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

Although shouting for Shan State liberation, Ywet Sit and cohorts are like mafia drug criminals trafficking narcotic drugs, smuggling arms Ywet Sit’s group sitting on fence at border torching villages, massacring national people, raping national race women, blowing up bombs at crowded places to kill people

Demand of 87 NLD representatives-elect to summon Hluttaw against international norms National Convention with over 1000 delegates of national races, representatives-elect, people from all walks of life wider in scope than NLD’s dialogue No dialogue possible with NLD not winning public support nor representing people

NLD and its cohort parties as well as so-called veteran and new generation politicians shouting at the top of their voice that they aspire for democracy have been making confrontation to sabotage Myanmar’s transition to democracy. They made various kinds of demands and attacks. They made instigation and fabrications to mislead the people and create anarchy.

YANGON, 27 April— The following is a translation of clarifications made by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan at the Press Conference No 4/2006 held at the Ministry of Information here today.

At this press conference today, the Director-General of the Myanmar Police Force has clarified in detail how narcotic drug eradication activities have been carried out in Myanmar successfully as a national duty in cooperation with internal and external sources.

I would also wish to make clarifications on how internal and external terrorist groups are unscrupulously and cruelly committing drug trafficking, sabotage acts, ethnic cleansing, rapes, collecting extortion money, setting villages on fire and recruiting child soldiers while preaching political issues.

In this context, I would like to recount the historical background briefly. Myanmar regained independence from the colonial rual in 1948. Myanmar started to stand as a sovereign state practising parliamentary democracy and capitalist economic system. At that time the national unity was very weak due to discord sown by the colonialists. The splits among the political parties led to disunity among the people. Sectarianism led to armed insurrections and peace and tranquillity did not prevail in the nation. The lives of the people were not safe. As a result, the political, economic and social conditions of the nation deteriorated. The socio-economic lives of the people were in poor condition. Moreover, due to the weaknesses of the 1947 Constitution which was hastily drafted in line with the consent of colonialists, the Union was on the verge of disintegration. To save the nation from the general deterioration, the Tatmadaw had to take over State responsibilities in 1962.

According to the actual conditions of the nation at that time, the unsuccessful parliamentary democracy and capitalist economy were substituted with Myanmar socialist programme and socialist economic system. In the year 1974, a new Constitution was adopted. (See page 8)
Active participation in environmental conservation work

The world today is experiencing environmental deterioration. In some parts of the world, soil conditions have become worse, deforestation and desertification have occurred and there have been falls of acid rain and air and water pollution. Therefore, every nation in the world has paid serious attention to protection of environment. Efforts are being made at the national and international levels to prevent the dangers resulting from environmental deterioration.

Population growth and urbanization have great impact on the environment. In developing countries, due to the rapid growth of urban population, trees have been cut down and area of grassland and green belt shrunken. As in other developing nations, there has been a steady population growth also in Myanmar. This being the case, housing complexes are being built in towns and cities all over the nation. Sanitation and greening projects are being carried out on a wider scale. The plan to develop the agricultural industry and green the area around 30-mile radius of Yangon is also being implemented.

To support that plan, eight river water pumping stations, 11 dams and six sluice gates have been built in Yangon Division. These irrigation facilities contribute not only to the cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy and double and mixed crops but also to the greening of the environment.

Being a port city, Yangon is the commercial hub of the nation. Steps are being taken to modernize Yangon and turn it into the garden city of Southeast Asia by improving its environs and landscape. At the same time, the Yangon City Development Committee, with the cooperation of people, is constantly carrying out sanitation work and road works.

At a time when environmental conservation work is being carried out all over the nation, we would like to call on responsible personnel, farmers and people to take part in this work and always to keep their towns and cities lush, green and clean.

Russian Supreme Court President leaves

YANGON, 27 April — At the invitation of Chief Justice U Aung Toe, visiting President of Supreme Court of Russian Federation Mr Vyacheslav M Lebedev and party left by air this morning. The Russian President and party was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Chief Justice U Thein Soe, Russian Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov, Judges of Supreme Court U Khun Myint and Dr Tin Aung Aye, Director-General of Supreme Court U Soe Nyunt, directors and officials concerned. — MNA

President of Supreme Court of Russian Federation Mr Vyacheslav M Lebedev and party seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for home. — MNA

Myanmar Sea Fisheries Entrepreneurs Association to be set up

YANGON, 27 April — A ceremony to set up Myanmar Sea Fisheries Entrepreneurs Association, organized by Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Myanmar Fisheries Federation under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, was held at Thiri Annawa Hall of MFF, Insein Township on 29 April. A ceremony of presentation of cash donation was held. The related persons have been invited to attend the ceremony without fail. — MNA

US Embassy in Albania capital receives false bomb threat

TIRANA, 26 April — The US Embassy in Tirana received a bomb threat on Tuesday which turned out to be a false alarm, police said. According to the police sources, the local TV Channel Klan received an anonymous call at about 13.00 o’clock local time, saying that a bomb had been planted inside the US Embassy. Special police squads rushed to the scene. They closed and evacuated the embassy, conducted a thorough search inside out, but found no explosive device, police said. — MNA/Xinhua

Republicans urge Bush to probe high gasoline costs

WASHINGTON, 26 April — Republican congressional leaders on Monday urged the Bush Administration to investigate whether oil companies are overcharging consumers at the gasoline pump and if speculators are pushing up fuel prices. The retail price for gasoline soared 13.1 cents in the last week to a national average of 2.91 US dollars a gallon, the fourth highest price ever recorded by the government, and pump costs are forecast to keep rising, Republicans fear they could lose the Senate and House of Representatives in this November’s congressional elections if voters retaliate against them for the high fuel prices.

The lawmakers also urged the Bush Administration and the FTC to look into oil refining operations, transport fuel by pipelines, Marine vessels and trucks, storing and marketing fuel, and spot shortages of gasoline to determine if there is any manipulation of gasoline prices. — MNA/Reuters

5th IT Week on 29 April

YANGON, 27 April — The Fifth Myanmar Information and Communication Technology Week 2006 will be held at the Tatmadaw Convention Centre on 29 April instead of 28 and everyone may visit there free of charge. — MNA
Information Committee of...
(from page 16)
It was attended by Chairman of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw this, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, (FANC) members the United States, France, Canada, New Zealand and Belgium, representatives from Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and the People’s Republic of China that had signed the MoU with the Union of Myanmar for narcotic drug eradication, senior military officers, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, members of CCDAC, departmental heads, leaders and members of Shan State (East) Special Region-2 and Special Region-4, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Affairs Col National Races and Border Areas and Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Information Committee Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Vice-Chairman of CCDAC Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe and Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Aik In who had returned to the legal fold. Member of the Information Committee Secretary of CCDAC Secretary Director-General of MPP Brig-Gen Khin Yi clarified achievements of the Union of Myanmar in narcotic drug eradication. (The full text of clarification of MPP Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi is reported separately.) Next, Chairman of the Information Committee Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan clarified matters relating to terrorist acts including drug trafficking, ethnic cleansing and rapes under guses of political group committed by internal and external destructionists. (The full text of clarification of Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan is reported separately.) Afterwards, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Vice-Chairman of CCDAC Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe and Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Aik In who had returned to the legal fold after being forcibly recruited by SSA-S Ywet Sit Group answered the queries raised by local and foreign journalists and correspondents.
After the press conference, diplomats from foreign countries, guests and journalists viewed documentary photos on collusion and formation of NCUB, DAB, NDD, NLD-LA and ABSDF, acts of NCUB, FTUB, NDD and NLD-LA in an attempt to incite unrest in the State, destruction of villages by fire set by SSA-S led by Ywet Sit, recruiting of child soldiers by SSA-S, atrocities of expatriate groups NCUB, FTUB, ABSDF, NLD-LA and NDD and May-7 triple bomb blasts in Yangon. They also viewed documentary photos on endeavours for elimination of narcotic drug, 15-year plan for drug elimination, joint efforts of Myanmar and US to measure poppy plantation and destruction of narcotic drugs  and lists of seized narcotic drug in Myanmar. At the press conference, 196 different sorts of arms and ammunition seized in drug cases from 26 December 2005 to 19 April 2006 were shown. Before the burning of seized narcotic drugs, Brig-Gen Khin Yi delivered an address and diplomats tested authenticity of drugs. Afterwards, Minister Col Thein Nyunt, Head of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control of Lao PDR Minister at the President Office Lao PDR Mr Soubanh Srithirth and Dean of Diplomatic Corps Madame Phoebe A Gomez pressed the button to incinerate the drugs.
The seized narcotic drugs includ over 73 kilos of opium, over 53 kilos of heroin, 1 litre of opium oil, over 3 kilos of low grade opium, 1000 kilos of morphine, over 1523 kilos of stimulant tablets, 0.355 kilo of ice and precursors worth over US $1411 million were incinerated at the ceremony. — MNA
people had to bear and live with since colonial days. If we look back into history, since the 15th century, the Indochina peninsular and India were colonized by the British, Dutch, French and Portuguese with their superior military might. India and Myanmar became British colonies in 1852 and 1885 respectively, Myanmar being governed by the Governor of India. Meanwhile, with the intention of sustaining long-term enslavement of China, opium was imported affecting addiction among the large Chinese communities. Consequently, this led to the Opium Wars, when China fought back the British. Under British rule after the Three Opium Wars, opium poppy was legally allowed to be cultivated and tax was levied in the Kachin State and eastern side of the Thanlwin River. Opium addicts were registered and licensed opium dens operated openly throughout the country.

The increasing complexity of the situation in the Golden Triangle was aggravated by the incursion of US CIA supported Kuo Ming Tan (KMT) troops into the Kyaing Tong area in 1949-50, driven out of China by the Communist Party led by Mao Tse Tung. The KMT entrenched in this region and quickly got into the lucrative drug business. The government launched Naga-naing Operations against the intruding KMT and drove them out. However, remnants of KMT are still active in this very Kyaing Tong region where you are visiting. Thus, over the years, the custom of poppy cultivation spilled over into the Kachin and Shan States. Evidence shows that after the British colonized Myanmar in 1885, opium poppy was cultivated extensively in the remote mountainous border areas and widely trafficked in the border areas of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand, later came to be infamously known as the Golden Triangle. Thus, if we look back into history on how the opium and drug trade took root in this region, it is quite obvious that this was result of colonialism, adopted and implemented by the western countries in Myanmar as an excuse in those times.

In addition, between 1976 and 1988, the Myanmar Armed Forces staged Moe Hein Operations, Nga Ye Pan Operations, Taung Yan Shin Operations, Taung Hteik Pan Operations, and Aung Moe Hein Operations. These campaigns targeted clandestine heroin refineries run by insurgents and also eradicated poppy fields. I wish to draw your attention that altogether 93 officers and enlisted men sacrificed their lives while 531 got wounded during the campaigns. In addition, after 1988 the Armed Forces launched 2 major operations “Mong Kyut” and “Bar Gyan” Operations against drug traffickers in the eastern Shan State. During the period of September 1988 and 1998, 259 military personnel sacrificed their lives while 937 got wounded. This is a clear testimony of the commitment of the government in the fight against drugs.

Myanmar is a country where Theravada Buddhism is predominant and thus the abstinence of drugs and alcohol is prevalent due to the influence of religion, culture, social traditions and customs. During the reign of King Badon (1782-1829), he decreed a ban on drugs and alcohol. Similarly, King Thibaw decreed a ban on drugs and alcohol.
The Special Region (4) of the Eastern Shan State launched a 6-year project in 1991 and became free of poppy poppy in 1997 April 22. A museum was built to commemorate the success of establishing an opium free region. Kokang Special region (1) followed suit by successfully banning and announcing opium poppy free in 2003. A Drug Museum was built in 2000 December 27. You will be aware that the Wa Special Region (2) had also totally banned poppy cultivation since the poppy season of 2005.

Local nationals attend the press conference No 4/2006. — MNA

With intention of establishing…

(from page 4)

alcohol in addition to eating beef and entrusted strict governance to town mayors.

After independence, the Anti-Fascist People’s Liberation Party government launched major offensives against the invading KMT as already stated above. The government also formed an “Opium Inquiry Commission” in 1951 and acted against opium addiction. crop substitu-

resolutions in the Parliament that called for the entire people of Myanmar to actively participate in the fight against drugs as a national concern. The Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs by law formed the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control on 3 February 1976 with nine sub-committees. The State and Division Drug Abuse Control Committees were also formed. In addition, between 1976 and 1988, the Myanmar Armed Forces staged Moe Hein Operations, Nga Ye Pan Operations, Taung Yan Shin Operations, Taung Heik Pan Operations, and Aung Moe Hein Operations. These campaigns targeted clandestine heroin refineries run by insurgents and also eradicated poppy fields. I wish to draw your attention that altogether 95 officers and enlisted men sacrificed their lives while 531 got wounded during the campaigns. In addition, after 1988 the Armed Forces launched two major operations “Mong Kyut” and “Bar Gyan” Operations against drug traffickers in the eastern Shan State. During the period of September 1988 and 1998, 259 military personnel sacrificed their lives while 937 got wounded. This is a clear testimony of the commitment of the government in the fight against drugs. These insurgent groups, who initially gave political and ethnic issues as the causes behind their insurgency, gradually become involved in the drug business themselves to support their movements. The government profoundly believes that national reconciliation plays an essential role in bringing peace and stability to the country which in turn enable all round development.

The Caretaker Military Government in 1959 strongly supported crop substitution programmes in the eastern regions of Thanwin River. In 1962, the Revolutionary Council Government’s first undertaking in the international forum was to sign the 1961 UN Convention and ratified it in 1963. The government followed the provisions of the UN conventions. In 1974, the Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Law was promulgated. The Law comprised prohibitions on cultivation, production, processing, possession, transporta-

tion, rehabilitation of drug addicts and supervised strict compliance of the Opium Act in the Shan State. It also enacted compulsory registration Act of opium addicts in 1955.

In 1959 the government also formed an “Opium Inquiry Commission” in 1951 and acted against opium addiction. In 1955.

The government followed the provisions of the UN conventions. In 1974, the Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Law was promulgated. The Law comprised prohibitions on cultivation, production, processing, possession, transportation, transfer and sales of narcotic drugs with strict penalties. The Burma Socialist Programmes Party in 1975 passed a

With intention of establishing…

(from page 4)
Supply Reduction, Demand Reduction and Law Enforcement measures were taken as tactics while applying the three methods of convincing the poppy farmers, drug producers and users of their wrongful way of thinking, facilitating the establishment of communication links between brethren national races residing in hilly regions and low lands, and raising the social and economic status of national races residing in the border areas.

In order to gain momentum of the implementation programmes, the Central Committee and Work Committees were formed in 1989 and short term, medium term and long term projects were laid down. Also, the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs was established in 1992. In 1993 August 13, the Border Area and National Races Development Law was enacted. Realizing the sincere intention of the Government, the ethnic groups fully cooperated with the government and embarked on their own programmes to develop their respective regions. The Special Region (4) of the Eastern Shan State launched a 6-year project in 1991 and became free of opium poppy in 1997 April 22. A museum was built to commemorate the success of establishing an opium free region Kokant Special region (1) followed suit by successfully banning and announcing opium poppy free in 2003. A museum was built in 2000 December 27. You will be aware that the Wa Special Region (2) had also totally banned poppy cultivation since the poppy season of 2005.

With the intention of establishing a drug free country by 2014, the government launched a 15-year Drug Elimination Plan in 1999 with three 5-year phases. This is in tandem with the ASEAN vision of Drug Free ASEAN-2015, but our objective is 2014 which is one year ahead.

The first 5-year phase was from 1999-2000 to 2003-2004 covering 22 townships in the Shan State. The second 5-year phase started in 2004-5 to 2008-9 comprising 20 townships from Shan and Kachin States while the third phase will commence from 2009-10 to 2013-14 covering 9 townships from Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Chin States.

We have now reached the second year of the second 5-year phase. The total budget is estimated to be 33.588 million kyat and 150 million US dollars. Let me take this opportunity to state that for this undertaking, we do not have any international assistance whatsoever but the government is committed to use its own resources to fulfil this commitment.

During the first 5-year phase, a total budget of 676 million kyat were spent in agriculture, livestock breeding, health, education, communication, transportation, energy, commerce, international cooperation and religious sectors to realize the objectives.

To support and complement the 15-year plan, a pilot project called “New Destiny” was also embarked in 2002 April to assist the poppy farmers by providing them alternative crop seedlings. Four Deputy Ministers from the Ministries of Home Affairs, Border Areas Development, Agriculture and Irrigation and Livestock and Fisheries respectively who are also CCDAC members were tasked for the supervision and success of this pilot project in 5 regions. The Ministers made frequent field visits to provide free seedlings for viable crop substitution, livestock for breeding and rice and salt for farmers who have stopped poppy cultivation. They also give guidance and advice to the local authorities. Within 2002 and May 2003, farmers voluntarily surrendered poppy seeds to the authorities which were burnt 13 times in front of the public.
With intention of establishing... (from page 6)

in various border regions. Altogether, 163,720.61 kg of poppy seeds were destroyed. If cultivated on 40,573.68 hectares it had a potential production of 441,133.308 tons of opium. In other words, we have been able to prevent over 400 tons of opium.

Since 1988 up to 2006 March, the Law Enforcement Agencies in Myanmar have seized the following drugs:

- Opium: 9,345 cases, 37,965 kg
- Heroin: 26,555 cases, 7,407 kg
- ATS tabs: 431 cases, 155 million
- Ephedrine tabs: 185 cases, 223.66 kg
- Marijuana: 8,429 cases, 547.3 kg
- Phensedyl: 2,510 cases, 3,351.5 litres/Acetic
- Anhydride: 58 cases, 865,625 litres
- Chemicals: 131 cases, 61,196.1 litres
- Opium (liquid): 832 cases, 822 litres
- Morphine: 31 cases, 1,931 kg
- Mitrigyna speciosa: 248 cases, 901 kg
- Cough Syrup with codeine: 211 cases, 2019 litres
- Phensedyl: 46 cases, 691.17 amps
- Pethadine: 4 cases, 609 amps
- Opium (low grade): 1,511 cases, 7,672 kg
- Caffeine: 4 cases, 479.93 kg
- ICE: 12 cases, 1,315 kg
- Failure to register: 20,030 cases
- Others: 3,155 cases
- Total cases: 77,640 cases

Altogether 87,424 males and 17,993 females totaling 105,417 prosecuted while the estimated street price of the drugs seized would amount to 154,955 million US dollars.

Others: 3,155 cases

Failure to register: 20,030 cases

Others: 3,155 cases

Total cases: 77,640 cases

Likewise, seized narcotic drugs have been torched 19 times in Yangon and 38 times in the towns and districts of the following figures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Weight (kg)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opium</td>
<td>29,680.63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>5,643.83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opium No 3</td>
<td>480.73</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opium (Oil)</td>
<td>225.48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opium (liquid)</td>
<td>549.58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opium (low grade)</td>
<td>338.31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>6,369.63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phensedyl</td>
<td>31,085.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>13,748,893.63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephedrine</td>
<td>16,066.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine (powder)</td>
<td>178.04</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough syrup with codeine</td>
<td>1,821 litres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitrigyna Speciosa</td>
<td>204.66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diazepam</td>
<td>6,581.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diazepam ampoules</td>
<td>135 ampoules</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buphrenorphine</td>
<td>474 ampoules</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morphine</td>
<td>135 ampoules</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecstasy</td>
<td>280 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caffeine</td>
<td>3,089.24 kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICE</td>
<td>802.736 kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methaqualone</td>
<td>7,311 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenylacetic acid</td>
<td>2,143.47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenoebharbal</td>
<td>802.09 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenoebharbal injections</td>
<td>23 vials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephedrine (injection)</td>
<td>33 vials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephedrine</td>
<td>41,054.41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phynol Oxylate</td>
<td>7,223.32</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough syrup with codeine</td>
<td>1,489 vials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough tablets</td>
<td>3,917.17 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pentazodin</td>
<td>25 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morphine Sulphate</td>
<td>10 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithium</td>
<td>150,000 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codeine</td>
<td>8 tabs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pethadine</td>
<td>0.0072 litre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methadone</td>
<td>10.96 litre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorazepam</td>
<td>0.001 kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acetic Anhydride</td>
<td>1234.02 litres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precursor Chemical</td>
<td>11,048.08 litres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poppy Seeds</td>
<td>5,541.81 kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total street price for all the drugs destroyed would amount to 154,955 million US dollars.

The 2005 Annual World Drug Report based on the surveys undertaken by the Joint Myanmar-UNODC Illicit Crop Monitoring Programme indicated a declining trend both in cultivation and production due to these measures. For instance, in 2002 cultivation dropped from an estimate of 105,000 hectares in 2001 to 77,700 hectares, while potential production fell from 1,097 tons to 828 tons, a decline of 28%. The survey results of 2003 indicated 62,200 hectares of poppy seeds were destroyed. If cultivated on 54,700 hectares, it would amount to 3,277,000 tons and 319 tons, a reduction of 59% in cultivation. Within a 5-year period, production dropped 61%.

The US-Myanmar Joint Opium Yield Surveys conducted with Counter Narcotics and Crime (CNC), which have been conducted annually in the past decade, reported overall opium production in Myanmar in 2004 declined substantially for the eight straight year. Cultivation was estimated at 308.8 hectares with a potential production totaling more than 292 metric tons in 2004, a decline of 88% from the estimated 2650 metric tons produced in Myanmar in 1996. This is a clear testimony of the success of the 15-year plan.

On the law enforcement sector, although there has been a marked decline in opium and heroin seizures within the country in recent years, we are also witnessing the escalating problems of synthetic drugs like amphetamine type stimulants. Myanmar did not have this problem before the 1990s but faced this menace since 1996 although the problem has been in the region for over a decade. Ephedrine, the precursor chemical for methamphetamine production had been trafficked in the region since the early 90s, and seizures of methamphetamines increased along the border areas.

This methamphetamine is produced from chemicals and is entirely different from the opium-based drugs. Myanmar does not have a chemical industry and does not manufacture precursor chemicals to produce these synthetic drugs. Due to the fact that all these precursor chemicals are illicitly trafficked from foreign countries, I am pleased to report that Myanmar is addressing this problem with the full cooperation of neighboring countries as well as international organizations.

Myanmar fully realized that one country alone cannot fight and win the drug menace and thus have been taking cooperative measures at international, regional and sub-regional levels. Myanmar is actively engaged in sub-regional cooperation in drug abuse control with China, Laos and Thailand and Vietnam with technical and financial assistance from UNODC signing Memorandum of Understanding in 1993 which later expanded to 6 countries in 1995 including Cambodia and Vietnam.

On precursor control efforts, Myanmar is active in the Penta-lateral grouping of China, Laos, Thailand and India.

Furthermore, Myanmar signed bilateral agreements for cooperation with India in 1993, with Bangladesh in 1994, with Vietnam in 1995, with the Russian Federation, Laos and the Philippines in 1997, with the People’s Republic of China and Thailand in 2001 to control drug trafficking and abuse. Cross-border cooperation with neighboring countries China, Laos, Thailand and India have resulted in successful law enforcement cases in investigating drug traffickers hiding along the common borders.

Due to time constraints, allow me to brief you on some cases during the past 2 years from among many successful cases smashing drug syndicates with international connections. The first one is Operations Soe San Zone. The case occurred at Hnai Kayin village of Ye Township, Mon State on 7, July 2004. 874 blocks of heroin weighing 592.5 kg was seized by the local police while on its way to the Bay of Bengal. Investigations revealed that 3 men who were caretakers of the 874 blocks of heroin were murdered at sea by the 17-member crew, their bodies thrown overboard. The crew then sank the Soe San Zone and hid the drugs in a nearby fishing village called Hnai Kayin. Local Police somehow got information of this and seized the 592.5 kg heroin. However, because of the nature of this big case, it took 2 years of investigations to finally smash the whole syndicate.

Teranai Vrantrakul (a) Ah Yang, a Thai citizen who managed the shipment of the drugs. Captain Ne Lin, a Myanmar, who was going to transship the drugs from Soe San Zone in the international waters to the China Sea and Sai Lone (a) Ah Ti, another Myanmar, who was trafficking the drugs from Taunggyi area to Yangon. (See page 13)
Although shouting for...

(from page 1)

However, the new conditions were not in harmony with the global political and economic trends and there were weaknesses in discharging of duties of responsible personnel at different levels. Thus the socialist system failed to satisfy the needs of the entire people and the nation had to encounter crisis and difficulties in various spheres. At the same time, internal insurgencies reached the climax. The people aspired to the stability and development of the nation and thus they demanded reforms.

Taking advantage of these situations, internal and external destructive elements created the 1988 disturbances in order to grab power through short-cut means. The nation was on the verge of collapse and no person nor organization was able to arrest the worsening situation. The Tatmadaw therefore had to take over State responsibilities again. After taking State responsibilities, the Tatmadaw gave priority to the prevalence of peace and tranquillity as well as the rule of law and order. At the same time, it had to crush the danger of internal insurgents who attempted to take advantage of the situation. In addi-

 Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially greets diplomats who attended the Press Conference No 4/2006. — MNA

NCGUB, FTUB, NLD (LA), ABSDF and NDD terrorists provided some UG hardcores within the country with funds and illegal satellite phones

Those forcibly recruited by SSA-S Ywet Sit Group who returned to the legal fold and leaders and locals from the torched villages. — MNA

tion, the Tatmadaw had to endure and overcome the danger of external elements who tried to interfere in the internal affairs of our country.

Consequently, the single party system was abolished and steps were taken to practise the multiparty democracy system. The socialist economic system was substituted with market oriented economy.

The Government realizes that only when there are stability, peace and tranquillity and the rule of law and order, democracy can be practised with full essence and economic, education, health, transportation and social lives of the people can be developed. With this concept, emphasis was placed on national reconsolidation. As a result, 17 out of 18 major armed groups which had launched armed insurrection for over 40 years were convinced; they returned to the legal fold. Peace and tranquillity as well as the rule of law and order prevail throughout the country including border areas. Accordingly, border areas and national races development programmes have been carried out consistently.

At the same time, in order to build up necessary infrastructures for bringing about development and modernization of the Union, the special development projects, the 24 special region development projects and rural development tasks as well as human resources development works are being implemented with own strength.

Meanwhile, in order to bring about multiparty democracy which is aspired by the people, the National Convention was convened in 1993 to get principles for drafting a new constitution which can guarantee the practise of multiparty democracy and market economy. Before convening the National Convention, a consensus was obtained after coordinating with political parties and independent representatives-elect. In fact, it was the cooperative step taken for smooth political transition to democracy.

The National Convention continued till 1995 and altogether 104 fundamental principles and some detailed basic principles for drafting a new enduring Constitution have been adopted. However, due to the manipulation of a big neo-colonialist nation wishing to give a limelight to an individual and putting our nation under its influence, NLD delegates deviated from the original trend and walked out of the
Although shouting for...

National Convention. Although the National Convention was adjourned, continued efforts were made by the Government for ensuring peace and stability of the nation, economic development of the people and development of human resources which are essential for marching towards democracy. When good foundations for modernizing and developing the Union have been laid, the seven-step Road Map was declared. The National Convention was reconvened in May 2004.

At that time, invitations were sent to all political parties numbering 10 including NLD. NLD replied that it would attend the National Convention and made some demands. The Government compiled with certain demands. However, NLD, finally did not attend the National Convention. Shan Nationalities League for Democracy and Kokang Democratic Party which were under NLD’s influence also failed to attend the National Convention. The remaining delegates from other political parties, representatives-elect and various delegate groups attended the National Convention. Giving priority to the interest of the nation and the entire people instead of the interest of a single party or a race, discussions and coordinations were made at the National Convention. Therefore, three sessions of National Convention had been held successfully till 31-1-2006 and so far, 70 per cent of fundamental principles and detailed basic principles have been adopted.

By observing the above-mentioned points, one can see clearly that Myanmar is marching towards market economy and discipline-flourishing democracy. If the National Convention could have been held continuously without obstacles in 1996, Myanmar might have been practising multiparty democracy now. Due to self-seeking acts of the NLD, the democratization process has been delayed.

Later, NLD and its cohort parties as well as so-called veteran and new generation politicians shouting at the top of their voice that they aspire for democracy have been making confrontation to sabotage Myanmar’s transition to democracy. They made various kinds of demands and attacks. They made instigation and fabrications to mislead the people and create anarchy.

Likewise, expatriate destructive elements and terrorist insurgents gathered false information and made complaints to their foreign masters. By using democracy cause as a ploy, they are receiving funds from international organizations and using them for their own interests. By using some foreign assistance they secretly make use of saboteurs and UG hardcores to commit destructive acts within the country.

Similarly, their foreign masters are putting pressure on Myanmar by imposing various sanctions. They raise munitions and exaggerate the fabricated reports. In order to put puppet government in power, they confer various titles and medals on party politicians. Those foreign masters also make use of some international organizations to put pressure on Myanmar. They are also demanding Myanmar’s neighbours as well as other countries in the region to isolate Myanmar. They exaggerated that Myanmar had become a threat to the region and demanded UN Security Council to take action against Myanmar. Their ultimate aim is to remove the Tatmadaw Government from power which is practically bringing about democracy, and replace it with the puppet government. In this connection, three-pronged attack namely above-ground, underground and external attacks are being launched simultaneously.

One of the attacks of neo-colonialist foreign masters and their cohorts against our country was false accusation to the effect that Myanmar Government was ignoring narcotic drug problem, involved in drug trafficking and the earnings from drug trafficking were used in purchasing arms and ammunition.

Actually, Myanmar’s involvement in the narcotic drugs problem was caused by colonialism. In ancient times in Myanmar, there were no drug problem. Traditionally Myanmar people avoided the production and consumption of narcotic drugs from generation to generation. Narcotic drug abuse has traditionally regarded as an evil deed. However, the colonialists introduced poppy cultivation and opium production to Asia including our country. To prolong the enslavement of the national people, the colonialists intentionally permitted poppy cultivation and opium production in Shan State of our country. In addition, with the assistance from a big western power, nationalist Chinese Kuomington troops intruded into Myanmar and extensively carried out narcotic drug cultivation and production as their main business. Later, insurgents including SSA carried on the drug production and trafficking. So, it can vividly be seen that the main culprit of Myanmar’s narcotic drug problem was the colonialists, neo-colonialists and their cohorts. Those who are really

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responsible for the drug problem are the foreign masters who are putting all the blame on Myanmar Government.

Nowadays, those who are actually committing drug trafficking are SSA (South) Ywet Sit group and their accomplices, internal and external terrorist destructive elements and criminals. They are trafficking in narcotic drugs in collusion. It is quite clear that those terrorist drug traffickers are committing terrorist acts and arms smuggling. Ywet Sit is trafficking in narcotic drugs in far-flung border areas.

External destructionists, they are trafficking in drugs in huge volumes; and money earned from drug trafficking are spent on smuggling arms and ammunition.

Tatmadaw was producing and trafficking in narcotic drugs at far-flung border areas are shooting at the top of their voice before the world’s media that they are eradicating the drug menace and receiving foreign aids and funds. They are actually engaged in drug trafficking and putting the blame on the Government.

According to the clarifications made by the Director-General of the Myanmar Police Force and evidences given, it can be seen that SSA (South) Ywet Sit and former MTA member Naw Kham had joined hands as a drug ring and together with internal and external destructionists, they are trafficking in drugs in huge volumes; and money earned from drug trafficking are spent on smuggling arms and ammunition. For instance, during the period from 1988 September to 1998, altogether 259 Tatmadaw members have sacrificed their lives and 937

SSA (South) insurgents and terrorists are distributing the arms smuggled into the country to other insurgent groups. With these arms, the insurgent terrorists are killing the people in groups, collecting extortion money, committing robberies and kidnappings. Although shouting for liberation of Shan State, Ywet Sit and cohorts are actually narcotic drug traffickers who are smuggling arms like mafia gangsters.

While insurgent drug lords are committing drug trafficking in disguise, the Tatmadaw has been wiping out drug menace since 1960s through launching various operations. It has been recorded in the history that in launching various anti-narcotic drug operations, the Tatmadaw had to sacrifice many lives, blood and sweat. For instance, during the period from 1988 September to 1998, altogether 259 Tatmadaw members have sacrificed their lives and 937

Three SSA (South) Tatmadaw members were wounded. As 17 former armed groups have returned to the legal fold, there prevails regional peace and tranquillity. Border areas development works are carried out on a large scale. In addition, narcotic drug production and trafficking are effectively eradicated at the border areas. Similarly, arms smuggling in some unstable areas at the border has now been wiped out.

The regional national race leaders with the assistance provided by the Government and participation of the local people are now implementing the border areas development projects. The national people of respective regions who lived in anxiety and laggard behind in development are now enjoying basic human rights and equal opportunities for development. They are enjoying the fruitful results of development. It is the truth. Internal and external destructive elements are not only accusing the Tatmadaw Government of drug trafficking. They are also making false accusations that the Tatmadaw is committing ethnic cleansing and raping. Actually, it is SSA (South) Ywet Sit’s group that is setting on the fence at the border area and committing atrocities. The SSA (South) terrorists are setting villages on fire and committing ethnic cleansing. The SSA (South) insurgent terrorists raped women of national races and planted bombs at crowded places to kill the people en masse. Some of their atrocities were as follows:

— On 18-1-1997 night, Ywet Sit’s group set 5 houses on fire at Mee hway gon (Bamar) village in Namhsan Township. Altogether 13 persons were killed and 8 others wounded. The insurgent terrorists also raped village girls.

— On 28-1-1997, Ywet Sit’s group killed 21 charcoal makers from ward 6 of Namhsan.

— On 13-6-1997, some SSA (South) group halted 30 passenger buses and demanded extortion money from the passengers. The insurgent terrorists also abducted women passengers into the jungle and raped them. In addition, they sorted out Bamar passengers and killed them en masse. Altogether 25 persons

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were killed and 5 others wounded.
— On 21-5-1998, Ywet Sit’s terrorists planted bomb at Myoma cinema hall in Mandalay. One person was killed and 11 others wounded in the incident.
— On 3-1-2000 night, SSA (South) insurgents blasted explosions at two plots of Monggu village. Over 120 workers were killed and over 50 workers were wounded. Over 250 million kyats worth of property was lost.
— According to the confession of platoon commander Aik Maung of SSA (South) group who surrendered in 2002, it is learnt that the cruel and loathsome bomb blasts at Mongshu village were caused by Ywet Sit’s SSA (South) group.
— On 4-5-2001, in a clear a time bomb planted by Ywet Sit’s terrorists near G-shed of Mandalay Zaygyo market, 34 persons were wounded.
— On 26-3-2005, a Tatmadaw column clashed with some 60 insurgents of Ywet Sit’s group. On its retreat, Ywet Sit’s group set villages of Pa-O national race on fire. At Hitakku village, 32 houses and a primary school were destroyed by fire and 249 persons were left homeless. At Moneloot village, 14 houses were burnt down and 27 persons were left homeless. At Nawngtay village, 38 houses were burnt down and 116 persons were left homeless. At Parmaing village, 14 houses were burnt down and 89 persons were left homeless.

At the press conference No 2/2006, sergeant Sai Tun Kyaw SA (South) brigade-241 who surrendered had confessed that Ywet Sit has two wives and many mistresses; Ywet Sit is a womanizer and he spent a large sum of money for pleasure; Ywet Sit raped Nan Mu Kyauk, a vendor girl who was only 14 years old at Loitainglian market; commanding officer of SSA (South) brigade-758 Mein Hsin has 40 wives; and commanding officer of SSA (South) brigade-756 Khay Lawng has 20 wives.

While Ywet Sit’s group is committing terrorist acts intentionally and unscrupulously, NCGUB, FTUB, ABSDF, NLD (LA) and NDD expatriate groups are launching sabotage acts to frighten and make troubles to the people so as to disseminate national unity. False accusations and fabrications are made to discredit and harm the prestige of the Government. They are committing such terrorist acts as above-ground attack and expatriate attack against the Government.

Some glaring atrocities of terrorist insurgents were as follows.
— During 1991 and 1992, ABSDF (North) group seized and tortured some 100 persons in Kachin State and cruelly beat and shot over 40 persons to death. That group led by Thangyang (alias) Soo Khan Kyaw joined the SSA (South) Ywet Sit’s group in 1997 and committed atrocities such as robberies, collecting extortion money, mobilizing new recruits forcibly, etc. When SSA (South) brigade-241 entered Namkham region in January 2006, the Tatmadaw and the people jointly launched operation and 39 insurgents were captured and 11 insurgents surrendered.
— On 25-12-1996, Buddha’s Tooth Relic was conveyed from China under the friendship programme between the two countries and kept in Maha Pasana Cave of Kaba Aye Hillock for public homage. On that religious occasion, ABSDF terrorists and cohorts blasted bombs. Five innocent persons were killed and 17 others injured.
— On 7-5-2005 afternoon, time bombs were blasted at three places namely Yangon Trade Centre where Thailand Trade Fair was being held, Junction-8 Shopping Centre and Dagon Centre in Yangon by Aung Min of NDD and Zaw Win Lwin, Nair Palair Do and Ko Pauk of ABSDF. Altogether 23 innocent people died and 150 others were injured. Those bomb blasts were masterminded by NCGUB of expatriate Sein Win, FTUB of Pyithit Nyunt Wai and they provided funds to terrorists to commit such atrocities.
— On 8-1-2006 morning, a time bomb was exploded at two shops in Namphalon market in Tamu Township of Sagaing Division by ABSDF (West) group. As a result, two persons were killed by the bomb blast. There were also many incidents in which the combined force of the people, the Tatmadaw and the Myanmar Police Force prevented incidents that might have killed or injured many people. Some incidents were as follows.
— On 1-1-2000, a time bomb was defused in time by security members at Independence celebrations near Maha Bandoola Park in front of Yangon City Hall. Soe Tha (alias) Thura Kyaw Zin who planted the time bomb was arrested. He confessed that he conspired with 21 members Ye Kyaw Swa, Naing Naing and Min Min to commit such terrorist act.
— On 5-2-2005 evening, ABSDF member Win Aung who infiltrated together with explosives to blast bomb at Taninthayi bridge was arrested in Chaunggyi ward of Taninthayi Township.
— On 7-2-2006, security members exposed in time two highly-explosive mines and 3.5mm rocket launcher planted by San Gyoi and team of NLD (LA) near Kwintachung bridge on Yangon-Mandalay railroad. The two mines included about 10 pounds of TNT and if they were not exposed and removed in time, they would surely derail the train causing death and injury to a large number of passengers.
— On 26-2-2006 morning, acting on a tip-off of a duty conscious citizen, security members exposed in time a highly-explosive mine planted by San Gyoi and team of NLD (LA) at the rail track near 176/21 milepost of Yangon-Mandalay railroad in Toungoo Township. The mine contained 7 pounds of TNT and one pound of gelignite.
To send false information and fabrications, NCGUB, FTUB, NLD (LA), ABSDF and NDD terrorists provided some UG hardcores within the country with funds and illegal satellite phones. The UG hardcores also distributed instigative pamphlets to destabilize the nation. Their destructive acts were exposed by security members. By seeing the above-mentioned points, it is obvious that terrorist expatriate groups and terrorist insurgent groups are committing atrocities and sabotage acts to harm the lives and property of the people; committing ethnic cleansing, murdering innocent people en masse and raping national race girls. The people suffering from the troubles and hardships are ready to tell the world of their grievances. Another false accusation against Myanmar was that Myanmar was recruiting child soldiers. In Myanmar, conscription is not compulsory. For national defence duty, those between the age limit of 18 and 25 are accepted to discharge military duty of their own volition. The Adjutant-General’s Office of the Ministry of Defence has issued directives and orders not to recruit minors as soldiers. The real culprits who are recruiting minors as child soldiers actually are insurgent terrorist groups including Ywet Sit’s SSA (South) group. It has been clarified at the previous press conferences. In this context, I would like to recount some terrorist acts of them as follows.
— On 2-7-2004, SSA (South) Ywet Sit’s group forcibly recruited 5 villagers each from Hwaykhan, Narlaw and Naintein villages. (See page 12)
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— During May and September 2005, SSA (South) Ywet Sit group forcibly recruited 8 villagers from Wanlawt village of Kunhein Township, 10 from Saikhaung village, 5 from Kyaingtaung Township and 25 from Lungkhe Township.

— In October 2005, SSA (South) Ywet Sit’s group abducted and recruited Aik Pee (16), Aik Lu (10), Aik Sai (13) and Kham Om (13) of Wanlawt village of Kunhein Township as child soldiers.

— In January 2006, SSA (South) brigade-241 infiltrated into Namkham region and along the route the insurgents forcibly mobilized 15 new recruits including a 13 years old boy named Maung Soe Naing. It has been clarified and you excellencies and journalists have seen him at the previous press conference.

SSA (South) Ywet Sit’s group forcibly recruited members from surrounding villages. If the villages could not provide new recruits they had to give extortion money of 500,000 kyats per recruit. Due to forceful recruitment by Ywet Sit’s group, the local people sent their children to nearby towns and put them into novicelhood. Those new recruits who fled were killed in public. In some cases, the SSA (South) insurgents murdered the parents of some new recruits in order to cut off the family links. These facts were confessed by those who fled from Ywet Sit’s group and those insurgents who surrendered.

The above-mentioned points show that who are the real culprits committing drug trafficking, ethnic cleansing, rapes, sabotage acts and recruiting child soldiers actually. They are none other than SSA (South) Ywet Sit group, NCGUB, FTUB, ABSDF. Hence, the Government has officially declared these four groups as unlawful associations.

One of the above-ground attacks was the announcement No 1/2006 of NLD dated 12-2-2006. The announcement contained demands for summoning Hluttaw. In this context, it is to be considered whether NLD can make such demand or not. In the 1990 elections, NLD won in 392 out of 485 constituencies. However, altogether 105 representatives-elect had been cancelled as they were convicted for violating existing laws. Altogether 79 representatives-elect resigned of their own volition and 73 representatives-elect passed away. Thus, 305 representatives-elect are void due to various reasons and there remain only 131 representatives-elect altogether. Of them, only 87 representatives-elect are from NLD. So, Hluttaw cannot be summoned. By reviewing constitutions of the world nations, it can be found that Hluttaw can be summoned only when at least one-third of representatives make demand for it. The 1974 Constitution stated that when 34 per cent of representatives-elect demand, the State Council shall summon Hluttaw immediately. Thus, NLD’s 87 representatives-elect can in no way demand for summoning Hluttaw. It is not in accordance with the international norms. Even if the Government summons the Hluttaw, it would be void.

Moreover, the national people no longer trust NLD. Since 1998, mass rallies were held in cities of States and Divisions to express the people’s desire. At the mass rallies, the people expressed their view that NLD should be dissolved as it is making obstacles and hardships for the people in various ways and means in collusion with foreign masters.

With foreign interference, NLD is posing danger to the country and it should be dissolved in accordance with the people’s desire. The mass rallies also demanded to take action against illegal CRPP (Committee Representing People’s Parliament) in accordance with law.

In addition, many representatives-elect of NLD resigned in the year 1999 as they no longer trusted activities of NLD which was betraying the national cause. Many township NLDs were dissolved with the consent of executive committees. A larger number of people than those who had voted for NLD candidates signed their statement of disapproving them and recalled the NLD representatives-elect. So, it can be seen that NLD is no longer supported by the people.

Another demand of NLD is dialogue. The National Convention being attended by over 1,000 delegates representing national races, religious belief and people from all walks of life is wider in scope than NLD’s dialogue. The NLD walked out of the National Convention in 1995. It also failed to attend the National Convention in 2004. It had been many times NLD neglected the national interests. So, no dialogue is possible with NLD which is no longer winning the public trust and not representing the people.

NLD issued another announcement on 21-4-2006 making accusations which are far from actual conditions of the country. These accusations are quite similar to those of their foreign masters. For NLD to make accusations and attacks, foreign masters have been masterminding constantly.

The NLD headquarters in Yangon is being frequented by diplomats from embassies of foreign masters. For instance, some diplomats of those embassies visited the NLD headquarters for 51 times during March and exchanged documents. The diplomats also discussed with CEC members of NLD.

If NLD which is dancing to the tunes of foreign masters come into power, Myanmar will fall under the influence and servitude of the neo-colonialists. NLD’s announcement also made groundless accusations that the national economy was declining and the Government could not prevent drug trafficking as well as trafficking in person and it had difficulties in controlling and preventing infectious diseases; to solve these problems the nation would need foreign aids; and only when the Government is done one, foreign aids and loans can be obtained, it said.

If NLD has the true goodwill for the nation to have greater development, it should demand its foreign masters to revoke sanctions against Myanmar. Prompted by NLD, foreign masters have imposed economic and trade sanctions. Foreign investments and tourism are also discouraged. Otherwise, the Tatmadaw Government would be able to bring about development of the nation with higher speed. Our nation might have been developed much more than the present.

Hence, instead of demanding for a dialogue, NLD should make demands to its foreign masters for revoking sanctions. Instead of putting pressure on Myanmar, the foreign masters should render a helpful hand to the Government in order to accelerate the pace of transition to democracy.
With intention of establishing…

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fled after hearing the incident and seizure. The investigation resulted in the arrest of 25 offenders inside Myanmar while 18 are still on the run with arrest warrants. Based on the evidence from the seized drugs, Operation Soe San Zone investigations widened involving several international law enforcement agencies like the Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) of Thailand, China National Narcotics Control Commission (NNCC), Hong Kong Police, Australian Federal Police (AFP), DEA, Narcotic Control Bureau (NCB) of Singapore, Vietnam and the Philippines.

CCDAC, ONCB and DEA joint investigations traced Ms. Thuza Myintzu, ex-wife of Captain Nay Lin, a naturalized citizen of the United States living in Seattle and revealed she was visiting Bangkok to meet Nay Lin. The moment she left the United States, DEA monitored her movements all along the route and provided us detailed information. On 28 January 2005, DEA, ONCB and CCDAC collaboration finally resulted in the arrest of Captain Ne Lin at Don Muang Airport, Bangkok by ONCB(a) CCDAC officers when Thuza Myintzu flew in from Seattle to meet him. The next day on 29 January 2005, Thai authorities repatriated Ne Lin to Yangon, Myanmar.

Information from Ne Lin was relayed to National Narcotics Control Commission (NNCC) of China that key traffickers Teranai Vrantrakul (a) Ah Yang and Sai Lon (a) Ah Ti were hiding in Yunnan Province of China. The Yunnan Provincial Narcotics Control Committee (YPNCC) managed to trace both of them in Kunming and arrested them. Both of them were handed over back to

threatening the international community. This is why we had to take time to investigate this case. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the DEA, ONCB, NNCC and other law enforcement agencies for their cooperation and assistance in this very successful dismantling of an international drug syndicate.

It took us over 2 years since the initiation of the case to reach this stage because this is a very big and complex case involving international syndicates. Even up to this day, we cannot say the case is closed, because with the cooperation of concerned countries, we are still in the process of investigating the financial proceeds of crime in millions of dollars stashed and laundered in banks of some countries. This is not an ordinary drug case but a very complex and difficult case with transnational organized crime nature involving money laundering

Myanmar on 3 March 2005. It took us over 2 years since the initiation of the case to reach this stage because this is a very big and complex case involving international syndicates. Even up to this day, we cannot say the case is closed, because with the cooperation of concerned countries, we are still in the process of investigating the financial proceeds of crime in millions of dollars stashed and laundered in banks of some countries. This is not an ordinary drug case but a very complex and difficult case with transnational organized crime nature involving money laundering

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(set up an entrapment operation and arrested Ye Kyaw (a) Kyaw Kyaw Win with 6 ecstasy tablets which he was trying to sell to the undercover agent. A search at his apartment on Pansodan Street of Kyatada Township found another 292 tablets of ecstasy. Street price of the drugs were worth 24.2 million. Ye Kyaw (a) Kyaw Kyaw Win is an American citizen who frequently visited Yangon and had been trafficking ecstasy on these trips. One of the main traffickers who had been distributing ecstasy in Myanmar fled abroad and we are also working closely with the DEA to investigate the suppliers in the United States. I extend our thanks to the DEA for their cooperation and assistance in this case.

Finally, I am going to brief you on a very recent successful case, which is also a milestone in the seizure of drugs. It is a very recent case, and I wish to stress that this is the first and only case that was handled in coordination with NNCC of DEA and other law enforcement agencies.

The case covers the period from 26 December 2005 to 19 April 2006. In this case, we seized 149 million methamphetamine tablets, 50 kg of heroin, 1000 kg of No. 3 heroin, 26 kg of opium, 721.24 kg of ephedrine, 1706 kg of caffeine, 876.6 litres of Lysol, 360 litres of acetic anhydride, 22.25 litres of sulphuric acid, 23.5 kg of opium, 1 tabulating punch machine and 3 vehicles. Yang Ah Hong was traveling at the time and his caretaker Kyaw Swe was arrested. Surveillance indicated suspicious movements of Sai Pan Maung and Yang Ah Hong’s houses. 165 tablets of methamphetamine were found in Sai Pan Maung’s house. 1.38 million methamphetamine tablets, 18 assorted firearms, 1375 rounds of assorted ammunition, 1 hand grenade, 0.1 kg of heroin, 0.4 kg of crushed methamphetamine, 0.1 kg of heroin, 9 mm pistol, 1178 rounds of assorted ammunition, 14 landmines and 27 detonators and 15 vehicles.

Based on information from suspects, on 14 January a search in Pan Ku village of lower Mong Haite resulted with 42 assorted firearms, 24 assorted rounds of ammunition, 1 tablet punching machine. Then on 4 February, a stash of 800,000 methaphtha-mine tablets was found after a search in a cave near Pan Ku village. And 1.3 million methamphetamine tablets were found hidden within a cave in the same village. Continued searches at Naw Kham’s farms at Wan Kyaung Lone village were conducted daily and on 9 March 14 assorted firearms, 1,580 assorted ammunition, 2 bombs, 16 hand grenades, 1 heroin block (0.35 kg) and a WY punching mould were found. It was assessed that Sai Pan Maung, Yang Ah Hong and Naw Kham were key players of this drug case. Both Sai Pan Maung and Yang Ah Hong served in the MTA together and after surrender in 1996, they started an agriculture farm at Par Sho Kyaung, north of Tachileik as a front, while setting up a clandestine heroin refinery on the Laos side of the Mekong River bank at a place called Kyaung Gu (Rock Cave) near Kyang Kok. The location was ideal and unique; very remote with a dense forest but raw opium was easily available.

Access to the refinery however was very difficult if not impossible providing them with an early warning system if Myanmar or Laos forces approached the refinery. Moving out anytime was easy by boats in the Mekong if necessary. All the essential precursor chemicals were shipped in from China and Thailand at that time. Altogether 98.7 kg of 141 heroin blocks were refined at the clandestine lab in 2001. Naw Kham refined heroin and produced methamphetamine tablets at Kaw Phu village near the Hot Springs village and bartered the drugs with firearms with a Laotian national. Then, he trafficked the firearms along the Tachileik-Kyaing-Tong-Tarpin-Mong La-Mong Pauk - Pang Kham route bartering them with heroin blocks again. In fact, Naw Kham became a drug kingpin producing, trafficking heroin as well as a firearms smuggler.

In this connection, I wish to add some background information on Naw Kham. Naw Kham has been involved in trafficking heroin as well as smuggling drugs to the country and has not demonstrated satisfactorily to combat drugs.

In reality, Myanmar has been carrying out the enormous task of eliminating the scourge of narcotic drugs with serious commitment not only as a national concern, but also as the interest of mankind, which I have made it very obvious in my presentation today. In other words, I wish to state that with unwavering commitment and based on our own resources, Myanmar will continue to do our utmost with or without external assistance to overcome the threat posed by drugs to the country and the international community at large. — MNA

Seized 108 heroin blocks, drugs and precursors seen before destruction.
**WEATHER**

**Thursday, 27 April, 2006**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:**
During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin, Rakhine and Kayah States and Bago Division, scattered in Kachin and Kayin States. Sagaing and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in lower Sagaing Division. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Ayeyawyad, Bago and Yangon Divisions. (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Mon, Shan and Kayin States, (7°C) to (8°C) above normal in Kachin State and Sagaing Division, (5°C) above normal in Chin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Jumjal (42°C), Monywa, NyaungU and Chauk (41°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (2.48 inches), Shwebo (1.50 inches), Mawlamyine (1.46 inches) and Meiktila (1.22 inches) each.

**Maximum temperature on 26-4-2006 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 27-4-2006 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 27-4-2006 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 26-4-2006 was (1.8) hours approx. Rainfalls on 27-4-2006 were (0.12) inch at Mingaladon, (0.27) inch at Kabay-Aye and (0.20) inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (0.16) inch at Mingaladon, (0.35) inch at Kabay-Aye and (0.79) inch at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kabay-Aye) was (7) mph from southwest at (12:30) hrs MST on 26-4-2006.

**Bay infantrymen:** According to the observations at (09:30) hours MST today, yesterday’s tropical storm over Southeast Bay has further intensified into a cyclonic storm “MALA” and moved to the Southeast Bay and adjoining East Central Bay. It is centred at about (230) miles Southwest of Co Co Island. It is moving slowly in the North-Northwesterly direction and forecast to cross the coast between Sittway (North Rakhine) and Chittagong (Bangladesh) within next (72) hours commencing this morning.

Under the influence of this cyclonic storm, scattered to widespread rain or thundershowers are likely in Rakhine, Chin, Shan, Kayah and Mon States and Ayeyawady, Yangon, Bago, Mandalay and Magway Divisions within next (48) hours commencing this morning.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:**
- **State of the sea:** Squalls with rough seas are likely at times Delnic, off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-60) mph.
- **Moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.
- **Outlook for subsequent two days:**

- **Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Central Myanmar areas.
- **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw City and neighbouring areas for 28-4-2006:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
- **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 28-4-2006:** One or two rain or thundershers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
- **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 28-4-2006:** One or two rain or thundershers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
YANGON, 27 April — The Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held the Press Conference No 4/2006 on achievements of Myanmar in narcotic drug eradication, and matters relating to terrorist acts including drug trafficking, ethnic cleansing and rapes under guises of political ground committed by internal and external destructionists, at the city hall in Kengtung, Shan State (East), yesterday morning.

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**With intention of establishing drug free-country by 2014, government launched 15-year Drug Elimination Plan**

Ywet Sit is drug kingpin, firearms smuggler

YANGON, 27 April — The following is the translation of clarification made by CCDAC Secretary Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi of Myanmar Police Force on endeavours of Myanmar in narcotic drugs eradication at the Press Conference No 4/2006 in Kengtung Yesterday.

Although Myanmar is generally known in connection with the infamous “Golden Triangle”, few people know or try to understand the real situation as well as the underlying root causes of the problem that we face.

In this connection, I would like to take this opportunity to explain the efforts that the Government of Myanmar has made to eliminate the drug scourge as a national duty. This calls for a brief explanation on the background scenario of how opium poppy cultivation and illicit drugs production came into Myanmar in the first place. To allow me to touch briefly on the background history. Poppy cultivation started to take a firm root in northeastern regions of Myanmar during the colonial period in the late 19th and early 20th century, consequently making the ethnic races living in the northeastern part of our country relying on poppy cultivation as livelihood.

In other words, this is an evil inheritance that our

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**With Supplement Attached**

Twenty-nine members of Kyaukse Township National League for Democracy of Mandalay Division resign from NLD

YANGON, 27 April — Twenty-nine members of Kyaukse Township National League for Democracy of Mandalay Division collectively resigned from the party at 9 am on 21 April at Kyaukse District General Administration Department.

Member of ward/village NLD U Hla Htay acted as MC at the resignation ceremony.

U Aung Khin, Ward/Village NLD Chairman of Pattaing Village, Kyaukse Township, on behalf of all the 29 persons, explained the purpose of leaving the party.

Next, two of them, on behalf of all the 29, presented all the materials they had used in doing the party functions to the chairman of Kyaukse District Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission.

Also present on the occasion were Kyaukse District MPDGE Sub-Commission, chairmen of four township MPDGE Sub-Commissions, the township law officer, the township judge, the head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department, the manager of Kyaukse Cement Factory, the 29 persons and others, totalling 40.

The ceremony ended at 9.40 am. — MNA

U San Hla Baw resigns from National League for Democracy, political duties

YANGON, 27 April — U San Hla Baw, a member of the National League for Democracy, resigned from the party today, discarding all his duties as a politician once and for all.

His resignation in the presence of the officials of Mandalay Division, Mandalay District and Patheingyi Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commissions covers all his political duties — Honorary Chairman of Mandalay Division NLD, NLD Central Committee member, representative-elect of Patheingyi Township constituency, National Convention delegate, Chairman of Upper Myanmar Old Patriotic Soldiers, Chairman of Division Social Affairs Committee and NLD member.

U San Hla Baw, National Registration Card No MBU 107822, son of U Kyaw Shein, submitted the resignation in person at Mandalay Division Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission, located at the corner of 30th and 68th streets, at 10 am today, in the presence of Chairman of the Division MPDGE Sub-Commission U Kyaw Min and Chairman of Patheingyi Town- ship MPDGE Sub-Commission U Aung Min. — MNA
Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan answers the queries raised by journalists. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo. — MNA

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.

Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt.

YANGON, 27 April—The Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held its press conference 4/2006 at City Hall in Kengtung, Shan State (East), yesterday morning.

Officials from the News and Periodicals Enterprise, the president and members of the Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, members of editorial divisions of local journals and magazines, and correspondents from the Newspaper and TV Division from Thailand covered the news.

At the press meet, local and foreign journalists and officials from local magazines and journals raised questions regarding the clarification and other matters. Officials concerned, those from SSA-S Ywet Sit group who returned to the legal fold, and villagers from the villages that were burnt down by SSA-S Ywet Sit group replied to the queries. Their clarifications were as follows:

U Myat Khaing (Good News and Great News Journal)

I have learnt that the special announcement NLD issued on 21 April said that the people were in poverty, and poppy growing and production was uncontrollable. So, I would like to know what the government is doing now including the tasks for the development of border areas including the regions on the eastern bank of the Thanlwin River, raising the social life of the people and poppy-substitute crops projects for elimination of narcotic drugs. Can these tasks be said to be effective? Another question is that the minister said that the government is taking measures for enhancing the intellectual power of the people and the development of human resources for the emergence of a democratic nation. I would like to know the previous situations in the education sector of Shan State (East) and what are changes in its education sector.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt

Regarding the first question, I would like to present the undertakings for the development of border areas, and the fruitful results of development of the regions on the eastern bank of the Thanlwin River have enjoyed.

The border areas development projects have been implemented with increased efforts and have come to fruition since the Tatmadaw assumed State duties. The social and economic sectors of local people in border areas have made considerable progress more than expected if compared with those before the projects.

As a matter of fact, Myanmar’s border areas laggard behind in development due to geographical barriers and poor transport. To make circumstances worse, the areas suffered multi-coloured insurgency for more than four decades. So, the magnitude of backwardness of rural areas was very huge. Since its assumption of State responsibilities, the Tatmadaw Government has given priority to national reconsolidation. As a result, Kokang Region returned to the legal fold on 31 March 1989, and “Wa Region” national race insurgent group, on 9 May.

So, the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races chaired by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe was formed on 25 May 1989 and the development project was launched. In implementing the policies the Central Committee laid down, the Work Committee chaired by the Secretary-1 has undertaken the projects, enlisting the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs separately established for the development of border areas, 11 regional work committees chaired by chairmen of respective states and divisions, and 18 subcommittees chaired by deputy ministers of respective ministries. Therefore, the projects have yielded remarkable results.

In the process, a major aim was set up to put an end to narcotic drugs, evil legacy the colonialists intentionally left in border areas. One of the five major aims enumerated in Border Areas Development Law (1993) is to eradicate poppy growing and production by establishing business enterprises in border areas.

That is why the Tatmadaw Government has been constructing social economic infrastructures such as roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, agricultural farms, livestock farms, TV retransmission stations and communication systems since 1989 to create social and economic opportunities for local people in the border areas. From 1989 to date, the government has spent more than 81,837 million kyats from the State funds, and 79.5 per cent of the investments has gone (See page B)
Questions and answers at…

(from page A)

to the regions where poppy is grown mainly. In 1999, ten years after the start of the Border Areas Development Project, the 15-year Narcotic Drugs Elimination Plan was launched, and then success has been achieved successively.

For instance, Mongla Region was declared as poppy free zone in 1997, and it has never relapsed into poppy growing, and so has Kokang Region since 2003. That shows that ex-pappy growers have been able to earn their living by means of other businesses. Similarly, Wa Region was also declared as narcotic drugs free zone on 26 July, 2005 and poppy cultivation has been banned since then. The previous poppy growing season did not see at all the growing of poppy in the region.

In the drive for the development of the border areas, the government has given priority to road and bridge projects in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State. From 1989 to date, in border areas, 3,181 miles of earth roads, 1,995 miles of gravel roads and 351 miles of tarred roads have been constructed, 3,295 miles of old roads reconstructed, and 51 above-100-foot bridges, 725 under-100-foot bridges, and 26 suspension bridges, constructed.

Regarding the education sector, from 1989 to date, the government has opened 1,034 schools. It is amazing the number of students in border areas has increased sharply to 170,920 from just more than 1,000 in 1988.

Concerning the health sector, it has established 79 hospitals, 105 dispensaries, 58 rural health care centres and 140 sub-rural health care centres.

It has established 108 TV retransmission stations in border areas, and so the progress has enhanced the knowledge of local people.

With regard to the agriculture and livestock breeding sector, it has opened 31 agricultural offices, 117 agricultural farms, 11 tractor stations, and 41 livestock breeding and veterinary camps. So, there have been plantations of suitable crops, poppy substitute crops and fields and agriculture and livestock farms. The fields where poppy was grown have become fields of paddy and corn. The cultivation of paddy and corn has been extended to fulfill basic needs of local people, and perennial crops and raw industrial crops are cultivated to create long-term job opportunities and raise income. Apart from the agriculture and livestock farming established by the government, local national people are running large farm plantations that create long-term job opportunities and raise income. Panhsan, Mongmao and Namti in Wa Region have seen rubber farms along with finished rubber products factories. While tea grown in Mongmao Region is high in quality and gets high price in foreign market, and so plans are under way to extend growing such species of tea. The tea farms in Mongla Region thrives again and tea produced in Mongmao Region is high in quality along with finished rubber products factories. Wulon opportunities and raise income. Panhsan, Mongmao crop plantations that create long-term job opportunities and raise income. Apart from the industrial crops are cultivated to create long-term basic education schools in Shan State (East), 33 schools have been facilitated with multimedia classrooms.

Enrolment rate of school going age children reached 51 per cent in 1988. Now, today’s school going age enrolment rate increased to 95.98 per cent. Therefore, the remarkable enrolment had risen up to 44 per cent. Though adult literacy rate was 32 per cent in 1988, it is 49 per cent at present. Hence, there is 17 per cent adult literacy rate increase. In reviewing the facts and figures, success of the education sector can be witnessed in Shan State (East).

With regard to the higher education sector, there was no university and college in Shan State in 1988. At present, the state has been equipped with two degree colleges of the Ministry of Education and one of the Ministry of Science and Technology. In the entire nation, there were 33,747 basic education schools in 1988, compared with 40,525 at present. Hence, the growth in the number of schools is over 7,700. Likewise, today’s strength of teachers is 240,000: it is 70,000 more than 170,000 teachers in 1988. There are 7.8 million basic education students at present. It is 2.5 million more than 5.2 million students in 1988. Nowadays, 156 universities are opened in the entire nation. However, the nation had 32 universities in 1988. Therefore, 124 universities had risen. Nowadays, the Government has designated 24 special development zones in all states and divisions for carrying out equitable development tasks. Therefore, progress can be witnessed in the basic and higher education sectors.

Aung Khine (Yonkyihnu News Journal): I would like to ask two questions. The first—Is it true that Ywe Sit group committed to violent behaviour towards Pa-O race? The second—Is it true that someone who was a novice joined with SSA (South)?

U Kyaw (Chairman of Naungtae Village-Tract PDC): YWet Sit group came to opprress our national Pa-O. Both Pa-O and Shan races were residing in our village. But YWet Sit group released an order to burn all the houses in Pa-O village and not to do in Shan village during the clashes. There were two villages of Pa-O and five of Shan in our area. Whenever they burnt the villages, they told us to return to Thaton. If not, they would drive us away from there. I had been living in the hills since my childhood and both my parents were also dead on that hill. I turned over 60 now. They wanted me to return to Thaton and I had never been there. That was racial discrimination towards me. I am a Pa-O national Buddhist.

Aik In (He exchanged arms for peace from SSA-S Ywet Sit Group): I am Aik In and live in Nanswe village, Mongga village-tract, Kengtung. As a novice, I was attending school at the same time. At the age of 15, I went to Thailand and over one year later I was arrested by Thai police. They disrobed me and sent me to Ywet Sit group after I was told that I would be sent back to Myanmar. I attended the military course and then two months later I came to surrender arms in Monghayat.
Questions and answers at…

(from page B)

Dr Tin Tun Oo (Pyi Myanmar Journal): NLD released a special announcement on 21st April and it said that Myanmar faced difficulties in preventing and fighting AIDS, Malaria, TB and Bird Flu and that I would like to know how Myanmar world is solving these health problems.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo: The first thing I want to tell was that accusations made by NLD and foreign news agencies towards efforts of the Ministry of Health were not new ones. They were constantly making the public misunderstend about the endeavors of the State. National Health Committee was dealing with the health problems in our country. The committee was steered by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Thein Sein. Our health minister joining hands with other related ministries laid down health policies and have been implementing them.

Other ministries, private departments, Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, War Veterans Organization, Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society, Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association are holding educative talks among the grass roots. Turning a blind eye to our constant efforts against traffickers according to the existing law at first. It was before the promulgation of human trafficking law. Human trafficking law was enacted on 13 September, 2005. Since 2002, action has been taken against 1421 people in 703 cases. This shows that we are really serious and taking effective steps about the prevention of human trafficking. We are preventing human trafficking on our own as well as in cooperation with other nations in Mekong Region, namely, China, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia. Myanmar hosted minister-level meetings of the six nations in the region in October, 2004. This indicates that we are offering full cooperation to the regional endeavour to curb on human trafficking. A national seminar was held from 28 February to 1 March, 2006, and responsible personnel from Myanmar Police Force, the Office of Attorney-General and the Supreme Court participated in it. Moreover, such NGOs as Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association are holding educative talks among the grass roots. Turning a blind eye to our constant efforts against human trafficking amounts to an insult to the integrity of our nation and people.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint answered in brief the question of how to comfort and prevent the victims. The victims suffered from social troubles abroad, were looked after by Social Welfare and Resettlement Department with the ways of social welfare giving the consultation, training and the additional services to them.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe said: Regarding human trafficking, we took action against traffickers according to the existing law at first. It was before the promulgation of human trafficking law. Human trafficking law was enacted on 13 September, 2005. Since 2002, action has been taken against 1421 people in 703 cases. This shows that we are really serious and taking effective steps about the prevention of human trafficking. We are preventing human trafficking on our own as well as in cooperation with other nations in Mekong Region, namely, China, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia. Myanmar hosted minister-level meetings of the six nations in the region in October, 2004. This indicates that we are offering full cooperation to the regional endeavour to curb on human trafficking. A national seminar was held from 28 February to 1 March, 2006, and responsible personnel from Myanmar Police Force, the Office of Attorney-General and the Supreme Court participated in it. Moreover, such NGOs as Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association are holding educative talks among the grass roots. Turning a blind eye to our constant efforts against human trafficking amounts to an insult to the integrity of our nation and people.

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The SWRR Ministry accepted the victims systematically from Myanmar embassies abroad and in other ways and they were temporarily accommodated at the women’s vocational training schools under the ministry and had them undergone medical check-up. Then, the case study on their biographies was compiled.

Arrangements were made to send them back home only after giving the training and the educative lectures on the salient points of the human trafficking and getting used to their living after going back. After all, they were sent to their respective parents systematically. Moreover, through the cooperation of local authorities, the Ministry and had them undergone medical check-up. Then, the case study on their biographies was compiled.

Concerning the vocational training schools, the tailoring and knitting courses are given to them for making own living. Besides, the basic requirements for social and economic assistance were fulfilled appropriately in order to make their living after going back. After all, they were sent to their respective parents systematically. Moreover, through the cooperation of local authorities, the Social Welfare Department and other international organizations such as UNIA, World Vision Myanmar, Save the Children UK, the efforts are also being made not to be the victims of human trafficking again.

Regarding the second question of drug addicts and activities for rehabilitation, the Ministry of Health gave medical treatment to them in order that they stop using narcotic drugs. Later, the rehabilitation tasks were being carried out opening the camps for rehabilitation based on the hospitals and the Social Welfare Department. On the other hand, under the leadership of the CCDAC, the rehabilitation camp for the youths was also opened and measures on the community base rehabilitation are being taken.

To gain physical progress, the vocational training courses were given to them for earning their own living. For their mental progress, the measures were taken for rehabilitation after consultations with them individually and in group. Besides, they were trained for their relaxation by enabling them to enjoy the songs and TV and video. Persuading them with the preaching of Sayadaws and elder persons, the opportunities are also created to describe their past experiences and feelings through the discussions with families. Moreover, the lecture on the disadvantages of using narcotic drugs were given. Next, after care services are being provided with the assistance of volunteers and the drug abuse super-visory committee.

Dr Tin Tun Oo of Pyi Myanmar Journal. — MNA

U Hein Lott of Popular Journal. — MNA

U Myat Khaing of Maha and Kaungchadin Journal. — MNA

U Myo Min of Shwe Mandalay Journal. — MNA

U Zan Zan of Morning Post said that in the clarification of the Information Minister, SSA-S of Ywet Sit set fire to a Pa-O village on 26 March 2005, killed the villagers and left them homeless. So, he would like to know why they set fire to the village.

Some of the diplomats had contacts with NLD headquarters and gave guidance to also giving instructions. Their incorrect commitment and policy are a big loss to the State and the people. So, the people do not support the NLD. Some party members of NLD resigned as party members and have kept politically extensive than the discussion with a handful group. Due to those reasons, the government has no reason to talk with the NLD.

U Ko Ko of Yumiyuri Shinbun said the NLD unlawful. But the government assessing the situation from all view points and exercising tolerance and patience and farsightedness still permits the NLD to stand as a legal political party. — MNA