NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe received the goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and party at Bayintnaung Yeiktha here at 2 pm today.

Also present at the call were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Aung Thein, Director-General of State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General of Government Office Col Thant Shin and Director-General of Protocol Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Kyaw.

The visiting delegation led by Mr Nguyen Tan Dung was accompanied by Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Union of Myanmar.

MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Fight against narcotic drugs with national spirit

The government is stamping out the drug menace as a national duty since it poses a threat to all mankind.

In the process, the government has laid down and is implementing the 15-year drug elimination plan which is meeting with success. According to the 2006 Golden Triangle Region poppy survey report of the UNODC, the poppy cultivation and production of Myanmar, Thailand and Laos has decreased by 29 per cent compared with that of 2005.

As part of the drug elimination campaign, the seized narcotic drugs have been put into blaze 20 times in border areas and other towns.

As the national people have actively participated in the drive for reducing poppy cultivation and production, the implementations of border area development projects has been successful. Since April 2002, the New Destiny Project has been implemented, and progress has been made in that regard.

The accomplishment of the first five-year drug elimination plan has contributed a lot to the improvement of socio-economic life of the national people. Based on the achievement, the national people are to try their utmost for the success of the second five-year drug elimination plan.

As the government is cooperating with the neighbouring countries in the region in its fight against drugs, the entire national people are urged to strive in unison to fight against narcotic drugs as national duty.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents prizes to students who are outstanding in matriculation exam

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence on 12 August attended the ceremony to present prizes to students who are outstanding in 2007 matriculation exams at Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik, Taninthayi Division and made a speech on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command May-Gen Khan Zaw Oo and wife, members of Taninthayi Division PDC, departmental officials, pro-rector of Myeik University and professors, chairman of the Township and District PDCs, the Divisional Education Officer, social organizations, guests, prize-winning students and their parents.

First, Divisional Education Officer U Win Swe reported on work carried out to uplift the education standard in Taninthayi Division.

Next, the Commander reported on measures taken for human resource development in Taninthayi Division and assistance to be provided the project.

In his address Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that the long-term and short-term education promotion plan has been laid down and is being implemented to keep pace with changes and developments. At the same time efforts are being made for the emergence of a constant learning society capable of facing the challenges of Knowledge Age.

He added that the basic education sector plays a pivotal role in human resource development, and thus efforts are being made for development of the education sector of Taninthayi Division.

Taninthayi Division is trying its utmost like other states and divisions for development of health, social and education sectors as well as agricultural, fisheries, mining, forest and trade sectors.

The pass rate of the examination of Taninthayi Division is 45.10 per cent and it is higher than the pass rate of the whole nation which stood at 27.17 per cent.

In conclusion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo stressed the need for those concerned to exert relentless efforts for the division to maintain higher pass rate all the more and to stand tall among the states and divisions.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented cash awards and certificates of honour to Myeik Township that stood first in pass rate, No 1 BEHS of Myeik that stood first in pass rate, Heinda BEHS of Dawei Township that won the best performance award, No 4 BEHS of Myeik that won the six-distinction award and Myeik University that won the supporting award.

Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented cash award of K 3 million to Maung Wai Yan Kyaw who passed matriculation exam with six distinctions.

Next, the commander presented cash awards and certificates of honour to 65 teachers who are outstanding in teaching.

The commander also presented K 300,000 each to students of No 1 BEHS and No 3 BEHS in Myeik who passed matriculation exam with five distinctions.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially greeted those present on the occasion. — MNA

Shwesigon Buddhapujaniya from 17 Nov to 9 Dec

YANGON, 13 Aug — Buddhapujaniya of Shwesigon Pagoda will be held at the pagoda from 17 November to 9 December.

Tenders for construction of shops are invited to send to Pagoda Board of Trustee not later than 7 September. It will be opened on 12 September.

More information are available at Pagoda Board of Trustee (ph: 061-60825). — MNA

13 members quit NLD

YANGON, 14 Aug — Thirteen members resigned from the National League for Democracy Party of their own accord on 2 August.

Altogether 13 members including U Khin Maung Win, U Khin Myint Soe, U Myint Htay, U Aung Kyaw Don, U Ah Shwin and U Moe Kyaw of Hinthada Township NLD sent their resignation letter to the NLD (Headquarters) and Hinthada Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommissions.

In their resignation letter, they said the party has neglected the national reconsolidation and unity among political parties and has only demanded taking over of power. The party never participated in implementing the development tasks, and acts of the party do not serve interests of the State and the people, they said. Therefore, they quit the party to participate in development tasks of the government. — MNA
Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union

U Kya Shee of Lahu National Development Party.

Mr Chairman,

We will discuss the matter concerning the amendment, addition and repeal of the adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles explained by the Work Committee Chairman at the plenary session of the National Convention held on 6 August 2007.

Concerning the matter to protect the State against law suits, our opinion is that if a detailed basic principle regarding the matter should be adopted an addition should be made to the paragraph (3) of the Chapter—General Provisions, which says “The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws.”

In our view, the expression “The application of these principles in legislation and administration shall be the care of the State but shall not be enforceable in any court or law” should be added to the said detailed basic principle.

Mr Chairman,

As explained by the Work Committee Chairman, the paragraph (50) of the Chapter “Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens”—“In this Chapter “The State” means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution.”—should be amended as follows: “In this Chapter and the Chapter on State Fundamental Principles, “The State” means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution.”

Mr Chairman,

Concerning the qualifications of the Region or State high court judges, we agree that the detailed basic principle 11(c)(ii) “a person who has served as advocate for 15 years” should be amended as “a person who has served as advocate for at least 15 years.”

We agree that the expression “discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy” instead of genuine multiparty democracy should be used in para 2 subpara (d), para 3 and para 28 of the Chapter “State Fundamental Principles” as explained by the Work Committee Chairman.

We are in favour of using the term “Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw” in the subparas (a), (b) and (c) of para 12 of the Chapter “State Fundamental Principles” as “Supreme Court of the Union”.

Mr Chairman,

It is appropriate that the expression “may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit” of the subpara (b) para 22 should be substituted with the expression “shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”.

As explained by the Work Committee Chairman, the subpara (f) para 28 and the subpara (e) para 31 should be amended as follows:

Subpara (f) of para (28): “The Advocate-General of the Region or State is (i) responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned (ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned”

The subpara (e) of para (31) The Auditor-General of the Region or State is (i) responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned (ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned”

Mr Chairman,

As regards the point 10 compiled by the Work Committee Chairman, we agree to adopt the following detailed basic principle: “Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows: (a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population from constituencies designated in accord with the law after combining a newly formed township with one of the suitable townships adjacent to it if the total number of townships exceeds 330 (b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services.”

We are in favour of adopting the following detailed basic principle: “Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows: (a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone (b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories.

(c) In forming the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the subparas (a) and (b), the words “the respective Union territories” mean Union territories designated by this Constitution and Union territories proclaimed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after enacting laws concerning the matter to elect Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are inclusive in the state or division or the region or state they are included in.”

Mr Chairman,

Concerning the designation of Union territories, we agree the following detailed basic principle: “(a) Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

(b) If need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws.”

We are in support of the Subpara (c) (vi) of Para 16 explained by the Work Committee Chairman which said that the term “Chairman of Yangon Council” should be substituted with the term “Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council”.

Mr Chairman,

We agree that the two pints transferred to the Chapter “Head of State, the 11 points transferred to the Chapter “Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens” and the two points transferred to the Chapter “General Provisions” are detailed basic principles.

As explained by the Work Committee Chairman, the detailed basic principle para 15, sub-para 5 in the sharing of legislative power no longer needs to be prescribed, and it will be revoked.

We agree that in drafting the State Constitution in accordance with the basic principles (b) and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted, necessary amendments should be made to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles.

With this we conclude our presentation.—MNA
Mr Chairman, and National Convention delegates,

At the plenary session of the National Convention held on 6 August 2007, the Work Committee chairman had adopted the 104 State fundamental principles for Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" to be included in the State Constitution that were laid down at the plenary session held on 6 September 1993. Based on the basic principles adopted basic principles were laid down for the remaining chapters. The basic principles are to be followed by the State as guidance in general. The State will have to carry out legislative and executive duties in accordance with these basic principles on the basis of prevailing situations of the nation. If there is a lawsuit filed against the government taking advantage of the fact that the government has not completed the procedures because the time is not ripe yet, there will be disruption to the proper operation of legislative and executive machinery. In order to avert such undesirable situation, there must be a detailed basic principle to protect the State. In this regard, Section 32 of Chapter 4 of 1947 constitution says "The principles set forth in this Chapter are intended for the general guidance of the State. The application of these principles in legislation and administration shall be the care of the State but not be enforceable in any court of law." The constitutional provisions of some neighbouring countries also provide a detailed basic principle to protect the State.

Therefore, regarding a matter to adopt a detailed basic principle to protect the State from being sued, so that it can discharge duties in line with the principles and provisions of the State Constitution, we would like to suggest that an expression "The application of these principles shall be the care of the State but shall not be enforceable in any court of law" should be adopted as a detailed basic principle by adding it to the third of the points for Chapter "General Provisions":

"The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws".

Mr Chairman,

The legislative and executive powers are exercised in line with the State Constitution, but sometimes they may be practised for personal affairs. If so, there may be some problems in the State Constitution. If a complete detailed basic principle is adopted now, there will not be any disputes in this regard. In the Chapter ‘Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens’, the 50th point “In this Chapter, the term “State” means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution as the context may require” should be “In this Chapter and Chapter 1 ‘State Fundamental Principles’, the term “State” means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution as the context may require”.

Mr Chairman,

Of the detailed basic principles for the Formation of Legislature, regarding the qualifications of the Union Chief Justice and the judges of the Union High Court, sub-para (c) (3) of para 3 says “has practised law as the advocate for at least 20 years”. The purpose is to mention a minimum requirement clearly. In connection with the qualifications of the chief justices of the High Court of Region or State and the judges of the High Court of the Region or State prescribed in para 11 (c) (ii) states “a person who has served as advocate for 15 years”. It should be “a person who has served as advocate for at least 15 years”.

Mr Chairman,

Para 2 (a) of Chapter "Political Parties" says “A political party shall accept and practise discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy”. It features an expression “discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy”. The purpose of using that expression is to highlight the type of democracy the Union of Myanmar will practise in the near future.

Therefore, the expression “genuine multiparty democracy system” contained in para 1, sub-para 4, and para (c) and para 28 should be "discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy".

Mr Chairman,

Para 1 to 9 of the Formation of Judiciary and paras 1, 2 and 8 of Sharing of the Judicial Power, use the term "Supreme Court of the Union" to clearly express the difference between the term “Supreme Court of the Union” and the term “High Court” of the Region or State. In our view, to have a uniformed context and to prevent occurrence of disputes in the future, the term "Supreme Court of the Union" should be used.

Hence, delegates will have to suggest whether the term Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw in the sub-para (a), (b) and (c) para 9 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" should be substituted with the term “Supreme Court of the Union”.

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 29 March 1996 laid down the detailed basic principles for the formation of executive including sub-para (b) of para 22 which states “The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”. As the para also states “The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”, be may or may not exercise relaxation on age limit. To be able to clearly express the essence and aim of the given detailed basic principle and to prevent constitutional disputes in the future, it should be used “The President of the State shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”, instead of "The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit".

Mr Chairman,

Sub-para (i) of para 28 of Formation of Executive says “The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned, to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned”. Therefore, sub-para (i) of para 28 should be adopted as a detailed basic principle as follows:

"The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned, to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned".

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 6 August 2007, the Work Committee chairman explained the matter concerning the formation of Pyithu Hluttaw laid down at the plenary session of the National Convention held on 2 September 1994. In view of his explanation, To ensure an enduring principle, concerning the formation of Pyithu Hluttaw, the detailed basic principle should be as follows:

"Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:
(a) not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of the number of townships or population; if the number of townships is more than 330, the new township shall be combined with a suitable adjacent township to form a constituency in accordance with the law,
(b) not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services,

Mr Chairman,

The Work Committee chairman also explained detailed basic principles for Formation of Amyotha Hluttaw. The Union Kayin League conducted a thorough study of it. Therefore,"Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:
(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone
(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law".

See page 5
Making the adopted basic principles and detailed principles more complete is practical and reasonable

U Yan Kyint Kan
of the
Kokang Democracy and Unity Party.

YANGON, 14 Aug—The following is the suggestions of the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party on matters concerning the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by the National Convention. The ongoing National Convention is indeed a conference being held to seek the suggestions from the national people, which has brought the goals to fruition, and amending what should not be amended is extreme, and amending what should not be amended is an extreme, and amending what should not be amended is another extreme. So, we consider that making the adopted basic principles and detailed principles more complete is practical and reasonable. So, it is a proper programme.

Mr Chairman,

The ongoing National Convention is indeed a conference being held to seek the suggestions from the delegates to amend, add or transfer some of the adopted basic principles and detailed basic principles without having adverse effects to the aims and essence of the principles to draft the State Constitution for transferring the nation into a modern and development nation that will exercise discipline-flourishing democracy, which is the most important and most fundamental step of the State’s seven-step Road Map.

After conducting a study of the Work Committee chairman’s explanation about amendment, addition, repeal and transfer, we notice that the programme is aimed at strengthening the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted successfully for drafting the State Constitution.

By amending, adding some appropriate words to, and transferring some points and expressions of the basic principles and detailed basic principles to draft the State Constitution, there will be several benefits such as:

(1) expressions in the principles will be more meaningful and comprehensible,
(2) the points that may cause disputes can be averted,
(3) stances of those with dogmatism can be controlled,
(4) expressions can be defined more specifically, and variety of definition of terms can be averted,
(5) principles can be compiled after taking possible changes into consideration,
(6) principles can be made clear and comprehensible by transferring some points to respective chapters. So, we consider this step to be a prudent finishing touch based on prevailing situations.

Mr Chairman,

I would like to cite the explanation of the Work Committee chairman. Some points are explained reasonably as regards reviewing, repealing and transferring some basic principles, adding suitable words, to them, and omitting unnecessary points in order that the adopted basic principles and detailed principles will conform with prevailing conditions, the adopted objectives and meaning are more precisely and clearly, and the State Constitution can be drafted more clearly and specifically. So, we believe that there will be a discipline-flourishing democratic nation to which the entire national people are aspiring and that will guarantee long-term interests of the people.

Failure to amend what should be amended is an extreme, and amending what should not be amended is another extreme.

We consider that making the adopted basic principles and detailed principles more complete is practical and reasonable. So, it is a proper programme.

Mr Chairman,

This ongoing National Convention is a conference that has brought the goals to fruition, that is aspired by the entire people, On behalf of the members of the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, a national force of the State, I would say we are very proud to have a golden opportunity to attend and participate in the discussions at the National Convention that will go down in the annals of the nation’s history.

In conclusion, we pay our tributes to the visionary State leaders who have made all necessary arrangements, responsible persons of the Work Committee, the Management Committee and subcommittees who have showed their great patience and magnanimity and contributed towards the drive for successful completion of the National Convention, and all delegates. And we are in support of amending, adding suitable words to, and repealing some necessary basic principles and detailed principles the Work Committee chairman explained.

MNA

The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible...

(from page 4)

at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories.

(c) In forming theAmyotha Hluttaw in accord with the sub-paras (a) and (b), the words “the respective Union territories” mean Union territories designated by this Constitution and Union territories proclaimed by Pyidaungsu Hlutaw after enacting laws concerning the matter to elect Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are inclusive in the state or division or the region or state they are included in,” should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session held on 6 August 2007, the Work Committee chairman explained matters on Union territories designated at the National Convention plenary session held on 9 April 1994. We are in support of his explanation. So,

Designation of Union territories,

“(a) Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.
(b) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws.” should be adopted as a detailed basic principle.

After designating Nay Pyi Taw, the Capital of the Union of Myanmar, as a Union territory placed under direct administration of the President, detailed basic principles to be adopted for Nay Pyi Taw should be the same, as that for Yangon Council.

The term “Yangon” prescribed in the detailed basic principles on administration of Capital Yangon, a Union territory, in para 35 and designation of the status of the Chairman and members of Yangon Council prescribed in para 36 of the detailed basic principles adopted at the plenary session held from 28 to 30 March 1996 should be replaced with the term “Nay Pyi Taw”. Furthermore, the term “Chairman of Yangon Council” prescribed in sub-para (C) 6 of para 16 of detailed basic principle for Formation of Financial Commission should be replaced with the term “Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council”.

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 12 December 2005 laid down detailed basic principles for the sharing of judicial power. In this regard, sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 says, “With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocygyun Township.”

Sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 “With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocygyun Township” should be amended as “With regard to the judicial matter, Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw”.

Mr Chairman,

I would say, of the detailed basic principles the Work Committee chairman explained to transfer them to respective chapters, it is proper that points Nos 1 and 2 are transferred to Chapter “The Head of State”, points from No 3 to No 13 to Chapter “Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens”, and points Nos 14 and 15 to Chapter “General Provisions”.

Mr Chairman and delegates,

We find appropriate the Work Committee chairman’s proposal to seek the approval of the National Convention to draft as necessary the State Constitution without infringing the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted according to the minutes of the NC in drafting the State Constitution.

The National Convention launched on 9 January 1993 will be over soon. And a peaceful, modern and developed nation will be built as aspired by the entire national people. I would say that the Union Kayin League recognizes the State Peace and Development Council that has taken necessary measures for successful completion of the National Convention, the National Convention Convening Commission, respective committees, and representatives of the eight delegate groups who have attended the National Convention enjoying the enthusiasm. The State Convention will be drafted with the basic principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted. In conclusion, we believe that all national races residing in harmony in the Union will continue to work hard together for ensuring perpetual existence of the Union. MNA
Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 16 September 1993 adopted the following State Fundamental Principles in connection with judicial power:

(a) the judicial power of the State is distributed among Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw (Supreme Court), Region Taya Hluttaw (Region High Court), State Taya Hluttaw (State High Court), and law courts of different levels including law courts of self-administered areas;

(b) in the Pyidaungsu is constituted one Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw. Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw is the supreme law court of State;

(c) Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw has powers to issue writs.

But from paras 1 to 9 of the Constitution, and paras 1, 2 and 8 of Sharing of the Judicial Power, at least. It is evident that the term “Supreme Court of the Union” to clearly the difference between the term “Supreme Court of the Union” and the term “High Court” of the Region or State. In our view, to have a uniformed context and to prevent occurrence of disputes in the future, the term “Supreme Court of the Union” should be used.

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 29 March 1996, adopted the detailed basic principles for the formation of executive including subpara (h) of para 22 which states “The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age and sex limit”. In our view, the okkatha of the self-administered division or self-administered zone or Hluttaw or Hluttaw representative elected to undertake the affairs of national races may meet all the qualifications of a Hluttaw representative but can be younger than 35, the minimum age limit for Region or State Minister. The okkatha of the self-administered division or self-administered zone or Hluttaw representative elected to undertake the affairs of national races may meet all the qualifications of a Hluttaw representative but can be younger than 35, the minimum age limit for Region or State Minister.

As the para states “The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”, he may or may not exercise relaxation on age limit. To be able to clearly express the essence and aim of a given detailed basic principle to prevent constitutional disputes in the future, the expression “may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit” of

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Mandaly Region High Court…

(from page 6)

the subpara (h) para 22 should be substituted with the expression “shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”.

Mr Chairman,
The plenary session of the National Convention held on 29 March 1996, adopted detailed basic principles for the formation of executive. In our view, the subpara (f) para 28 and subpara (e) para 31 should be amended as follows:

Subpara (f) of para (28) “The Advocate-General of the Region or State is

(i) responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

(ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned.

The subpara (e) of para (31) “The Auditor-General of the Region or State is

(i) responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

(ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned.

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session of the National Convention held on 28 September 1996, the detailed basic principle concerning the formation of Pyithu Hluttaw as follows:

“Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services.”

As the Constitution is the principle law, the provisions contained in it should be observed in the long run.

As the Pyithu Hluttaw is termed as the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population, the designation of constituencies of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will have to be based on population. Endeavours are being made present to develop the nation in accord with the 12 State objectives. Hence, the delegates have witnessed the changes in the administrative, economic and social sectors resulting from their rapid development.

More townships will have to be formed as necessary to be in conformity with the task of implementing projects such as security, management, education, health projects when the nation is achieving more agriculture and industrial development than now. When the total number of townships exceeds 330, the number of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will also exceed 330, if one representative from each township is elected.

So, when the number of townships goes over 330, a newly formed township should be joined with one of the townships adjacent to it to designate a Pyithu Hluttaw constituency. The 330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will be elected one from each such designated constituency.

In our opinion, it is appropriate to make the following addition to ensure an enduring detailed basic principle concerning the formation of the Pyithu Hluttaw:

“Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population from constituencies designated in accord with the law above, combining a newly formed township with one of the suitable townships adjacent to it if the total number of townships exceeds 330

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services.”

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session of the National Convention held on 28 March 1996, the detailed basic principles for the Chapter “Formation of Legislature” were adopted.

Concerning the Amyotha Hluttaw, the following detailed basic principle was adopted:

“Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of Union territories.”

The expression “inclusive of Union territories” means areas that were included in the present states and divisions but have been designated as Union territories and the areas proclaimed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as Union territories because of their significant characteristics after the promulgation of this Constitution. The word “the respective” should be added to the word “Union territories” for the usage to be more precise.

We would like to suggest that the above mentioned detailed basic principle should be amended as follows:

“Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of Union territories.”

We would like to suggest that the abovementioned detailed basic principle should be amended as follows:

“Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of Union territories.”

We would like to suggest that the detailed basic principle:

“(a) Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administrative of the President of the Union.

(b) In need to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws” should be adopted.

Mr Chairman,

It is appropriate that “Capital Yangon” prescribed in the detailed basic principles on administration of Capital Yangon, a Union territory, prescribed in para 35 and the detailed basic principles on designation of the status of the Chairman and members of Yangon Council prescribed in para 36 of the detailed basic principles adopted at the plenary session held from 28 to 30 March 1996, should be replaced with the term “Nay Pyi Taw”, and the term “Chairman of Yangon Council” prescribed in sub-para (c) of para 16 of detailed basic principle for Formation of Financial Commission with the term “Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council”.

Mr Chairman,

The para 4 (a) of para 6 “With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocogyun Township” should be amended as “With regard to the judicial matter, Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw”.

Esteemed Mr Chairman and delegates,

Constitution is as important as life blood of a nation. The nation has already taken more than a decade for the emergence of a Constitution. At present, we, the delegates, will be able to adopt at the National Convention the chapter-wise fundamental principles and detailed basic principles.

It is required that the Constitution should be the one that ensures progress in accord with the era and that guarantees the interest of the majority, not the one that is outdated. The adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles should be amended, annulled, transferred and added as necessary for them to be in conformity with the changes of global countries and the prevailing situation of the country. Moreover, they should be free from loopholes and weaknesses and be durable.

It is appropriate to make necessary amendments to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted according to the minutes of the NC in drafting the State Constitution.

With this I conclude my presentation.”

MNA
Prime Minister and Madame cordially greeted Vietnamese delegation members. After that the visiting Prime Minister and Madame cordially greeted Myanmar welcoming members. Next, Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win and party saw off the Vietnamese delegation led by Prime Minister and Madame who are going to leave for Hotel Zone in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung take the salute of the Guard of Honour at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. — MNA

Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Madame Tran Thanh Kiem
Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein meets visiting Vietnamese Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug
— Acting Prime Minister and State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein met visiting Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the Government Office here at 4 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Minister for Labour Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam Mr Tran Van Tung and high-ranking Vietnamese officials.

At the meeting the Myanmar delegation led by Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and the Vietnamese delegation led by Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung discussed matters on mutual cooperation and further cementing of friendly ties between the two countries and exchanged views.

After the discussion, Director-General of Energy Planning Department U Soe Myint and President & CEO Dr Tran Ngoc Canh of PETROVIETNAM signed a MoU on Myanmar-Vietnam strategic cooperation in oil and gas and exchanged documents.

MNA

Director-General U Soe Myint and President & CEO Dr Tran Ngoc Canh of PETROVIETNAM exchange Memorandum of Understanding.

MNA

Madame Tran Thanh Kiem visits Nursery

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug
— Madame Tran Thanh Kiem, wife of Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, and delegation members, visited Yinthwe Yadana Nursery of Social Welfare Department at Mingaladon Ward here today.

They were accompanied by Daw Khin Swe Myint, wife of Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and Daw Htwe Yi, wife of Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam Mr Tran Van Tung.

They were welcomed by Head of the Integration and Rehabilitation Working Group under Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Tin Tin Nwe, wife of Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, and Director-General U Sit Myaing of Social Welfare Department.

The director-general explained facts about the tasks of the department and nursery.

Madame Tran Thanh Kiem presented flower basket and gifts to kids and donated US$ 2000 to the school.

MNA
The President of the State shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit

YANGON, 14 Aug—The following is the suggestions of three Independent Representatives elect on matters concerning the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.

Esteemed chairman and members of the panel of experts, esteemed esteemed chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Commission, the chairman and members of the Work Committee, the chairman and members of the Management Committee, and delegates,

I am Independent Representative-Elect U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township Constituency in Shan State (South). I extend my warmest greetings to you Mr Chairman and responsible persons and delegates, and may you be all blessed with physical and mental well-being.

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session held on 6 August 2007, the Work Committee chairman clarified the basic principles and detailed basic principles that should be amended, added or repealed among the basic principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted. Dr. Hla Soe, chairman of the Township Constituency in Chit State, U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township Constituency in Shan State (North) and I thoroughly studied the explanation of the Work Committee chairman, and held discussions. I would like to present our proposal paper that is based on our findings.

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session held on 16 September 1993, laid down 104 State fundamental principles for Chapter “State Fundamental Principles” to be included in the State Constitution. Based on these fundamental principles, detailed basic principles were laid down for the remaining chapters. The State will have to carry out legislative and executive duties in accordance with these basic principles taking into consideration the prevailing situations of the nation. If there is a lawsuit filed against the government taking advantage of the fact that the government has not completed the procedures because the time is not ripe yet, there will be a disruption to the operation of legislative and executive machinery. In order to avert such undesirable situation, there must be a detailed basic principle to protect the State. In this regard, Section 32 of Chapter 4 of 1947 constitution and constitutions of some neighbouring countries also prescribe so. Therefore, the expression “The application of these principles shall be the care of the State but not be enforceable in any court of law” should be added to the para 3 of Chapter “General Provisions” and it should be adopted as a detailed basic principle.

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session held on 27 October 2006, adopted the detailed basic principles for Chapter “Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens”. In the Chapter, the 50th point says “In this Chapter, the term “State” means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution as the context may require.” According to the expression in this detailed basic principle, it is just for the term “State” prescribed in Chapter “Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens”.

The term “State” is also prescribed many times in Chapter (1) “State Fundamental Principles”. This expression is prescribed in Section 9 of Chapter 2 of 1947 Constitution and the constitutions of some neighbouring countries. The legislative and executive powers are exercised in line with the State Constitution, but sometimes they may be practised for personal affairs. If so, there may be some problems on the State Constitution. In order to avoid such an undesirable problem, a complete detailed basic principle should be adopted now. Therefore, the detailed basic principle should be “In this Chapter and Chapter 1 ‘State Fundamental Principles’, the term “State” means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution as the context may require.”

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session held on 30 March 1996, matters for Formation of Legislature were explained. Regarding the qualifications of the Union Chief Justice and the judges of the Union High Court, it was said that “have practised law as the advocate for at least 20 years.” However, the words “at least” were not contained in the expression for the qualifications set for the chief justices of the High Court of Region or State and the judges of the High Court of the Region or State. In order to ensure contextual uniformity in drafting the State Constitution, and avoid possible disputes in future, the expression prescribed in para 11 (c) (i) — “a person who has served as advocate for 15 years” — should be “a person who has served as advocate for at least 15 years”.

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session held on 16 September 1993, detailed basic principles for Chapter “State Fundamental Principles” were laid down. In that regard, para (b) sub-para (4) mentions “flourishing of a genuine multiparty democracy system”, para (c) mentions “the State practises genuine multiparty democracy system”, and para 28 mentions “the State shall enact necessary law for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system”. However, Para 2 (a) of Chapter “Political Parties” says “A political party shall accept and practise discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy”. I would say the expression “discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy” to make known to all that the type of democracy the Union of Myanmar will practise in the near future is not only genuine but also discipline-flourishing, and to ensure contextual uniformity in drafting the State Constitution. Therefore, the expression “genuine multiparty democracy system” contained in sub-para 4 of para (b), para (c) and para 28 should be “discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy system”.

Mr Chairman,

Of the detailed basic principles laid down at the plenary session held on 16 September 1993, the term “Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw” (Supreme Court of the Union) was prescribed in the sub-paras 1, 2 and 3 of para (i) concerning judiciary. However, the term is prescribed as “Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttawgyoke” in paras from 1 to 9 of Formation of Judiciary, and in paras 1, 2 and 8 of the sharing of judicial power. In order to differentiate from the expression “Taya Hluttaw” (High Court) used in Region High Court and State High Court, to avert possible disputes in future, and to ensure contextual uniformity in drafting the State Constitution, the expression should be “Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttawgyoke”.

Therefore, the term “Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw” in the sub-paras (a), (b) and (c) of para 9 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" should be substituted with the term “Supreme Court of the Union”.

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 29 March 1996 adopted the detailed basic principles for the formation of executive including sub-para (b) of para 22 which states “The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit in the State Constitution in appointing Region or State Ministers, the okkabta of the self-administered division or self-administered zone or Hluttaw representatives elected to undertake the affairs of national races”. According to sub-para (h) of para 22, in appointing Region or State Ministers, the okkabta of the self-administered division or self-administered zone, or Hluttaw representatives elected to undertake the affairs of national races, a person may possess all qualifications set for a hluttaw member. However, he may be under 35, regarding the age limit of 35 years for a Region or State minister.

Moreover, sub-para (h) of para 22 states “The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”. So, this also means the President of the State will not exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit if he does not want to. So, in order to make comprehensible the essence of the expression and to avoid possible dispute on the State Constitution in future, sub-para (h) of para 22 should be “The President of the State shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit”.

Mr Chairman,

To ensure clear and comprehensible expressions in drafting the State Constitution with respect to the responsibility of the Advocate-General of the Region or State prescribed in the Formation of Executive, and the responsibility of the Auditor-General of the Region or State:

sub-para (f) of para 28 should be: “The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible:
(1) to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned,
(2) to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned”, and sub-para (e) of para 31: “The Auditor-General of the Region or State is responsible:
(1) to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned,
(See page 11)
The President of the State shall ...  

(from page 10) 

(2) to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned”. 

Mr Chairman, 

The State Constitution is the basic law of the laws of a country. So, the provisions of the State Constitution are to be followed constantly. The National Convention laid down a detailed basic principle for Formation of Legislature. That is: 

“(a) the Hluttaw “formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population and Tatmadaw member Hlutaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services shall be known as Pyithu Hluttaw, 

(b) the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers from regions and states and Tatmadaw member Hlutaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services shall be known as Amyotha Hluttaw.” 

Mr Chairman, 

If the Pyithu Hluttaw was termed as the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected according to the population, the electing of Pyithu Hluttaw members will have to be based on the population only. If the State Constitution prescribes an expression “shall elect Pyithu Hluttaw members based on the population”, it will not be possible to elect a hluttaw member from each township. In the Union of Myanmar, there is a population gap between one township and another, but in almost all townships, people of various national races live. A greater number of people of national races can enjoy opportunity to be Pyithu Hluttaw members if hluttaw members are elected by designating constituencies based on the population. Therefore, the designation of Pyithu Hluttaw constituencies should be based on township as well as population so that the initial objectives will work more beautifully. 

If the number of townships is more than 330 due to the establishment of new townships, a new one should be combined with a suitable adjacent township to form a constituency. Thus, to ensure an enduring principle, regarding the formation of Pyithu Hluttaw, the point: 

“Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 480 Hluttaw representatives as follows: 

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population from constituencies designated in accord with the law after combining a newly formed township with one of the suitable townships adjacent to it if the total number of townships exceeds 330, 

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hlutaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services” should be adopted as a detailed basic principle. 

Mr Chairman, 

The expression “inclusive of Union territories” in paras (a) and (b) regarding Formation of Amyotha Hlutaw was included in the present states and divisions, so they have been designated as Union territories and the areas proclaimed by the Pyidaungsu Hlutaw as Union territories because of their significant characteristics after the promulgation of this Constitution. The word “the respective” should be added to the word “Union territories” for the usage to be more precise. Therefore, the points: 

“Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hlutaw representatives, as follows: 

(a) 168 Amyotha Hlutaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone. 

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hlutaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories. 

(c) In forming the Amyotha Hlutaw in accord with the sub-paras (a) and (b), the words “the respective Union territories” mean Union territories designated by this Constitution and Union territories proclaimed by Pyidaungsu Hlutaw after enacting laws concerning the matter to elect Amyotha Hlutaw representatives are inclusive in the state or division or the region or state they are included in” should be adopted as detailed basic principles. 

Mr Chairman, 

Regarding the designation of Union territories, the National Convention plenary session held on 9 April 1994 laid down detailed basic principles: 

5. Designation of Union territories, 

“(a) Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union. 

(b) Cocoygun Township which has a special situation is designated as Union territory and placed under direct administration of the President of the Union”. 

Internationally, the city where the office of the central government is based is designated as the capital of the State. And in some countries, the capitals are placed under direct administration of the President or the central government. Now, the government of the Union of Myanmar and the offices of the central governments are based in Nay Pyi Taw. So, the capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw. Therefore, need arises to amend the words “Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union” prescribed in one of the three above-mentioned detailed basic principles. The designation of Yangon as a Union territory under the direct administration of the president should be revoked. Therefore, regarding the designation of Union territories, 

5. Designation of Union territories, 

“(a) Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union. 

(b) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc, as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws” should be adopted as detailed basic principles. 

Mr Chairman, 

Of the detailed basic principles the plenary session held on 1 August 2007 for Chapter “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital”, para 2 says “The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw”. 

So, the detailed basic principle adopted from 28 to 30 March 1996, the term “Capital Yangon” prescribed in the detailed basic principles on administration of Capital Yangon, a Union territory, prescribed in para 35 and the detailed basic principles on designation of the status of the Chairman and members of Yangon Council prescribed in para 36 of the detailed basic principles should be replaced with the term “Nay Pyi Taw”. 

And the term “Chairman of Yangon Council” prescribed in sub-para (c) 6 of para 16 of detailed basic principle for Formation of Financial Commission should be replaced with the term “Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council”. 

Sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 says, “With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocoygun Township” should be amended as “With regard to the judicial matter, Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw”. 

Mr Chairman, 

In conclusion, we would say we find appropriate the Work Committee chairman’s proposal to seek the approval of the National Convention to draft as necessary the State Constitution without infringing the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted according to the minutes of the NC in drafting the State Constitution. 

MNA
National Convention...

(adapted from page 16)

Present on the occasion were members of the National Convention Convening Committee, members of the National Convention Convening Management Committee, chairmen and officials of sub-committees, delegates of political parties such as National Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahat National Development Party, Union Kayin League, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, independent representatives, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intellectuals, delegates of State Service Personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General’s Office, the Auditor-General’s Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Development Committee and the State service personnel of the respective ministries, other invited delegates, delegates from Shan State (North) Special Region-1, Shan State (North) Special Region-2, Shan State (North) Special Region-3, Shan State (East) Special Region-4, Shan State (North) Special Region-5 (KDA), Shan State (South) Special Region-6, Kachin State Special Region-1, Kachin State Special Region-2, Kayah State Special Region-1, Kayah State Special Region-2, Kayah State Special Region-3, Kayinni National Democratic Party (KNPD) (Dragon) Group, Kayinn National Progressive Party (KNPP) (Breakaway) (Hoya), Kayinni National Unity and Solidarity Organization (Ka Ma Sa Nya), Democratic Kayin Buddhist Organization (DKBA) and Hmuungthayaw Special Region Group who have returned to the legal fold, Nyeinmaungyi Myothit Group from Hpa-an Township of Kayin State, Burma Communist Party (Rakhide Group), Arakan Army (AA), Homein Region Development and Welfare Group, Shwepyiaye (MTA), Manpan People’s Militia Group, Mon Peace Group (Chiangmai Region) and Mon (Breakaway) Nai Seik Chan Group that had exchanged arms for peace.

At 7.30 am, before the plenary session of the National Convention, members of NCCC, NCCWC and NCCMC, chairmen of the respective sub-committees and members, delegates of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of intellectuals and intellectuals, delegates of workers, delegates of service personnel and other invited delegates signed in the attendance books at Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall for National Convention delegates.

At the plenary session, U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) of NCC Work Committee presided over the meeting together with U Saw Philip (a) Philip Sam of Delegate Group of Political Parties, U Maung Gyi of Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect, U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Delegate Group of National Races, U Kan Nyunt of Delegate Group of Peasants, U Kyaw Win Tun of Delegate Group of Workers, Dr Maung Maung Wint of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentia, U Tin Kha of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel and Dr Ma Nan Tu Ja of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons as members of the panel of chairmen.

Director U Than Aung of the NCC Work Committee Office acted as MC and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi as co-MC. The MC declared the start of the meeting with the permission of the chairman at 10:47 out of 10:71 delegates were in attendance, accounting for 97.76 per cent.

First, U Thet Wai said that the suggestion of National Unity Party on matters concerning the amendments, the additions and the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention to be presented was the same as the suggestion presented by U Sein Tun of Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization on 13 August 2007 and to save the time, he would not present it and handed over it to the panel of chairmen.

Next, U San Tha Aung said that the suggestion of Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization on matters concerning the amendments, the additions and the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention to be presented was the same as the suggestion presented by U Sein Tun of Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization on 13 August 2007 and to save the time, he would not present it and handed over it to the panel of chairmen.

Afterwards, U Aung Thein read out the suggestion jointly compiled by Independent Representatives-elect of Delegate Group of Representative-Elect Dr Hmu Htan, U Aung Thein and U Tun Kyaw on matters concerning the amendments, the additions and the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.

(The suggestion is reported separately.)

Later, U Hla Soe and U Thein Kyi read out the suggestion jointly compiled by Independent Representatives-elect of Delegate Group of National Unity Party on matters concerning the amendments, the additions and the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.

(The suggestion will be published.)

When the Plenary Session of the National Convention resumed at 10:20 am, U Than Oo and Daw Nan Khan Hmw read out the suggestion of Delegate Group of National Races on matters concerning the amendments, the additions and the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.

(The suggestion will be published.)

Next, U Than Shwe read out the suggestion of Delegate Group of Peasants on matters concerning the amendments, the additions and the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.

(The suggestion will be published.)

The Plenary Session of the National Convention went into recess at 10:30 am.

(The suggestion will be published.)

Those present at the Plenary Session of National Convention.— MNA
Civil Service Selection and Training Board

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
ROAD TRANSPORT, YANGON DIVISION
INVITATION TO TENDER
TENDER NO.003/TRT/2007-2008

1. Sealed tenders from eligible suppliers are invited to supply 9.00x20 tyre set with tube & flap for immediate requirement for passenger transport buses of Road Transport.

(a) Brand: Huaing
(b) Country of Origin: China
(c) Required sets: 290 sets

The supplied tyres must be according to the required technical specifications and stock in hand will be most preferable. Prices are to be quoted in Myanmar Kyats. towel

2. (a) Tender Documents are available at the office of Procurement & Stores Department, Yangon Division, Road Transport, No.375/2 Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon Myamar. Commencing on the 16th August 2007.

(b) Tender will be closed 27-8-2007 at (16:00 hours)

(The Road Transport reserves the right to reject any or all tenders)

3. Detailed information will be available at the office of the Procurement & Stores Department, Phone No. 01-252574 (or) 01-376549

Road Transport

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Shering-Plough Ltd., a Company incorporated in Switzerland, of Weysstrasse 20, CH-6000 Lucerne 6, Switzerland, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:

REDIPEN
Reg. No. 948/2065 in respect of "Class 10: medical injection device"

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Reg. No. 949/2065 in respect of "Class 5: long-acting broad spectrum antiviral and immunoaugmenting agent"

Frammentary imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for Shering-Plough Ltd.,
P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 15 August 2007

Chinese teachers invited to summer resort by government

BEIJING, 13 Aug—Sixty outstanding teachers and their families from across China have recently completed their one-week state-sponsored holiday in Beidaihe, a famous summer resort where China’s leadership withdrew every summer.

The 60 teachers, coming from higher education institutes, middle schools, primary schools, vocational schools and kindergartens, are invited to the seaside resort in north China’s Hebei Province by the Communist Party leadership and the State Council.

He Guoqiang, member of Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, and State Councilor Chen Zhili paid a visit to the teachers in Beidaihe on 4 August, had dinner with them, and wish them to score more achievements.

Gu Mingyuan, professor with Beijing Normal University, said “facts indicate that the CPC Central Committee attaches great importance to education and professional training. The CPC sincerely take care of teachers.”—MNA/Khain

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
**SPORTS**

**United reveal Tevez contract option**

**MANCHESTER** (England), 14 Aug — Manchester United unveiled Argentina international signing Carlos Tevez on Monday and said they had an option to keep him longer than his original two-year deal.

Tevez joined the Premier League champions in a complicated deal from West Ham after playing a big part in saving the London club from relegation last season.

“We have a two-year deal and then we also have the right to purchase Carlos at any time within that period for a set sum,” Manchester United chief executive David Gill told reporters.

“The fee is set down. We know what we have to do in terms of keeping him here for a longer period.”

Gill refused to say how much United have initially paid or what they would have to pay to keep Tevez longer. Tevez will make his debut at Portsmouth on Wednesday in place of Wayne Rooney, who will be out for the next two months because of a broken bone in his foot.— **MNA/Reuters**

**Arsenal leave it late to beat Fulham**

**LONDON**, 13 Aug — Striker Robin van Persie converted an 83rd minute penalty and Alexander Hleb struck a 90th minute winner to give Arsenal a 2-1 victory over Fulham at the Emirates Stadium on Sunday.

A goalkeeping howler by Jens Lehmann gifted Fulham the lead in the first minute, the German’s fluffed clearance leaving new Northern Ireland striker David Healy a tap-in on his competitive debut.

Fulham, who lost keeper Antti Niemi to injury in the warm-up and had to deploy reserve Tony Warner, looked to have secured a remarkable win until Kolo Toure went down under a challenge by Carlos Bocanegra and Dutchman Van Persie scored from the spot.

Fired up by the equalizer, the hosts piled on the pressure and were rewarded when Belarus midfielder Hleb rifled home the winner off a ball from Spaniard Cesc Fabregas.

Arsenal, now without Thierry Henry after the talismanic striker’s move to Barcelona, were also missing two current forwards through injury, Togo’s Emmanuel Adebayor and Croatia’s Eduardo da Silva.— **MNA/Reuters**

**Kanoute extends deal with Sevilla to 2010**

**MADRID**, 14 Aug — Mali striker Frederic Kanoute has extended his contract with Sevilla for an extra year until 2010, the Primera Liga side said on Monday.

The 29-year-old, who joined Sevilla from Tottenham Hotspur in 2005, has played a key role in the Andalucians’ success in the last two seasons.

He scored in Sevilla’s triumphs in successive UEFA Cup finals in 2006 and 2007 and grabbed the winner in their victory over Getafe in the King’s Cup in June.— **MNA/Reuters**

**Real apologize to Ajax for behaviour over Sneijder move**

**AMSTERDAM**, 14 Aug — Ajax said they have received an apology from Real Madrid for their behaviour during negotiations prior to the signing of midfielder Wesley Sneijder.

“On Saturday night I received a message... that they would like to reopen the negotiations,” Ajax technical director Martin Van Geel was quoted as saying on Dutch TV programme Studio Voetbal on Sunday.

“The club apologized for their behaviour and on Sunday both clubs agreed a transfer fee of 27 million euros.”

Real Madrid made an official offer of 24 million euros last Thursday for the 23-year-old Dutch international and Ajax reduced their demand from 30 million to 27 million euros a day later. On Friday Madrid’s technical director Pedrag Mijatovic gave Ajax a three-hour ultimatum to accept 24 million euros for Sneijder but Ajax responded by saying they would not be held to ransom.— **MNA/Reuters**

**Hong Kong equestrian event gets thumbs-up**

**HONG KONG**, 14 Aug — Hong Kong cleared a major obstacle before next year’s Olympic Games, hosting a largely trouble-free three-day equestrian competition despite fierce heat and a tropical storm. While air pollution has been a concern for host city Beijing, jockeys, horses and vets had a chance to get a feel for Hong Kong’s feared heat and humidity, which had been a worry ever since the former British colony was named to host the equestrian events at the Games next August.

After three days of dressage, eventing and show jumping events participants were enthusiastic about the event. “I have attended some more of these test events before Olympic games and I must say this test event was the best I have ever attended,” chief judge Martin Pleva told reporters.

“This year’s test event already looked almost Olympic... The feeling is that the facilities are perfect.”

Olympic equestrian events were switched from host city Beijing to Hong Kong because of difficulties in establishing a disease-free zone on the Mainland, and vets closely monitoring horses health said they were satisfied with the conditions.

“All the horses coped extremely well,” Pleva said. Security at the venue came under the spotlight after one journalist managed to get two knives and a bottle of water past security stations, and another walked in on a closed briefing session without authorization, the South China Morning Post said.— **MNA/Reuters**

**Indonesia’s Taufik Hidayat returns the shuttlecock against Jose Antonio Crespo from Spain during the first round of 2007 World Badminton Championships at Putra Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, on 13 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET**

**JAPAN’S FORWARD YUKI NAGASATO (R) FIGHTS FOR THE BALL WITH THAILAND’S DEFENDER SUPHAPHON KAOEBAEON (C) AS KAOEBAEON’S TEAMMATE DARAT CHANGNOOK LOOKS ON, DURING THEIR WOMEN’S QUALIFIER SOCCER MATCH FOR THE 2008 BEIJING OLYMPIC GAMES, IN TOKYO ON 12 AUG, 2007.—INTERNET**

**Singapore's Michelle Li (L) in action against Indonesia's Taufik Hidayat during the Malaysia Open Super Series Grand Prix quarter-final match at the National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, on 12 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET**

**United held by 10-man Reading, Chelsea win**

**LONDON**, 13 Aug — Champions Manchester United were held to a 0-0 home draw by 10-man Reading while rivals Chelsea earned a record-breaking 3-2 win over Birmingham City as their Premier League seasons got underway on Sunday.

United had all the possession but failed to make it count against a Reading side who had substitute Dave Kitson red-carded in the 72nd minute, less than a minute after coming on, for a reckless tackle on Patrice Evra.

**Arsenal’s Alexander Hleb scores past Fulham’s Chris Baird (L) to make it 2-1 during their English Premier League soccer match at Emirates Stadium in London on 12 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET**

**Australia’s Grant Schubert, right, competes for the ball with China’s Meng Xuangan during the Men’s final at the 2007 International Hockey Tournament at the Olympic Green Hockey Stadium in Beijing on 13 Aug, 2007. Australia won 9-0 to take the gold medal. The invitational tournament is a test event for the 2008 Olympic Games.—INTERNET**

**Lumpur, on 13 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET**

**Indonesia’s Taufik Hidayat returns the shuttlecock against Jose Antonio Crespo from Spain during the first round of 2007 World Badminton Championships at Putra Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, on 13 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET**

**McEnroe says withdrawals are epidemic in Women’s game**

**TORONTO**, 14 Aug — The late withdrawal of leading players from WTA tournaments has reached epidemic proportions, former world number one John McEnroe said on Monday.

Thirty-years after he played the first of 16 tournaments in Toronto, the fiery McEnroe was still the main attraction on Day One of the Toronto Cup, overshadowing a field including four of the world’s top five women players. ‘It’s an epidemic in the women’s game,” McEnroe told reporters.

“The men aren’t as bad but it certainly has been an issue.

“It’s not one person’s fault. It’s not just the players, so it’s not just the tournament’s fault, some of it is bad luck.”

But the way it is set up when you play three, four days in a row they (players) are sort of thinking they want to peak at the Open.— **MNA/Reuters**
Musharraf says Pak-Afghan Joint Peace Jirga a good beginning

ISLAMABAD, 14 Aug.—Pakistani President General Pervez Musharraf said Sunday that the holding of the Pakistan-Afghan Joint Peace Jirga in the Afghan capital of Kabul was “good beginning” and it would help ensure peace and security in Afghanistan and the bordering areas of Pakistan.

“The joint declaration and the formation of a 50-member committee are a step in right direction but it is not an end in itself rather a beginning of peace process,” he told journalists at the Chaklala Airbase near the Pakistani capital on his return from Afghanistan.

Musharraf expressed the confidence that the 50-member committee proposed by the Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Jirga would engage opposing forces in Afghanistan in a political dialogue to push the peace process forward.

“Every step in the positive direction and the committee should engage warring forces in Afghanistan to bring the terrorism and extremism to an end,” he said.

However, Musharraf added that the people to be included in the committee should have credibility and standing so that they were able to engage the opposing forces in a dialogue process to ensure peace in the area.

He said that the joint jirga attended by 700 delegates with 350 each from the two countries provided an opportunity of interaction between them to find ways and means to ensure peace in the region.

Replying to a question, Musharraf described his visit as successful and said that he talked to Afghan President Hamid Karzai on the need for trust building as mutual bickering would impede progress towards establishment of peace and security.

On Wednesday, Musharraf called Karzai to inform him that he could not personally attend the jirga in Kabul because of domestic “engagements”.

Instead, Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz addressed the inaugural session Thursday representing Pakistan.

Karzai telephoned Musharraf Friday evening and invited him to attend the closing session of the Joint Peace Jirga.

M.NA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 15 August, 2007

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

WEATHER

Tuesday, 14 August, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayin State, rain have been isolated in Kayin State and lower Sagain Division. Rain widespread in Shan and Shan States, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in upper Sagain Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw and Pyinma (0.98) inches each, Hkamti (5.51) inches, Myikyina (4.22) inches, Katha (1.97) inches, Thandwe (1.57) inches, Pyay (1.54) inches, Pinyaung (1.38) inches, Meikikia (1.22) inches and Aunglan (0.63) inches.

Maximum temperature on 13-8-2007 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 14-8-2007 was 77°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hour MST on 14-8-2007 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 13-8-2007 was (4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 14-8-2007 was (0.15) inch at Minglelagon, (0.04) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.15) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (89.64) inches at Minglelagon, (91.96) inches at Kaba-Aye and (92.87) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 13-8-2007.

Rainfall forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 15-8-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surfaze wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 15-8-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 15-8-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Bulletin (Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 14-8-2007)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Hinthada (1438) cm is exceeded (96) cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1342) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Hledin (1110) cm is exceeded (40) cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.

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Wednesday, 15 August Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:45 am Music:
- All that I need
- There you’ll find
- Scooter
- Blue Suede Shoes
- The Lone Ranger
- The Ballad of Jethro Cochran

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:
- Big Coconut
- Every Day
- Outdoor Music
- The Cowardly Lion
- The Blue Danube

9:20 pm News / Slogan

9:30 pm News / Slogan

9:45 pm News / Slogan
Four political objectives

* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* 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

Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win welcome Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung and Madame Tran Thanh Kiem

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug — At the invitation of Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, a Vietnamese delegation led by Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung and Madame Tran Thanh Kiem arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by special aircraft at 1.05 pm this afternoon.

The goodwill delegation was welcomed at the airport by Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Aung Thein, heads of department and officials.

Next, the Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 and the visiting Prime Minister took the salute of Guard of Honour on the dais of the airport and inspected the Guard of Honour.

Afterwards, Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein together with the visiting...(See page 8)

Suggestions to be published

YANGON 14 Aug—The suggestion jointly compiled by Independent Representatives-elect of Delegate Group of Representative-Elect U Tin Win, U Thein Kyi, U Hla Soe, U Mya Hlaing, U Kyi Win and U Tin Tun Maung, suggestion of Delegate Group of National Races and suggestion of Delegate Group of Peasants on matters concerning the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention will be published in the dailies.—MNA

National Convention continues

Suggestions on the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer presented

YANGON, 14 Aug — The Plenary Session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall in Nyaunghnapin Camp, Hmawby Township, here, at 9 am today.

Delegates of the respective delegate groups presented suggestions on matters concerning the amendments, the additions and the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been presented (See page 12)

Plenary Session of National Convention in progress at Pyidaungsu Hall in Nyaunghnapin Camp, Hmawby Township.—MNA