and how his material passed a review by other experts.

The panel would also examine previous articles by Sudbo, including two in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The Radium Hospital had halted Sudbo’s research at the department of Medical Oncology and Radiotherapy and was discussing whether he could continue treating patients. — MNA/Reuters

GMS countries seeking roadmap for trade facilitation


They were attending a seminar hosted by the Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs under China’s Ministry of Commerce and the provincial commerce department of Yunnan.

The seminar was aimed to seek a roadmap for the implementation of a strategic framework on trade and investment facilitation between the six countries after the leaders of the countries reached an agreement on such a framework in July last year in Kunming, capital of Yunnan in southwest China.

Topics on the seminar included Customs reform, improvement of Custom inspection and quarantine management, revision of trade-related laws and regulations, and the improvement of the environment of logistic service.

China hopes to further its cooperation and exchange with the Asian Development Bank and other countries in the sub-region to work out a most favourable scheme for smooth flow of trade and investment between the countries, said Yi Xiaozhun, Vice-Minister of Commerce. — MNA/Xinhua

One dead, 150 hurt in bullfight festival in India

NEW DELHI, 17 Jan — One person has been killed and up to 150 others have been injured in Madurai, a city in South India’s Tamil Nadu during the bullfight festival, Jallikattu. New Delhi Television reported here Monday.

Madurai hospitals were flooded with patients, many were seriously injured.

The incident occurred when an angry bull charged at onlookers during the show. Up to 100,000 people were watching the fight, said the report.

During the festival, Tamil Nadu’s men attempt to control a charging bull that has just had his tail bitten to get it in the charging mood.

The festival has been associated with valor in the past. By proving his valor against the bull, a young man greatly increases his status among girls who are choosing a suitor.

In modern times, Jallikattu, like its European equivalents such as the bull-running of Pamplona, faces much public condemnation. This time, animal welfare organizations have asked the authorities to phase out the festival. — MNA/Xinhua

US helicopter downed in north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 17 Jan — A US helicopter crashed north of Baghdad on Monday, the military said.

Previously, the Dubai-based al-Arabiya channel said the helicopter was hit by a rocket in central Baghdad on Monday, the military said.

US troops immediately cordoned off the area preventing people from approaching the scene, with several helicopters flying overhead, the channel said.

The channel did not give further details, including casualties in the incident. — MNA/Xinhua

A military helicopter flies over smoke after an explosion in central Baghdad on 15 Jan, 2006. — INTERNET

INDONESIAN boat accident
Two roadside bombs rock Baghdad

Baghdad, 17 Jan—Two roadside bombs rocked central and western Baghdad on Monday morning, causing casualties, a police source told Xinhua.

“A roadside bomb remotely detonated at about 9:30 am (0600 GMT) in Saadoon tunnel in central Baghdad as a convoy of Sport Utility Vehicles, used by US contractors, was passing by,” Captain Ahmed Abdullah said.

The blast caused casualties in the US convoy and the US troops immediately sealed off the area, prohibiting Iraqi police and civilians from approaching, he said. Another roadside bomb attack took place at about 9:35 am (0635 GMT) at the Yarmouk intersection in western Baghdad, Abdullah said.

The attack destroyed two police vehicles and two civilian cars, he added.

Guerrillas frequently attack the US troops, foreign contractors and Iraqi forces by roadside bombs. —MNA/Xinhua

Young Russian diplomatic drowns in Manila

Manila, 17 Jan—A 22-year-old Russian diplomat drowned to death in his condominium building at Makati City, south of Metro Manila, police said on Monday.

Gurgen Balayan, a protocol officer of the Russian Federation Embassy in the Philippines, was found dead Sunday night at the shallow portion of a swimming pool in the condominium where he lived, police said.

Police said Balayan’s neighbour who found him immediately sealed off the area, prohibiting Iraqi police and civilians from approaching, he said. Another roadside bomb attack took place at about 9:35 am (0635 GMT) at the Yarmouk intersection in western Baghdad, Abdullah said.

The attack destroyed two police vehicles and two civilian cars, he added.

Guerrillas frequently attack the US troops, foreign contractors and Iraqi forces by roadside bombs. —MNA/Xinhua

764,000 poultry culled in Turkey to fight bird flu

ANKARA, 17 Jan—Some 764,000 poultry have been culled in Turkey to fight bird flu, the National Coordination Centre for Bird Flu said on Monday.

The centre said bird flu has been detected in 13 provinces and there are suspected bird flu cases in another 16 provinces.

The first bird flu case was reported in Arlik town of eastern Igdır province on 26 December, 2005. The disease is also seen in cities of Igdır, Erzurum, Sanliurfa, Erzincan, Agri, Bitlis, Yozgat, Ankara, Bursa, Istanbul, Van, Aydın and Kars, the centre said.

There is “risk” of bird flu in provinces of Mus, Ardahan, İzmir, Isparta, Konya, Karaman, Siirt, Karabük, Sivas, Bayburt, Elazığ, Diyarbakır, Eskişehir, Mugaş, Batman and Malatya, the centre added. —MNA/Xinhua

Nine killed in Russian office fire

MOSCOW, 17 Jan—Nine people were killed in an office building fire on Monday in Russia’s Pacific port of Vladivostok, Interfax news agency reported.

Some people leaped from the upper floors of the eight-storey building to escape the flames. Fourteen people were injured, Interfax said.

Prosecutors said they were investigating why fire escapes in the building were blocked by metal grills. —MNA/Reuters

Malaysia, Singapore agree to jointly promote tourism

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 Jan—Malaysia and Singapore have agreed to jointly launch a two-year marketing campaign to promote tourism in the two countries, tourism bodies of the two countries said on Monday.

“Tourism officials from the two sides on Sunday signed an agreement on the sidelines of a tourism meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), said a joint statement released by tourism bodies of the two countries.

Among activities on the sidelines of a tourism meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), said a joint statement released by tourism bodies of the two countries.

The focus will be on strategic advertising in the United States, West Asia and Russia where the two sides will share the funding on an equal basis, the Bernama news agency quoted the statement as saying.

Malaysian Tourism Minister Leo Michael Toypad described the two countries as natural partners with very strong ties traditionally. —MNA/Xinhua

CNN banned in Iran for translation gaffe

TEHRAN, 17 Jan—CNN journalists from working there after the broadcaster misquoted President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as saying Iran wanted nuclear weapons, the ISNA students news agency said.

CNN’s simultaneous translation of Ahmadinejad’s lengthy news conference on Saturday included the phrase “the use of nuclear weapons is Iran’s right”.

In fact, what the Iranian President said was that “Iran has the right to nuclear energy,” the official IRNA news agency reported. CNN later clarified an apology on Sunday night.

Iran denies any intention of seeking nuclear weapons, saying it wants atomic technology merely for the generation of electricity.

ISNA said Iran’s Culture and Islamic Guidance Ministry deemed the error a “violation of professional ethics” and suspended CNN journalists from working in Iran until further notice.

CNN does not have a permanent bureau in Iran but a local journalist is a contributor to the network and visiting correspondents are occasionally given permission to enter the country on short assignments. —MNA/Reuters

25 killed, 38 injured in suicide explosions in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 17 Jan—In the successful suicide explosions happened on Monday in Afghanistan’s southern province of Kandahar, 25 persons were killed, at least 38 others were injured, local officials said.

“This evening in the bordering Spin Boldak District, a suicide attacker in a motorcycle rushed into the crowded people and exploded himself. Twenty civilians were killed, and more than 20 others were injured,” the provincial governor Assadullah Khalid told journalists in a Press conference.

People were having picnic in the area and some wrestling game was also going on. The explosion happened at the end of the celebration, and three vehicles were also damaged.

On the same day in Kandahar, another suicide explosion has claimed five persons’ lives, and injured 18 others.

“A 15-year-old young man exploded himself near an ANA (Afghan National Army) convoy in the centre of Kandahar City this afternoon. Five persons including one Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier, three civilians and the attacker were killed, six ANA soldiers and 12 civilians were injured,” Zahir Azimi, the spokesperson of Defence Ministry told Xinhua. —MNA/Xinhua
Electric power sector witnesses sustained progress

**Increased generating of power in the time of the Tatmadaw Government**

Hydel power projects being implemented across the country

With the nation’s development, people’s living standard has improved markedly. As science and technology is changing and advancing year by year, people are able to access to modern electronic devices. In the past, television, electric iron, tape recorders and fans are regarded as luxuries and only elites had been able to reach these facilities. Housing in urban areas were separate ones but now skyscrapers have become symbols of urban areas. Almost every household uses fluorescent lamps, bulbs, television, video, fans, refrigerators, washing machines, air-conditioners and electric stoves.

Let alone other regions, there are over 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon and thus if one household uses a four-foot fluorescent lamp in the city it means over 20 megawatts of electricity have to be supplied. Therefore, the government is always seeking ways and means for the development of the electric power sector with the aim of enabling the people to be able to catch up with the higher living standard. Land and water resources are abundant in Myanmar. Exploring and exploiting these resources, electricity is being supplied to the people through hydel power stations.

There are three ways to generate electricity—hydel power, gas-fired power and fuel-fired power. Hydel power projects are the most reliable ones for the country. In generating electricity through hydel power projects, there was only Lawpita hydel power project in the past, but now 30 new hydel power projects have been implemented throughout the country.

The table shows the generating capacity of the completed nine major hydel power projects out of other projects implemented in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

### Generating capacity of hydel power stations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>State/Division/Town</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Billu (1) (2)</td>
<td>Loikaw, Kayah State</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kinda</td>
<td>Myittha, Mandalay Division</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hsedawgyi</td>
<td>Madaya, Mandalay Division</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Zawgyi (1)</td>
<td>Yakaw, Shan State (South)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Zawgyi (2)</td>
<td>Yakaw, Shan State (South)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thaphanseik</td>
<td>Kyunhla, Sagaing Division</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Paungluang</td>
<td>Pyinmana, Mandalay Division</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Monechaung</td>
<td>Sedoktara, Magway Division</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Zaungtu</td>
<td>Bago, Bago Division</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paungluang underground power station in Pyinmana.

### 20th Gems & Jade Sales attract 1,506 merchants

YANGON, 18 Jan — Local and foreign gems merchants totalling 1,506 gathered here to participate in the 20th Gems and Jade Sales organized by the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited.

The sales continued for the third day today at Myanmar Gems Mart here. The gem and jade lots will be sold through bargain and auction systems tomorrow. Merchants are allowed to put their bargain forms into boxes not later than 7 am tomorrow.
Myanmar will be totally free…

(From page 16)

nation. Six post-graduate diploma courses, 29 master degrees courses and 37 doctorates courses are bringing out brilliant medical professionals in accord with the national requirement.

In this age of information communication technology, advanced teaching methods are being introduced for the advancement of the nation’s medical science.

Scholars of the medical fields are being sent to take part in courses, seminars and study tours abroad to enhance their knowledge.

It is also sending qualified persons to attend MRCP, MRCS, MRCOG and FFA courses in foreign universities.

The government is also running courses on diploma in family medicine for doctors. Thanks to the 30-year national health plan covering short-term projects, the nation is now free from smallpox, polio and leprosy, and the nation will be free from iodine deficiency in the near future.

Myanmar has seen success in conducting liver transplants, renal transplants, limb replants and cardiac operations, that are international level achievements of the nation.

He said the government annually awards honorary badges to health staff who show outstanding performances, calling for sustained efforts to win the respect of not only ASEAN nations but also other world nations by promoting the medical science standard of the nation.

In carrying out public health care services, it is required to give health educative talks and take diseases control measures on a wider scale. In the process, health staff are to make field trips right to the grassroots level in collaboration with social organizations.

Under the aegis of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, considerable success has been achieved in performing operations on left lip and palate patients and eye patients.

Members of the Myanmar Medical Association that has come into existence since 1949 is to do their utmost to be able to cure all types of diseases at reasonable costs in the nation.

The members are to preserve codes of conduct to win the respect and reliance of the people. And intellectuals and intelligentsia should be fully equipped with nationalistic fervour and the spirit of doing their bit in the interests of the people.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 called on the members to make harmonious efforts to ensure perpetual existence of the association, to produce human resources, and to enhance the role of the association.

After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present. Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint formally opened the commemorational medicines and medical equipment exhibition.

The Secretary-1 and party viewed the pavilions round the exhibition. Also present were ministers, NHC members, senior officers of the Defence Services Directorate of Medical Services, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and Ministry of Health, members of UN agencies, MMA and international organizations, representatives of international medical associations and guests.

The conference and exhibition continue until 24 January. — MNA

Sanitation tasks, cash donation carried out hailing National Convention

YANGON, 18 Jan —

Hailing and supporting the National Convention, the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation organized sanitation tasks in conjunction with the ceremony to donate cash to the fund of Insein General Hospital at the hospital in Insein Township on 14 January morning.

Head of Organizational Department of MWAF Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, Head of Administration Department Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, Patron of Yangon Division WAO Daw Khin Thet Htay, Chairperson of Yangon Division WAO Daw Khin Myo Thu, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, MCWA, Auxiliary Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade, employees of YCDC and departmental personnel, totalling over 900 participated in the sanitation tasks in the compound of Insein General Hospital.

At the cash donation ceremony, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Director-General Dr Tin Win Maung of Health Department and Medical Superintendent Dr Aye Pe accepted K 3.45 million donated by 26 wellwishers.

Medical Superintendent Dr Aye Pe spoke words of thanks. — MNA

Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association Daw Khin Myint Myint, film stars and Managing Director of NatRay Co Ltd Daw Khin Marlar formally opened the show room.

NatRay Co Ltd will sell new design sofas at a discount up to 22 January to mark the opening of show room.

New design sofas for 2006 are displayed at the show room. — MNA

Lorenzo Sofa Show Room opens

YANGON, 18 Jan —

Lorenzo Sofa Show Room of NatRay Co Ltd was opened on 14 January at No 22, 9th-Mile, Pyay Road, here.

President of the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association Daw Khin Myint Myint, film stars and Managing Director of NatRay Co Ltd Daw Khin Marlar formally opened the show room.

NatRay Co Ltd will sell new design sofas at a discount up to 22 January to mark the opening of show room.

New design sofas for 2006 are displayed at the show room. — MNA

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint formally opens medicine and medical equipment exhibition. — MNA

Personnel of MWAF presents K 200,000 to Minister Dr Kyaw Myint. — YCDC
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife visit Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda

YANGON, 18 Jan — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, accompanied by Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye and their wives, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and wife, ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers and heads of department yesterday visited Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda in Kyakto, Mon State.

They offered flowers, lights and water, and paid homage to the pagoda. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye also made a cash donation at the pagoda.

Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party signed in the visitors’ book and offered gold foils to the pagoda. — MNA

Smooth transport among regions ...

(continued from page 1)

On arrival at Dawei, they were welcomed by Tactical Operations Commander Col Aye Ko of Dawei Station, General Staff Officer (Grade-I) Lt-Col Aung Kyaw Moe, Chairman of Dawei District PDC Lt-Col Khin Maung Nyo and officials.

At the construction site of Dawei Airport Project, Director of Military Engineers Maj-Gen Tin Tun reported on construction of Dawei Airport and progress of tasks. Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe gave supplementary reports on the construction project. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye instructed them to put on record project-wise implementation of the airports.

Next, they oversaw progress in construction of the runway at the airport and tasks being carried out with the use of heavy machinery. The runway of the Dawei Airport is being upgraded to the new one measuring 12,000 feet by 100 feet.

 Afterwards, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met with Tatmadawmen and family members of regiments and units of Dawei Station at Aung San Hall in the station.

On 17 January, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party proceeded to Heinze of Yebyu Township where they were welcomed by Commodore Maung Oo Lwin of Heinze Station and officials.

At Heinze Station Hall, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye called on Tatmadawmen and family members and presented gifts to them to Commodore Maung Oo Lwin. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed physic nut saplings.

At 11.15 am, they went to Mawlamyine where Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, senior military officers and departmental officials welcomed them.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected beautifying tasks along Strand Road and progress of Mawlamyine.

On arrival at the construction site of Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) Project, they oversaw Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine). Senior Engineers of Public Works reported on construction of the approach road at the bridge and progress of tasks.

Deputy General Manager U Moe Naing of Myanma Railways and Project Engineer U Lwin Thu briefed Vice-Senior General Maung Aye on laying of rail tracks on the approach road, tasks of the approach structures and construction of Mawlamyine Station. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party view the natural beauty of Mali Island. — MNA
Smooth transport among regions ...

(from page 8)

After hearing the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye delivered an address, saying that efforts are to be made for timely completion of building the approach railroad bridge, laying of rail tracks and construction of the railway station according to schedule. Construction of roads and bridges were carried out for better transport among States and Divisions. Smooth transport among the regions will contribute much toward forging friendly relations among the national brethren and the flourishing of Union Spirit. Therefore, it is necessary to complete the project tasks meeting set standard as early as possible. Duties have been assigned to officials for building Yangon-Dawei railroad to become the one-day trip. After inspecting Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party oversaw construction of the approach road (railroad) on Mawlamyine and Mottama banks.

Myanma Railways is performing construction of the approach railroads at Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) on both sides. So far, the construction tasks of the approach railroads have been completed by 78 per cent on Mawlamyine bank and 76 per cent on Mottama bank. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected construction of Mawlamyine Station and gave instructions on keeping the station pleasant and clean.

In the afternoon, they went to Kyackhitiyo Pagoda and paid homage to it. Next, they left there and arrived back here in the evening.

On 16 January afternoon, Prime Minister General Soe Win, who accompanied Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, met with local authorities of Dawei District, and Dawei, Launglon, Yebhu and Thayetchaung Townships, departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people at the city hall in Dawei. Local authorities reported on progress of the district and respective townships. The commander gave a supplementary report. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo explained assistance being provided for enhancement of agricultural task and boosting the yield of agricultural products, efforts to be made for ensuring local food sufficiency and use of quality strains in cultivation.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha also explained progress of short-term economic plans, data and facts related to yearly achievements. He stressed the need for Taninthayi Division to strive for gaining more progress in development with added momentum.

Afterwards, Prime Minister General Soe Win delivered a speech, saying that Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived Dawei from Myeik on inspection tour of Taninthayi Division. They left instructions in the regions on the inspection tour for strengthening region-wise economy, ensuring local food sufficiency, extending cultivation of oil palm and rubber, utilizing water and land resources, and enhancing education standard of the people by creating learning opportunities.

Not only Dawei District but also townships in the district need to ensure food sufficiency. Due to favourable climatic and geographical conditions, Dawei region is to place emphasis on growing of 200,000 acres of rubber to meet the target. The Government will provide facilities for higher production as much as possible. The Government had laid down and is implementing necessary plans for equitable development of all regions of the Union, for narrowing of the gap among the regions and for uplift of the living standard of the people. The people, who trust and rely on guidance and leadership of the Head of State and endeavours of the Government, participated in the development tasks. Hence, progress can be witnessed in all regions.

In Taninthayi Division, Ye-Dawei Railroad and Kawthoung-Bokpyin-Myeik-Dawei Motor Road have emerged. Thus, local people have easy access to all parts of the nation through motor road in addition to waterway and airway. In the economic sector of the division, local people will have the opportunities to engage new
Delegates from all walks of life are actively…

(from page 16)

over it. Meanwhile, the Government is reconvening the National Convention to draft a new enduring State Constitution.

The National Convention was convened in 1993. However, some political groups walked out of the National Convention in 1995 and the National Convention was adjourned.

The Government laid down Seven-Point Road Map and reconvened the National Convention on 17 May, 2004. A total of 1,086 delegates of eight groups participated in the 2004-National Convention. In the National Convention held in 2005, delegates focused matters on detailed basic principles for power sharing of executive and judiciary sectors.

Senior General Than Shwe said that the enduring State Constitution must serve the interests of all national races.

Delegates from all walks of life are actively participating in the National Convention to lay down detailed basic principles to be included in the constitution.

Thanks to the efforts of the Government, we are now witnessing development of the State.

However, some organizations and nations have been interfering in the internal affairs of the State. In an effort to formulate the State Constitution, the Government is reconvening the National Convention phase by phase in accordance with the Seven-Point Road Map. Hence, we all believe in the National Convention and national races are to support the National Convention for the emergence of the constitution.

Executive U San Pu of Muse Township USDA model farm of the command, they oversaw mixed-cropping of honey orange and pineapple plantations, thriving mushroom, and progress of the farm. On 16 January, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, together with Joint Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Col Zaw Min and Head of Shan Min staff uniforms to Dr Zin Ko Ko Aung. Next, they inspected units of the hospital. Similarly, they attended opening of the new building and the library of BEHS (Branch) in Mongyaw Village. The commander handed over school uniforms for teachers to Headmistress Daw Khin Swe Win. Local national race U Kan Na expressed gratitude.

Mongyaw Station Hospital (16-bed), 126 feet long and 118 feet wide, was built at a cost of K 61.2 million, and the new building of the school measuring 150 feet by 30 feet at a cost of K 23.8 million. — MNA

Commander, Ministers attend cultivation of 30-acre physic nut planting ceremony of North-East Command

Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Defence, officials and guests. The commander, the ministers and party viewed sample physic nut, its oil, saplings and physic nut oil lamp. They sowed seeds of physic nut in the nursery. At the area for the plantation, they distributed grafts of physic nut plant to those present. At the ceremony, Tatmadaw families took part in the planting of 36,000 physic nut plants. At the 100-acre physic nut farm, they observed mixed-cropping of honey orange and pineapple plantations, thriving mushroom, and progress of the farm. On 16 January, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, together with Joint Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Col Zaw Min and officials, visited the Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command on 15 January afternoon.

It was attended by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Ministers attend cultivation of 30-acre physic nut planting ceremony of North-East Command. Delegates from all walks of life are actively participating in the National Convention to lay down detailed basic principles to be included in the constitution. Hence, we all believe in the National Convention and national races are to support the National Convention for the emergence of the constitution.
Delegates from all walks of life are actively...

She said over 100 national races have been residing in the country since time immemorial. She said the Union Spirit is important for national solidarity. Similarly, emergence of an enduring constitution is important for establishment of a modern developed democratic nation. Only when there is an enduring constitution, can a modern democratic nation be built as fast as possible. After taking up the State duties, the government carried out tasks for peace and tranquillity and social development, introduced market-oriented economic system and built a great number of infrastructures.

She said she honoured the delegates who discussed the basic principles for the constitution.

Next, member of Shan State (North) War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee Maj Myo Win (Retd) seconded the motion. After taking up the State duties, the government undertook measures for development of economic, social and political sectors. Making peace with national armed groups is a historic achievement.

They are also participating in drafting the constitution as delegates at the National Convention. All the regions in the country have developed on account of the 24 region development project and five rural development tasks. Roads, bridges, hospitals, schools, universities and colleges, dams and reservoirs and water supply projects were built. Howship Maternal and Child Welfare Association seconded the motion saying that the nation really needs a durable constitution. Over 1,000 delegates to the National Convention have reached a certain point in laying down and adopting basic principles and detailed basic principles. The people are glad to see the National Convention laying down principles concerning the rights of women, children, aged persons and disabled persons. The government while endeavouring for all-round national development has been in the process of convening the National Convention for drafting a new constitution.

The government has spent over K 30,000 million and US$ 150 million on the 13-year narcotic drugs elimination plan. According to UNODC and CNC reports there was 80 per cent reduction of poppy cultivation in the nation. Up to now the nation has destroyed US$ 14.6 billion worth of narcotic drugs. It is also cooperating with other countries in launching the anti-narcotics drive.

In conclusion, she said she respected the convention and supported it.

Member Daw Than Tho of Lashio Town Council expressed unanimous support for the convention. She said the ongoing Nation Convention has adopted the 104 basic principles to be embodied in the Constitution and supported it.

Vice-Chairman U Sai Tun Aung of Lashio seconded the motion saying that the nation now produces over 1.2 billion baskets of paddy, enough to feed nearly 80 million people. The nation’s present population is 54 million. In Shan State (North) the government has built two major bridges, 62 small-scale dams, 481 schools, one government college, one university and one government technological college and 464 miles of all-weather roads. Shan State can now produce surplus rice. The people are happy to know that the National Convention has adopted the 104 basic principles concerning the peasant’s rights.

The National Convention is the only firm foundation for building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. The lopsided pressures and slanders are the acts to endanger Our Three Main National Causes. With full Union Spirit, all the people in Shan State (North) unanimously supported the National Convention.

Advocate U Thaung Lwin of Lashio said that the ongoing Nation Convention has adopted the 104 basic principles to be embodied in the Constitution and supported it.

When the constitution is completed, self-administered areas will have the rights to carry out executive, legislative and judicial proceedings, and have the opportunity to safeguard the interests of local people all the more.

The successful completion of the NC is the aspiration of national races.

In conclusion, he said he wholeheartedly supported the mass meetings that have been held across the nation, and seconded the motion in support of the National Convention. All the participants expressed unanimous support for the National Convention, and chanted slogans, bringing the mass meeting to an end.

The constitution will ensure that the future government, state and people will be imbued with Union Spirit as well as the unity of the nation.

The National Convention, the first stage of the State’s seven-point Road Map, is the fundamental factor in drawing an enduring State Constitution. Only when the State Constitution is in force, will it be able to ensure Our Three Main National Causes, the life-

Shan State (North) WAO member Dr Nan Soe Aung — MNA

Shan State (North) WYOSC member Myo Win (Retd) — MNA

Veterinary surgeon U Sai Tun Aung of Lashio seconded the motion saying that the nation now produces over 1.2 billion baskets of paddy, enough to feed nearly 80 million people. The nation’s present population is 54 million. In Shan State (North) the government has built two major bridges, 62 small-scale dams, 481 schools, one government college, one university and one government technological college and 464 miles of all-weather roads. Shan State can now produce surplus rice. The people are happy to know that the National Convention has adopted the 104 basic principles concerning the peasant’s rights.

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Delegate Groups hold meetings to compile proposals

**Yangon, 18 Jan**—
Delegate Groups of the National Convention — Delegate Group of Political Parties, Delegate Group of National Races, Delegate Group of Workers and Delegate Group of State Service Personnel — held their group meetings at designated halls of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township today.

Delegate Group of Political Parties
The Delegate Group of Political Parties held its meeting at the hall-1 this morning. U Tun Yin, acting as MCs.

Meeting Chairman U Tun Yin Law of National Unity Party addresses meeting of Delegate Group of Political Parties. — MNA

Meeting Chairman Duwa Zoat Doung of Shan State (North) delivers a speech at the meeting of Delegate Group of National Races. — MNA

Next, U Khin Maung Phyu and Assistant Director U Khin Sein of Work Group-3 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee acted as MCs.

The master of ceremonaries announced the validity of the meeting as 26 delegates out of 28 attended the meeting accounting for 92.86 per cent. First, meeting chairman U Tun Yin Law delivered a speech.

Next, U Tun Yi of National Unity Party and U Khin Maung Thein of Mo (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, presented proposals of their parties on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.

Delegate Group of National Races
The Delegate Group of National Races held its meeting at the Pyidaungsu Hall. The meeting was presided over by Duwa Zoat Doung of Shan State (North) together with members of the panel of chairmen U Myint Tun of Mandalay Division, Daw Tin Tin Ohn of Shan State (North) and U Thein Tun of Mandalay Division.

The master of ceremonaries announced the validity of the meeting as 46 delegates out of 47 attended the meeting accounting for 97.74 per cent.

The meeting was opened with an address by meeting chairman U Tun Yin Law.

Next, U Khin Sein of Work Group-3 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee acted as MCs.

The master of ceremonaries announced the validity of the meeting as 623 delegates out of 644 attended the meeting accounting for 96.74 per cent.

The master of ceremonaries announced the validity of the meeting as 46 delegates out of 47 attended the meeting accounting for 97.87 per cent.

The meeting was opened with an address by meeting chairman U Myint Tun.

Next, Daw Aye Aye Thaung of Pathein Township of Ayeyawady Division, U Kyaw Hlaing of Myeik Township of Taninthayi Division and Daw Kyaw Win Tun.

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Meeting Chairman U Kyaw Win Tun of Mandalay Division speaks at the meeting of Delegate Group of Workers. — MNA

U Kyaw Mya Aung of Shwepyitha Township of Yangon Division presented proposals on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.

Delegate Group of Workers
The Delegate Group of Workers held its meeting at the Hall-5.

Meeting Chairman U Tun Yin Law of National Unity Party addresses meeting of Delegate Group of Political Parties. — MNA

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.

The master of ceremonaries announced the validity of the meeting as 106 delegates out of 109 attended the meeting accounting for 97.25 per cent.

The meeting was opened with an address by meeting chairman U Hla Tin.

Next, U Khin Maung Oo of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Myint Tun of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Daw Nyunt Nyunt Shwe of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development presented proposals on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.
Members of the delegate group of other invited persons support detailed basic principles

Yangon, 18 Jan — The following is a translation of the speech of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Aung Myint of Shan State (North) Special Region-2 regarding the detailed basic principles for legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw in formulating the State Constitution on 9 January at Nyangshwein Camp in Hmawbi Township, Yangon Division.

At the plenary session of the National Convention held on 15 December 2005, the Work Committee Chairman discussed matters related to the detailed basic principles on the legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the Chapter “Legislature” of the State Constitution.

We members of the delegate group of other invited persons made a careful review about the 23 points carried by the explanation of the Work Committee Chairman.

And we found:
- The principle to fix commencement dates of the Region or State Hluttaw and times for sessions,
- The principle to vest power in the State Peace and Development Council to convene the first session of the Region or State Hluttaw, one point of the Road Map, and to convene sessions for next terms of Hluttaws,
- The principle for members of the Region or State Hluttaw to swear oaths,
- The principle for the Region or State Hluttaw to convene sessions to be held at least in a year,
- The principle on the matters to be carried out at the sessions of the Region or State Hluttaw,
- The principle for the Region or State Hluttaw to convene a special or emergency session,
- The principle on number of members necessary to form quorum for validity of the first session of the Region or State Hluttaw the Region or State Hluttaw,
- The principle on voting, and deciding through voting at the sessions of the Region or State Hluttaw. These points meet our satisfaction.

Moreover, we noticed the principles on absence of Hluttaw members, ensuring validity of decisions of Hluttaws, and public information. We also found:
- The principle to take action against a member who is not entitled to attend does so, issuing of activities of the Region or State Hluttaw, and public information. We also noticed the basic principles on legislature,
- The principle of votes shall be taken before the Region or State Hluttaw at the first regular session of Region or State Hluttaw,
- The principle of the Region or State Hluttaw shall be convened within 15 days after the commencement of the term of the Hluttaw,
- The principle for the Region or State Hluttaw to hold discussions according to the Constitution. These points are proper.

Apart from them, we also noticed the principles on duties and rights of the Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw,
- The duties and rights of the Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw,
- The right of members of the Region or State Hluttaw to hold discussions, and the power to arrest a member attending a session of the Region or State Hluttaw,
- The principles on reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw.

These points have been prescribed exactly for formation of and sharing of powers between the Region Hluttaw and the State Hluttaw or between Region government and State government.

So, we members of the delegate group of other invited persons would like to express our stance that these detailed basic principles should be adopted.

I would like to read out the detail basic principles:

Region or State Hluttaw

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

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

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

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

5. The following matters are carried out at the session of the Region or State Hluttaw:
   (a) Recording the address delivered by the Union President
   (b) Reading out and recording messages sent by the President and other messages permitted by the Speaker
   (c) Recording the address delivered by region or state chief minister
   (d) Submitting, discussing and making decision on a bill
   (e) Discussing and deciding the matters the Region or State Hluttaw shall implement in accordance with provisions of the Constitution and the existing laws
   (f) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Region or State Hluttaw
   (g) Submitting proposals, holding discussions and making decisions
   (h) Raising questions and giving replies
   (i) Implementing matters permitted by Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw

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

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

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

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

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

11. The functions and records of the Region or State Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But, the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Region or State Hluttaw shall not be published. Region or State Hluttaw has the power to make laws for the whole or any part of the Region or State concerning matters stated in the Region or State Legislative List.

13. (a) When the Region or State Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —
   (1) entrust the right to issue bylaws, rules and regulations concerning the law to a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution
   (2) authorize the organization or authority to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures concerning the law
   (b) The bylaws, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by a law shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.

(See page 14)
Members of the delegate group...

(from page 13)

(c) after issuing a bylaw, rules or regulations under the law enacted by Region or State Hluttaw, the organization concerned shall circulate the bylaw, rules or regulations to Hluttaw members during the nearest regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw if with the arrangement permitted by the Hluttaw Speaker.

(d) If the bylaw, rules or regulations are found to be not consonant with the provisions of the law concerned, Region or State Hluttaw members can submit a request for review by the bylaw, rules or regulations to Region or State Hluttaw within 90 days from the date they are circulated.

(e) If a decision is made by Region or State Hluttaw to annul or amend a bylaw, rules or regulations, the decision shall not affect however without prejudice to the validity of any action previously taken under the bylaw, rules or regulations.

14. (a) Matters that requires decision, assent and approval of Region or State Hluttaw shall be implemented as follows:

(1) If the Region or State Hluttaw is in session, the member shall be decided at that session.

(2) If the Region or State Hluttaw is not in session, the discussions and decisions on the matter shall be made at the nearest Region or State Hluttaw session.

(3) A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.

15. (a) Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, 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.

(b) Bills on region or state plans, annual budgets and taxation which are to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government shall be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20. The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall:

(a) supervise Region or State Hluttaw sessions

(b) invite the Union President if he informs him of his desire to address the Region or State Hluttaw session

(c) make necessary arrangements when the Region or State Chief Minister informs him of his desire to address the Region or State Hluttaw session

(d) have the right, if necessary, to invite members or persons of region or state level organization formed under the Constitution to the Region or State Hluttaw session to make clarification as regards matters under discussion

(e) perform other duties and responsibilities entrusted by the Constitution or a law

21. (a) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members of Region or State Hluttaw have freedom of speech and voting at the Region or State Hluttaw as well as at Region or State Hluttaw committee and organization. Concerning the discussions and functions, a Region or State Hluttaw member shall be privileged except under the Constitution or a law.

(b) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members or persons who are permitted or invited to attend Region or State Hluttaw session have freedom of speech at the Region or State Hluttaw or Region or State Hluttaw committee and organizations. Concerning such discussions, they shall be privileged except under the Region or State Hluttaw Law.

(c) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub-para (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.

22. (a) If there arises a need to arrest a Region or State Hluttaw member 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.

(b) If there arises a need to arrest a member of a 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.

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

We have discussed the matters on the explanation of the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee regarding the detailed basic principles for the legislative functions of the Amyotha Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw.

In conclusion, I would say the detailed basic principles have been laid down to avert entrusting of State power to an individual or organization and guarantee national solidarity. So, we members of the delegate group of other invited persons support these detailed basic principles.— MNA

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Hingis, Federer start with a bang in Melbourne

MELBOURNE, 18 Jan — Martina Hingis marked her return to grand slam action with a thumping victory and Swiss compatriot Roger Federer was almost as impressive at the Australian Open on Tuesday.

Hingis beat Russia’s 30th seed Vera Zvonareva 6-1, 6-2 in the first round. The former world number one showed no sign of nerves in her first grand slam match since 2002, wrapping up a surprisingly one-sided victory that left her opponent in tears.

“It was beautiful to walk in there. There were so many memories coming back. This stadium has been so great to me,” 25-year-old Hingis told reporters. She won the Australian Open in 1997, 1998 and 1999.

“This was the best match I’ve played since I came back. I wouldn’t necessarily say that it was easy, I just played really well,” said Federer, a strong favourite for the men’s title, also made the perfect start to his campaign when he won in brilliant fashion and his main rivals all struggled.

The world number one hardly broke sweat as he brushed aside little-known Denis Istomin of Uzbekistan 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 while Australian Lleyton Hewitt, Argentine Guillermo Coria and Russian Nikolay Davydenko were all pushed to five sets.

Last year’s losing finalist Hewitt needed all his fighting spirit to scrape past Czech Robin Vik 6-4, 2-6, 5-7, 7-6, 6-3 while sixth seed Coria overcame the distraction of a leg injury to wear down Romanian Victor Hanescu 6-4, 1-6, 4-6, 6-2.

Fifth seed Davydenko also needed the maximum number of sets to blunt the massive serve of Croatian Ivo Karlovic, eventually grinding out a 7-5, 4-6, 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 victory.

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Sociad striker Kovacevic to miss rest of season

MADRID, 17 Jan — Real Sociedad striker Darko Kovacevic will miss the rest of the season after tearing the Achilles tendon in his left leg during training on Monday.

Kovacevic was in the final stages of a recovery programme after an operation on the same tendon in November and was taking part in a training game.

Club medical staff said the 32-year-old former Yugoslavia international would undergo immediate surgery.

Sociedad recently signed Danish international Morten Skoubo from Brondby to replace leading striker Nihat Kahveci who is poised to leave the club in the January transfer window.

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Ameli Mauresmo of France returns a shot from Tiantian Sun of China during action on Tuesday, 17 Jan, 2006 at the Australian Open Tennis in Melbourne, Australia. Mauresmo defeated Tiantian 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

INTERNET
**Claims Day Notice MV Uranus Voyo (02)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV URANUS VOYO (02) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of Myanmar Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses 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 Myanmar Port Authority Agent For: Ocean Team Shipping Co Ltd China**

**Phone No:** 256924/256914

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**Air Canada to introduce Toronto-Shanghai non-stop flights in June**

Bangkok, 17 Jan — Air Canada on Sunday announced that effective 16 June, 2006 it will introduce non-stop service between Toronto and Shanghai.

Air Canada will operate three non-stop flights per week between Toronto and China’s largest city, complementing its existing Toronto-Beijing non-stop service launched in June 2005, and its daily non-stop flights to both Shanghai and Beijing from Vancouver.

Air Canada also operates twice daily flights to Hong Kong including non-stop service from Toronto.

*MINA/Gimun*
Myanmar will be totally free from iodine deficiency in the near future

Myanmar Medical Association opens 52nd conference

Yangon, 18 Jan — The 52nd Myanmar Medical Conference took place here this morning, with an address by Chairman of National Health Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The Secretary-1 said that the State Peace and Development Council has laid down the 12 objectives in its national development drive. One of the social objectives — uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation — is an essential factor in building a new nation. The government has been narrowing the health gap between the rural and urban areas and ensuring health and longevity and a disease-free society as much as it can.

The nation now has 826 hospitals, up from 631 in 1988. The result of giving priority to the rural health care is the opening of 1,452 village health centres in the whole nation up to now. The government has been building more hospitals, and at the same time it has been upgrading the facilities with advanced medical equipment and appointing more specialists in the health sector. The number of institutions of higher learning of the medical field has reached 14 at present, up from four in the past. A larger number of qualified students are being admitted to the institutes of medicine, while post-graduate courses are being conducted in the

Delegates from all walks of life are actively participating in the National Convention to lay down detailed basic principles to be included in the constitution

People in Shan State (North) support National Convention

Yangon, 18 Jan — A mass meeting in support of the National Convention organized by Shan State (North) Union Solidarity and Development Association was held this morning at Union Sports Ground in Lashio, Shan State (North).

Present were Joint-Secretary and executives of Shan State (North) USDA, secretaries, executives and members of district/township USAs in Shan State (North), departmental officials, members of War Veterans Organizations, Women’s Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades, social organizations, nurses and local people.

Dr Sai Khin Maung Wah, a Medical Superintendent of Shan State (North) Hospital, presided over the meeting together with Headmistress Daw Sao Tin Mya (Retd), Dr Khin Nan Tha, Headmaster U Nyunt Sein (Retd), Paungnai national U Kyaw Yin, Townselders Duwa Zaw Aung and U Loke Yun.

Executive of Kutkai Township USDA Daw Nan Myintzu acted as master of ceremonies and member of USDA Daw Nan Win Nandar Tun as co-master of ceremonies.

Speaking on the occasion, Meeting Chairman Dr Sai Khin Maung Wah said there were disturbances in 1988 and the Tatmadaw Government took the responsibilities of the State. Since then, the Government has been striving for the development of the State. Thanks to the efforts of the Government, now, the State is on track for development and law and order prevail

Those present at the mass meeting in support of the National Convention chanting slogans. — MNA