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

**Four political objectives**
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National 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

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**Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects laying of gravel along Mogok-Monglon-Kyaukme road**

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and officials, inspected thriving crops plantations on both sides of Mogok-Monglon-Kyaukme road yesterday.

They viewed progress of laying gravel along Mogok-Monglon-Kyaukme Road. Shan State Superintending Engineer U Win Naing, Kyaukme District Senior Engineer U Khin Maung Oo and officials reported on progress of tasks. The commander gave a supplementary report.

After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented gifts to social organizations. Mogok-Monglon-Kyaukme road links Kyaukme and Mogok and it is 76 miles long.

In Pansan Village of Kyaukme Township, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented gifts to social organizations.

They viewed thriving paddy, edible crops, soya bean, tea and maize plantation along Mogok-Monglon-Kyaukme road, and gave gifts to social organizations in Pankwate Village.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected pea plantations along Mogok-Monglon-Kyaukme Road. Afterwards, they viewed thriving Hsinshweli paddy, sugarcane, tea, maize and groundnut plantations on both sides of Kyaukme-Lashio road.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents gifts to social organization members in Monglon Village of Kyaukme Township. — MNA

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**Referendum is the best way to ratify the new Constitution that concerns the entire people. We are looking forward to the day to ratify the new Constitution with our votes. We are ready to decide the nation’s future with our wish that comes out from the bottom of our hearts. I, on behalf of the people, would like to say that they should not make suggestions or send letters of complaint to anywhere at this time and situation.**

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Extend cultivation of Hsinshweli paddy

The government is making efforts for boosting production of per acre yield while extending cultivation acreage of paddy for sufficiency of local consumption.

The government is also taking measures for production of 1,500 million baskets of paddy a year after growing 20 million acres of paddy—17 million acres of monsoon paddy plus 3 million acres of summer paddy.

The goal is to produce 100 baskets per acres. It is necessary for farmers to fully utilize correct cultivation technologies and exploit other resources to reach the target set. What is important is to use quality paddy strains.

Hsinshweli paddy is a hybrid of quality strain that can produce high per acre yield. Average per acre yield is 200 baskets and quality is high. It is a suitable kind of paddy for farmers to grow. Hsinshweli paddy can be grown as monsoon and summer paddy. The grain becomes fully ripe about 110 days after plantation.

Such Hsinshweli paddy is grown in some states and divisions in special high yield farms. It is grown both in wet regions and in arid zone in central Myanmar.

We urge the farmers to extend cultivation of Hsinshweli paddy in cooperation with agricultural personnel.

MANA organizes glove puppet show

YANGON, 26 Aug — With a view to disseminating knowledge to students to stay away from drugs, Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Central) organized a glove puppet show on the danger of narcotic drugs at U Ba Lwin Hall of Dagon Basic Education High School No 2, here, on 24 August.

First Joint Secretary U Tha Tun of the association explained the purpose of holding the show and Vice-Chairman of Insein Township MANA U Soe Win (Singu Soe Win) gave educative talks on drugs.

Next, Headmaster U Tin Maung Tun spoke words of thanks and a group entertained students with the glove puppet show. — NMA

International Institute of Abhidhamma opens

YANGON, 26 Aug — A ceremony to open the International Institute of Abhidhamma was held at the Sitagu International Buddhist Missionary Beikman at the corner of Parami and Pinlon Roads in Dagon Myothit (North) Township yesterday afternoon.

Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rathya Guru Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kumara gave Sammodaniya Katha. Rector of the Institute Dr Ashin Nandamalabhivamsa delivered an address. Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko supported on opening of the institute.

Next, the deputy minister accepted cash donations from wellwishers. Chairman of the Management Committee and Pro-Rector of the Institute retired ambassador U Mya Than offered certificates of honour to three Sayadaws. Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy Sitaga Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanissara presented Dhamma gifts to Ambassadors of the foreign mission and wives. — MNA

Former university athletes pay respects to old faculty members

YANGON, 26 Aug — The former athletes of university paid respects to old faculty members for the first time at Universities’ Dhammayon in Yangon University campus, here, this morning.

Masters of ceremonies U Kyaw Oo (Assistant Director of Sports and Physical Education) and Chairman of the Organizing Committee U Maung Maung explained gratitude of Sayagyi U Nyein (Sports Officer-Head), Sayagyi U Ba Tok (Rector-Head), Sayagyi Dr Khin Maung Win (Minister for Education-Head) and Sayagyi Dr Maung Di (Deputy Minister for Education-Head) who encouraged athletes of the university to be able to show off brilliant sports performances.

Later, they paid respects to the old faculty members. Referee U Wai Lin spoke words of thanks. — NLM

NLD in collusion with internal and external destructive elements attempting to undermine national interest

YANGON, 26 Aug— Altogether 12 members of Labutta Township NLD resign in collusion with internal and external destructive elements attempting to undermine national interest.

12 members of Labutta Township NLD resign

YANGON, 26 Aug— Altogether 12 members of Labutta Township National League for Democracy including Daw Zin Mar Haik, Daw Khin Mar Yi, U Mahn Pho Htoo, U Saw Henary, U Than Oo, U Paw Lu, U Naing Oo and U Saw Yi on 17 August resigned from the NLD of their own volition, sending letters of resignation to the NLD Headquarter and local authorities concerned. In their letters of resignation sent to the Labutta Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Subcommission, they said that the NLD in collusion with internal and external destructive elements is making attempts to undermine the interest of the State and the people. That was why they resigned from the party of their own accord as they could not accept the acts of the NLD party, they said. — MNA
US Republican urges Iraq troop cut, Maliki faulted

WASHINGTON, 25 Aug — In a double setback for US President George W. Bush, an intelligence report cast doubt on Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki’s leadership and an influential senator in Bush’s Republican Party urged him on Thursday to begin a troop pullout.

Virginia Senator John Warner said Maliki had “let our troops down” by failing to take steps toward political reconciliation that would help stabilize Iraq. He said Bush should announce next month an initial withdrawal of US troops as a way to spur the Iraqi Government into action.

“We simply cannot, as a nation, stand and put our troops at continuous risk of loss of life and limb without beginning to take some decisive action which will get everybody’s attention,” Warner told reporters following a visit to Iraq.

US political leaders have assailed Maliki’s ability to govern Iraq.

The unpopular war has featured prominently in the campaign for the November 2008 presidential election, with Democrats and some Republicans urging a US troop withdrawal.

Jumper from United States hold hands as they leap before parachuting down from Kuala Lumpur Tower in Malaysia’s capital Kuala Lumpur on 25 Aug, 2007. — Internet

Stolen medicines in Mozambique sold in Malawi

MAPUTO, 25 Aug — Mozambique’s Health Minister Ivo Garrido has claimed that an increasing number of medicines stolen from the country’s National Health System are finding their way into the neighbouring Malawi, the official media AIM reported on Friday.

“We uncovered a theft of huge amounts of medicines in Zambezia Province,” Garrido said during the Third National Meeting to Accelerate Leprosy Eradication on Thursday.

“In the following day, we found and intercepted a heavy truck loaded with these medicines in the border district of Milange, and therefore we presume that the product was about to be introduced in Malawi,” he added.

According to Garrido, this often involves gangs of organized crime, who are even using heavy trucks to carry the stolen medicines, the news agency said. On the occasion, he also urged the citizens to denounce any suspicious cases to the relevant authorities, as the country could face the risk of being unable to provide adequate health care. — MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in bomb attack in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 25 Aug — An American soldier was killed and four others injured in a roadside bomb attack in north of Baghdad on Friday, the US military said.

The soldier died of wounds sustained from the explosion, which took place earlier in the day during operations in Salahuddin Province, north of the capital, a military statement said.

“Four soldiers were also wounded and transported to a coalition medical facility for treatment,” the statement said. — MNA/Xinhua
Incendiary devices found at French business school

PARIS, 25 Aug — Three incendiary devices were found on Thursday on the campus of a top French business school ahead of a meeting due to be attended by President Nicolas Sarkozy, a judicial official said.

The devices, bottles filled with flammable liquid linked to ignition systems with a timer, were found in the toilets of business school HEC in a suburb west of Paris.

Employers’ group MEDEF is due to hold its summer university at HEC from 29 August to 31 August. Business leaders and dignitaries including Sarkozy and EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana are expected to attend.

A spokesman for the Paris public prosecutor’s office said they were “well-made devices, not something completely basic”. They did not contain any explosives and would only have started a fire if they had gone off. An anti-terrorist investigation had been launched, the spokesman said, adding that investigators had not reached any conclusions on who might be responsible. “The device does not indicate anything in particular to the investigators,” the spokesman said. — MNA/Reuters

US troops kill at least ten in northern Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 25 Aug — The US troops backed by aircraft clashed with Shiite militia men in north of Baghdad early on Friday, killing at least ten people and wounding some 20 others, an Interior Ministry source said.

The pre-dawn clashes erupted after the US helicopters fired at the Mahdi Army militiamen, loyal to radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in the neighbourhood of Shu’la, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The helicopter fire killed at least ten people and wounded 20 others, along with damaging several houses, the source added.

The US military did not confirm the incident, but said they were checking reports.

Shu’la neighbourhood is one of the main strongholds in Baghdad for Shiite militia, including the Mahdi Army, who the US forces claim were responsible for 73 per cent of attacks on their troops in Baghdad in July.

Five foreign soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 25 Aug — Three NATO soldiers were killed in operations in Afghanistan, while two coalition soldiers were killed in a road accident, the military said Friday.

Three soldiers of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed and two others injured while on operations in southern Afghanistan on Thursday, an ISAF statement said.

Meanwhile, a vehicle rollover killed two soldiers of the US-led coalition forces and injured two more in Kajaki District of the western Herat Province at around 8 am local time (0330 GMT) on Friday, the statement said. — MNA/Xinhua

Australian pilot detained in Indonesia’s Papua

JAKARTA, 25 Aug — An Australian pilot has been held in detention in the Indonesian easternmost province of Papua for alleged immigration offense, an official said Friday.

Three soldiers of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed and injured two more in Kajaki District of the western Herat Province at around 8 am local time (0330 GMT) on Friday, the statement said. — MNA/Xinhua

Bali restaurants drop chicken and duck from menu

KUTA (Indonesia), 25 Aug — Some restaurants in Bali, Indonesia’s main resort island, have taken chicken and duck off the menu after two Indonesian women died of bird flu in the past two weeks, an official said on Friday.

While Indonesia has reported 84 deaths from bird flu, the tourist island of Bali had, until this month, not suffered any human fatalities from the disease. Now, officials fear that the two deaths from bird flu in Bali could hit tourism.

Cok Ardhana, head of the Indonesian Association of Hotels and Restaurants in Bali, told Reuters that some restaurants had dropped chicken and duck dishes due to lack of demand from foreigners.

“This is to show customers that the local tourism industry is doing something to keep people safe from bird flu,” he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Flood death toll rises to 662 in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 25 Aug — The number of people who died of flood-related causes in Bangladesh reached 662 till Thursday, local newspaper The Daily Star reported Friday quoting official statistics.

Of the total, 585 people drowned, snakebite killed 44, 19 died from diarrhoea and 14 of respiratory infections, according to the control room at the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) under the Health Ministry. According to the statistics, the number of people affected by diarrhoea kept rising everyday by 4,013 more on Thursday. The current flood in Bangladesh caused by incessant rain and onrush of upstream water has affected 39 out of the country’s 64 districts, leaving some 10.5 million marooned since late July. — MNA/Xinhua
Indonesia to continue LNG supplies for Japan after 2010

Jakarta, 25 Aug — Indonesia plans annual shipments of up to five million tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Japan after their current contracts end in 2010, despite the country’s plan to sell more of its gas domestically, local Press said Friday.

State-owned oil and gas company Pertamina, which handles sales of the country’s LNG, will ship about two million tons of the total five million tons from the Senoro LNG plant in Central Sulawesi, reported English daily The Jakarta Post.

Pertamina deputy president director Irin Arifin Takhyan said Japan-based company Mitsubishi is a majority shareholder in the Senoro LNG project, with a 51-per cent stake.

Japan had demanded Indonesia guarantee the continuity of its LNG exports as part of the Economic Partnership Agreement signed by President Bambang Susilo Yudhoyono and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe early last week.

Under the current contracts, Indonesia ships 12 million tons a year to Japan.

Lin, who heads the negotiation team for the extension of LNG export contracts with Japan, said with Indonesian gas production limited due to a lack of new findings and aging fields, it was important for the government to prioritize the domestic gas market.

However, he said Pertamina was still open to more negotiations on the amount of gas that would be exported and at what price.

Of Indonesia’s total annual LNG exports of 24 million tons, 12 million tons go to Japan.

Hanoi, 25 Aug — Vietnam is estimated to lure foreign direct investment (FDI) of over 8.3 billion US dollars in the first eight months of this year, up 40 per cent over the same period last year, according to a local investment agency on Friday.

As many as 814 new foreign-invested projects worth more than seven billion dollars are expected to be licensed in the first eight months, and 247 existing projects are set to raise their combined capital by 1.3 billion dollars, said the Foreign Investment Agency under the Ministry of Planning and Investment.

South Korea, with an investment of over 1.7 billion dollars, is the biggest among 40 foreign investors in Vietnam in the first eight months of this year, followed by Singapore with more than 1.3 billion dollars, said the agency.

To lure more FDI, the Vietnamese Government has asked localities and relevant agencies to announce the list of projects calling for FDI in the coming years, to intensify investment promotion designated for certain countries and multinationals, to develop auxiliary industries for manufacturing, assembling, textile, garment and footwear production, and to improve socioeconomic infrastructure.

Vietnam is expected to lure FDI of 12 billion dollars this year, up from 10.2 billion dollars last year, according to the agency.— MNA/Xinhua

Trade between China, ROK expected to top $150b in 2007

Shanghai, 26 Aug — Trade volume between China and the Republic of Korea (ROK) is likely to exceed 150 billion US dollars in 2007, according to Zhang Wei, vice-president of the China Council for the promotion of International Trade.

Both sides had hoped bilateral trade volume would reach 200 billion US dollars by 2012 and the goal would be achieved ahead of time, Zhang told a seminar on investment in the ROK held here Friday.

Last year, China-ROK trade volume reached 134.3 billion US dollars, increasing by almost 26 times from more than five billion dollars in 1992, when the two countries established diplomatic ties. The ROK has become China’s sixth largest trade partner after the European Union, the United States, Japan, ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations), and the Hong Kong region. China is the ROK’s No1 trade partner and export market.

40 fighters in Sept

Moscow, 25 Aug — Russia hopes to sign a contract next month to sell India 40 Sukhoi fighters, the president of the Irkt warplane maker said on Friday, Interfax news agency reported.

“We hope to sign a contract in September to deliver another 40 SU-30MKI fighters to India,” Irkt president Oleg Demchenko told Interfax.

The SU-30MKI is a long-haul Sukhoi fighter specially modified for the Indian Air Force. Indian officials had said they planned to sign a deal to buy 40 Sukhoi fighters by the end of March.

India’s Air Force, one of the biggest in the world, also plans to buy 126 new combat aircraft to upgrade New Delhi’s fleet which includes ageing Russian MiG-21s, MiG-23s and MiG-27s.

The 126-plane deal has attracted interest from European players like France’s Dassault, which is promoting its Rafale fighter, and Sweden’s Saab, eager to sell its JAS-39 Gripen.

Boeing’s F/A-18 Super Hornet and Lockheed Martin’s F-16 are also competing for the contract.

Irkut’s Demchenko said the firm had built a order book of 242 SU-30 fighters, adding that those orders would keep the enterprise working at full capacity at least until 2012.— MNA/Reuters
No bird flu found in southern Israeli farm

Jerusalem, 25 Aug — Tests conducted by Israeli veterinary authority indicated that chickens in a southern Israeli farm kibbutz were not infected with bird flu virus, Israel’s top-selling daily Yedioth Ahronoth reported on Friday.

There is no fear that the chicken coops in Kibbutz Gorfot in the Arava Region have been infected with the fatal bird flu virus, Moshe Haimovitch, head of the National Veterinary Services, was quoted as saying.

Sample tests conducted on Thursday by the Health Ministry, the Agriculture Ministry and the Veterinary Services revealed that the bird flu virus may have infected the chicken coops in Kibbutz Gorfot.

As a result of the initial tests, additional tests were taken, and the henhouses were quarantined on Thursday morning.

“We are currently conducting peripheral tests that are part of sample tests done in a bid to map the country, in compliance with international requirements,” Haimovitch said on Thursday.

The bird flu epidemic, which broke out in many areas across the world in recent years, appeared in Israel in March 2006.

Millions of hens were culled following three separate outbreaks throughout the month in order to stop the epidemic from spreading.

—INTERNET

Miners search for gold on the banks of a river at the Freeport-McMoran Copper and Gold mining area in Timika, Papua Province on 25 Aug, 2007. Local police estimated more than five thousand miners have been searching for gold illegally in that area.

—INTERNET

Dubai police seize 4.2 kilos of heroin

Abu Dhabi, 25 Aug — The anti-drug squad of Dubai police has seized 4.2 kilos of heroin which was to be smuggled out of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the official Emirates News Agency reported on Friday.

The Narcotic Control Unit of Dubai police received a tip-off that two persons of African origin were in possession of a large heroin cache which they were trying to smuggle abroad, the report said.

The police seized 4.2 kilos of heroin and arrested the two suspects in a raid on their hideout in Dubai. After investigations, the two suspects were charged with possession of drugs.

On 9 August, Dubai police seized more than two million tablets of Keptagon, which is used illegally as a recreational club drug and as a performance enhancer, in an operation to foil an attempt to smuggle these drugs to Saudi Arabia.

—Xinhua

Vietnam posts bigger export revenues in first eight months

Hanoi, 25 Aug — Vietnam is estimated to gain export turnovers of more than 31.2 billion US dollars in the first eight months of this year, a year-on-year rise of 19.3 per cent, local newspaper Investment reported Friday.

In August alone, Vietnam is set to earn 4.4 billion dollars from shipping abroad goods, mainly crude oil, garments and textiles, rubber, pepper, rice and seafood, up 3.7 per cent, the paper said quoting sources from the Vietnamese Ministry of Planning and Investment.

Between January and August, the country is estimated to sell overseas 21 million tons of coal, and 940,000 tons of coffee, posting respective year-on-year rises of 18.8 per cent and 47.3 per cent.

Vietnam posted export turnovers of 39.6 billion dollars in 2006, up 22.1 per cent against 2005.

—Xinhua

Nepal suffers huge third country trade deficit

Kathmandu, 25 Aug — Due to a sharp rise in imports vis-a-vis exports, Nepal’s trade deficit with the third countries posted a whopping 51.6 billion Nepali rupees (some 794 million US dollars) during the first 11 months of 2006-07 fiscal year ended in mid-July.

According to a provisional data released Saturday by the Trade and Export Promotion Centre (TEPC), total exports dropped by 6.8 per cent during the period, while the imports registered a growth of 11.3 per cent.

Nepal exported various goods worth over 15.29 billion rupees (some 235 million dollars) during the period, while the exports of ready made garments witnessed a whopping fall of 26.3 per cent to 3.55 billion rupees (some 64.6 million dollars). The major markets for woolen carpets are Germany, Britain, the United States and Switzerland, whereas a majority of the garments were exported to the US, France and Canada.

Among the third country markets, the US consumed 32.4 per cent of total exports followed by Germany with 15.4 per cent.

British stood at third with 5.7 per cent. France at fourth with 5.4 per cent and Hong Kong at fifth with 4.8 per cent.

—Xinhua
YANGON, 26 Aug — Chairman of Printing, Publishing, Registration and Scrutiny Supervisory Central Committee Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met the chairman and executive members of Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association (MPPA) at the office of Myanma Radio and Television on Pyay Road here this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said MPPA was formed on 17 December 1990 in accord with the Myanmar Traders Act, and it has now turned 16 years. Carrying out a task by a team rather than individual can meet with success. He said it is a great honour for MPPA which is participating in social welfare and nation-building tasks. Those from the literary world are making their living depending on literature as well as serving the interests of the State and the people through the might of literature. The purpose of meeting the members of MPPA was to render necessary assistance to the association and to suggest and discuss the interest of printers and publishers, the minister added. Next, MPPA Chairman U Maung Maung reported on functions of the association and the executives on general matters.

Later, the minister gave a concluding remark. — MNA

NC delegates visit Pagodas, attend service at church

YANGON, 26 Aug — The delegates to the National Convention together with officials of Invitation and Reception Subcommittee visited the Kyaikkhauk Pagoda in Thanlyin Township, Yangon South District yesterday.

Chairman of Pagoda’s Board of Trustees Lt-Col Myat Soe (Retd) extended greetings and explained the brief history of the Pagoda to the delegates. Next, the NC delegates donated cash to the chairman of the Pagoda’s Board of Trustees and paid homage to the Pagoda.

The NC delegates, together with officials of the subcommittee visited the Shwedagon Pagoda this morning and paid homage to the Padamya Myatshin Buddha Image at the upper reliquary of the Pagoda. They offered flowers, water, lights and joss-sticks to the Buddha Images on the pagoda platform and donated cash.

Similarly, the Christian delegates attended the service at Kayin Baptist Church in Kyimyindine Township today. — MNA

Myanmar Team leaves for China to participate in World Wushu Championship Qualifier

YANGON, 26 Aug — Myanmar left for China to participate in World Wushu Championship Qualifier to be held in the People’s Republic of China from 27 to 30 August by air this evening. Myanmar Wushu Team comprises Dr Sai Hsam Tun (President of Myanmar Wushu Federation) as leader, U Khin Ja Aung as secretary, Su Tong Yu (China) and Dai Xiao Ping as coaches and U Khin Maung Thein as executive.

Aung Sithu, Myo Min Soe, Soe Win Thein, Soe Kyaw and Thura Soe will participate in the men’s Taolu event, Maung Maung Than, Aung Zaw Min, Myo Ko and Kyaw Naing Oo in the men’s Sanshou event and Honey Ko Ko in the women’s Taolu event and Yazar Khine and Si Si Sein in the women’s Sanshou event.

Myanmar Wushu Team seen at the airport before departure for China. — MNA
It is time they rose up from whirl of confrontation

KO KE

The National Convention that is laying foundation for the drafting of an enduring and reliable constitution for the future State is nearing successful completion. The entire mass of people are happy and proud looking forward to the forthcoming victory of national significance. However, I am not pleased when I see certain opposing elements attempting to hamper the positive developments. Their attempts are like that of someone trying to set fire to the granary since he cannot eliminate the harmful rodents there or like that of someone who throws sand at the meat he could not eat.

We, the people, have put the 1990 election in the history for long. The so-called NLD representatives-elect, however, continue to cling to it. When I think of them I remember a fable about a foolish crow clinging on a carcass of an elephant floating at sea thinking that it could depend on it for its food for long. They are too much attached to the 1990 elections. In the latest development, a three-page letter signed by 92 persons led by some NLD representatives-elect and those of the CRPP was said to have been sent to Ban Ki-mon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, on 1-8-2007. The letters sent to the international bodies by Daw Suu Kyi and U Tin Oo plus “88” generation group and CRPP may weigh as much as tons in total. They have done so even though they know that such acts of lodging unfounded complaints tarnish the image and prestige of the nation and the people. They have done the same thing again. They have demanded the United Nations to initiate a tripartite dialogue accusing the present National Convention in session of being a sham one. They said that the fundamental principles and the detailed basic principles adopted by the ongoing National Convention would be recognized in principle and they would be approved only after they were discussed by the three groups—the Tatmadaw government, the representatives-elect and the national race delegates. They said that there would be a time frame and demanded that the commission that would be drafting the new constitution was to be made up of equal number of delegates representing the Tatmadaw, NLD, the national race armed groups and the armed groups that had ceased fire. They added that the Hluttaw was to be convened according to the results of the 1990 election and the Hluttaw was to approve the new constitution. The essence is that new elections are to be held, new Hluttaw is to be convened and a new government is to be formed immediately and power is to be transferred to it without delay. The aim is the same. Member of the CRPP U Phu Kyint Shin Htan was said to have signed at the end of the letter. It was nothing unusual when I learnt that the plot was conspired behind the scene by Min Ko Naing and group although it was said to have been initiated by U Phu Kyint Shin Htan, U Htawng Kho Htan, U Aye Tha Aung and U Soe Win. They added that the Hluttaw was to be convened according to the results of the 1990 election and the Hluttaw was to approve the new constitution. They said that the fundamental principles and the detailed basic principles adopted by the on-going National Convention were to be guarded against acts undermining the efforts to successfully carry out peaceful transfer of State responsibilities and facilitate the proceedings of the National Convention. Moreover, the conspiracy to commit subversive acts in collusion with insurgent groups violates the existing laws. Therefore, 13 persons including Min Ko Naing were said to have been called in for questioning by the authorities on 21-8-2007.

The foreign media has been stirring up the dust among the public but that dust has now been cleared. The public are now pleased with the belief that they will now be able to live with peace of mind. It is the truth. Out of the group, Htay Kywe is said to have absconded. He is a well known cheat, who, during the 1988 disturbances invented a news story in collusion with BBC correspondent Christopher Gunness and Ma Aye Nyein Thu that the girls were raped in the prison. He will not escape from the criminal acts he has constantly and repeatedly committed against the nation. Action will be taken against the violators based on the findings. The so-called CRPP members despite their old age seemed to have been used by Min Ko Naing and group for their greed for power. They did not seem to think about the impact of their acts and who would be adversely affected. And it was likely that they knowingly committed acts with no consideration for others but for self-interest.

In fact, the ruling government, since 1988, has abolished the centralized socialist economic system to introduce the open-door market economic system and multi-party democracy desired by the people. If we recall the 1988 disturbances we will see that the public disapproved of the single party system but they were in favour of the democracy system. They preferred market economy to the socialist economy. This being so, the public demand focused on the above points during the early stage of the 1988 incident.
When all opportunities are bright for systematic transition to genuine discipline-flourishing multiparty system, the so-called 92 MPs and Min Ko Naing group sent a letter to Ban Ki-mon. So, we don’t need to ask their intention. I would like to ask them to relinquish their plots to undermine the National Convention that is going to conclude successfully and their earnest attempts to destroy the Union that is on its way to democracy goal like a train in full speed, in collusion with their masters they obey like their stepfather.

On the day when the Tatmadaw had assumed the State responsibilities, the State Law and Order Restoration Council laid down the four major tasks to be implemented immediately under the Declaration No 1/88. The four major tasks are community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order; smooth and secure transport; providing the people with food, clothing and shelter needs; and holding of the multiparty democracy general election when the above-mentioned tasks have been completed. The Tatmadaw started to work for democracy on the first day on which it assumed the State responsibilities. No one can deny it. Since then, the Tatmadaw,不行者 Our Three Main National Causes has been implementing the tasks for the emergence of a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

As a matter of fact, the transition to multiparty democracy cannot be possible without an enduring State constitution. The State constitution plays a pivotal role in the practice of democracy. It is known to all that both the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution cannot be applied in transition to democracy. Therefore, the Tatmadaw government held the multiparty democracy general election in the fairest way on 27-5-1990 to be able to draft the State constitution. Since the period of pre-election, it had already informed all the parties that stood for election that the State constitution was abolished in 1988 and the new one had to be adopted. It is a historic fact that cannot be destroyed. However, the NLD was only eager to handed over power to it after the election relegating the drawing of the State constitution. How was the State power to be handed over without a constitution?

At this juncture, the NLD held a meeting called Gandhi Conference with a handful of its representatives-elect. Moreover, the NLD with conceit said that if Hluttaw was not convened and the State power was not handed over to it in September 1990 some kind of trouble would take place.

However, the Tatmadaw government did not lose sight of the State constitution. At that time, it held the coordination meeting on organizing the National Convention with representatives of political parties, independent representatives-elect and representatives-elect. With their consent the National Convention was held.

In reality, democracy was not what they desired. “Power” was their desire although they made the people shout “democracy”. It was to grab power after on transferring an interim government. They turned down the offer of democracy in disregard of the desire of the nation and the people and insisted on transferring power. This is known to all the entire people. Since the existing constitution did not allow formation of an interim government, the situation got worse and the “88” disturbances had gone out of control. This was followed by nation-wide chaos and destruction.

The administrative machinery was in total break-down. As anarchy involving killing, looting and arson reigned throughout the nation people had to lead their life under constant fear and alarm. In that situation, were one of Aung-Suu-Tin so-called public leaders, able to control the people? No, they were in unable to control the people that were in commotion.

The innocent people were in great trouble and the nation was on the brink of disintegration should the situation was not put under control. In such circumstances, the Tatmadaw had unavoidably to take the State responsibilities. Actually, the reason that the Tatmadaw had to do so was not for power but in national interest. If the situation was not under control in time we dared not think what would happen next. We who had witnessed the “88” unrest in a real sense have a strong dislike to such situation. We do not wish to see it again. And it is the genuine desire of the people.

The Tatmadaw government did not lose sight of the State constitution. At that time, it held the coordination meeting on organizing the National Convention with representatives of political parties, independent representatives-elect and representatives-elect. With their consent the National Convention was held. Therefore, the National Convention was not the one held in a hurry with the sole consent of the Tatmadaw government but the one held after a thorough coordination according to the historical demand. This point is mentioned again for a big political party and opposing groups that are pretending to forget it.

The sessions of the National Convention were held six times from 1993 to 1996. Altogether 10 political parties including the NLD attended the sessions of the National Convention in which eight groups of delegates successfully laid down 104 fundamental principles and some detailed basic principles for the drafting of the State constitution. However, when the National Convention was in session with momentum the NLD’s delegates walked out of it under the order of Daw Suu Kyi. The NLD’s delegates did so since the attitude of Daw Suu Kyi had changed after meeting with American permanent ambassador to United Nations Madeleine Albright on 9-9-1995. Since then, Daw Suu Kyi criticized the procedures on holding the National Convention. Although the NLD constantly demanded a dialogue they themselves deviated from the national path of dialogue.

Consequently, the National Convention was temporarily adjourned. If Daw Suu Kyi and the NLD gave priority to the interest of the State and the people and continued taking part in the National Convention the new Constitution has perhaps already emerged. And a new democratic nation under the order of Daw Suu Kyi is beginning to take shape. It is obvious by whom the process of the National Convention was delayed.

The stability of the State and prevalence of law and order is indispensable in introducing democracy. The development of national economy is also needed. Moreover, all the people who are to practise democracy need to be mature, learned and knowledgeable. Due to lack of the three factors the parliamentary democracy that was practised from 1948 to 1962 met with failure. Due to the evil legacy of colonialists democracy could not be introduced as the education, health, social and economic sectors of the State lagged behind in development, and
The government has not punished him long due to its magnanimity towards him. Unavoidably, the government now has to call him in for questioning for stability, security and peace of the State.
**New building of National Prosperity Public Company Limited opened**

**Yangon, 26 Aug** — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the opening ceremony of National Prosperity Public Company Limited and opened it in Bahan Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Hla Hay Win, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Chairman of Yangon City Develop-
Six die as fires rage southern Greece

ATHENS, 25 Aug — At least six people died and thousands of acres (hectares) of forest were consumed in fires racing through Greece’s southerly Peloponnese Peninsula on Friday, officials said.

Four people were found dead near a hotel north of the town of Areopolis, around 300 kilometres (190 miles) south of Athens, and two firefighters also died, the fire brigade and police said.

It was not clear whether the other four were locals or tourists.

Dozens of villages asked for help, from the Peloponnese’s western coast to the southern region of Mani some 80 kilometres (50 miles) further east as the fires spread by strong southerly winds.

“The situation is extremely dire,” the mayor of the coastal town of Zacharo, Pantazis Pantazopoulos, told reporters. “The speed with which this fire has been spreading is astonishing.”

MNA/Reuters

Bomb explosion kills six family members in central Mozambique

MAPUTO, 25 Aug — Six people of the same family died, and another three sustained severe injuries after a detonation of an explosive device in the central Mozambican province of Zambezia this week, according to Mozambique News Agency on Friday.

The district police command of Namacurra said that the device was found by a group of children who were playing near their residence.

The source said that, after they realized the strange shape of the artifact, they called their father to identify it, and he took it home. Instead of alerting the authorities, he thought that it could be useful at home, and started “cleaning” it up, which took some hammering, causing the explosion, that immediately killed six members of his family.

The police believed that the shape of the device was at the origin of the curiosity of the man, since it looked like a bowl, and with some weight, which led him to try and open it to check what was inside that “bowl”.

One of the wounded relatives was driven to the Quelimane Provincial Hospital, where he remains under medical care, after suffering injuries in his back.

Reporters learnt that Namacurra was once a base of the former rebel movement Renamo, today the main opposition party in the country, and think that the device might have been planted during the 16-year war of destabilization.

Following this incident, the Mozambique provincial government dispatched a team to Eluto to investigate the case.

MNA/Xinhua

The New Light of Myanmar (jesti) yangon

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MNA/Xinhua

Palestinian and international activists run away from a sound and light grenade, thrown by Israeli security forces during a demonstration against Israel’s controversial barrier, in the West Bank village of El Walaja near Bethlehem, on 24 Aug, 2007. —INTERNET
Experts say Asia must step up HIV/AIDS fight

COLOMBO, 25 Aug — Asian countries must work hard to keep their HIV/AIDS prevalence rates low compared to that in Africa by tackling root causes like poverty, gender inequality and marginalization, experts said on Thursday.

Human trafficking into prostitution, intravenous drug use and conflict continue to spread HIV in Asia, experts warned as the eighth International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific wrapped up in the Sri Lankan capital. “In the Asia Pacific Region, we are at high risk of a massive spread of HIV,” said Dr. Samlee Plianbanchang, Southeast Asia regional director for the World Health Organization. “This is not only due to the large size of the population and the high burden of sexually transmitted infections, but also due to the prevailing risk behaviours and vulner-abilities as well as in-herent social stigma.”

The Asia-Pacific Region has an estimated 5.4 million people living with HIV, the world’s second largest number after sub-Saharan Africa — where 25.6 million people are infected with the virus. Anywhere between 140,000 and 610,000 people die from AIDS-related illnesses in the Asia Pacific Region each year, according to UNAIDS.

Safeguarding rights of the most vulnerable, such as sex workers, intravenous drug users, and women and children trafficked in the region is essential in tandem with prevention programmes, experts say.

Free treatment offered at Chinese psychiatric health centres

SHANGHAI, 25 Aug — A special establishment designed to offer free treatment for mental health patients has been launched in Shanghai. “New Beginning” faci-lity was staffed by the programme to more mental health organi-

Experts say remains of Tsar’s missing children found

MOSCOW, 26 Aug — Russian forensic experts said on Friday they may have found the remains of two children of the last Tsar whose bodies have been missing since a Bolshevik firing squad executed Russia’s royal family in 1918.

Examination of bones discovered near the site where the rest of the family were found suggests they belong to Tsar Nicholas II’s 13-year-old heir, Prince Alexei, and his daughter Maria, the scientists said. DNA testing still needs to be done to confirm the finds.

“It is most likely that this second burial place is linked to the first one. Everyone knows who they belong to,” said Sergei Pogorelov, a historian with the local administration in the Sverdlovsk Region. The Russian Prosecutor General’s Office said it was formally reopening its investigation into the case. Bolshevik revolu-

Finnish youth fined for putting teacher on YouTube

HELSINKI, 26 Aug — A Finnish court ruled against a 15-year-old student in a libel case on Friday after he posted a clip of his teacher on YouTube, ordering the youth to pay 800 euros (1,085 US dollars) in damages and a 90-euro fine.

The student had filmed his teacher singing at the school party last May and put the clip on YouTube with English subtitles under the headline “Karaoke of the mental hospital”.

The teacher took the boy to court and asked for 2,000 euros in damages. This is the first time a Finnish court has found against someone based on a video clip published on the Internet.

A bird perches on a buffalo’s head near the Mara River during the annual wildebeest migration in Kenya’s Masai Mara national reserve, 270 km (165 miles) southwest of the capital Nairobi on 24 Aug, 2007. Over 1.4 million wildebeast and 200,000 zebra and gazelle migrate through the Masai Mara each year in search of rain ripened grass. — INTERNET

Researchers have found a way to induce out-of-body experiences using virtual-reality goggles, helping to explain a phenomenon reported by about one in 10 people. — INTERNET

A Kyrgyz Taigan dog chases a wolf during a hunting festival near the village of Bokonbayevo, some 300 km (186 miles) east of the capital Bishkek, on 24 Aug, 2007. More than 20 hunters with dogs and eagles took part in the national festival. — INTERNET

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Real Madrid make winning start against Atletico

MADRID, 26 Aug — Real Madrid got their title defence off to a winning start when a deflected shot by new signing Wesley Sneijder earned a 2-1 comeback victory over city rivals Atletico on Saturday.

The Dutchman's missed shot spun off a defender and ended up in the back of the net after Guti had rolled a free kick into his path 10 minutes from time.

The game between the Primera Liga's two biggest spenders was played at a frenetic pace with the sides playing open, attacking football. But Bernd Schuster's Real looked more dangerous in front of goal and deserved the win. Sevilla, who beat Real 5-3 in the Super Cup last week, continued their sparkling start to the season with a 4-1 comeback win over Getafe thanks to second-half goals from Jesus Navas, Luis Fabiano, Frederic Kanoute and Alexander Kerzhakov.

Lites Lovech's Ivelin Popov (C) fights for the ball with Levski Sofia's Daniel Borimiros (L) and Richard Eromgoibe during their Bulgarian Championship soccer match in Lovech on 25 Aug. 2007. — INTERNET

Sevilla's second-half goals from Jesus Navas, Luis Fabiano, and Alexandre Pato served the win. Sevilla, who beat Real 5-3 in the Super Cup last week, continued their sparkling start to the season with a 4-1 comeback win over Getafe thanks to second-half goals from Jesus Navas, Luis Fabiano, Frederic Kanoute and Alexander Kerzhakov.

MNA/Reuters

Marseille clinch first win of the season at Caen

PARIS, 26 Aug — Olympique Marseille tasted victory for the first time this season in Ligue 1 after goals by Julien Rodriguez and Mamadou Niang gave them a 2-1 win at promoted Caen on Saturday. Defender Rodriguez headed home from a Bernoit Cheyrou free kick two minutes before the interval with Senegal's Niang doubling the tally from close range after being set up by fellow striker Djibril Cisse nine minutes into the second half.

Defender Albert Emoon's side, who wasted a 2-0 advantage at home against Nancy last weekend, moved up to ninth in the standings. Later on Saturday, Nancy will have the opportunity to take control of the league when they host AJ Auxerre while joint leaders Lorient and Le Mans travel to Girondins Bordeaux and Monaco respectively.

MNA/Reuters

Barclays Premier League Table

26 August 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>GD</th>
<th>PTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Man City</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wigan</td>
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<td>Liverpool</td>
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<td>Everton</td>
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<td>Arsenal</td>
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<td>Blackburn</td>
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<td>Derby</td>
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<td>-6</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

Chelsea go top after beating Portsmouth

LONDON, 26 Aug — Chelsea went top of the Premier League when they beat Portsmouth 1-0 at Stamford Bridge on Saturday and leaders Manchester City lost 1-0 at Arsenal.

Frank Lampard's 31st minute strike was enough to extend Chelsea's record unbeaten home league run to 65 matches and move them on to 10 points from four matches. It was Portsmouth's first defeat of the season.

It was the fourth successive match in which Lampard had scored, including England's goal against Germany on Wednesday, and manager Jose Mourinho praised his performance.

Manchester City goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel saved a 66th minute penalty from Robin van Persie but had no chance of stopping a shot from Cesc Fabregas 14 minutes later which was enough to secure the points for the Gunners and end City's perfect start to the season.

They have nine points from four games, but Schmeichel, taking a leaf out of his father Peter's book, nearly saved a point for City just before the end.

Like his father used to do for Manchester United, Schmeichel joined the City attack for a corner and forced Arsenal goalkeeper Manuel Almunia into saving his header.

MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's crossword puzzle

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SWEETS</th>
<th>ISLAND</th>
<th>HAND</th>
<th>FIG</th>
<th>SAGE</th>
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The game bursts into life in the second half and Spurs claim a penalty after Dimitar Berbatov's shot deflects off Wes Brown. — INTERNET

Man Utd 1-0 Tottenham

LONDON, 26 Aug — Nani drilled in his first goal for Manchester United to hand the champions a precious first win of the season and frustrate a brave Tottenham display.

After Robbie Keane hit the bar for Spurs in the first minute United dominated, with Michael Carrick and Paul Scholes going close to an opener.

The visitors held firm, though, and had appeals for a penalty turned down after Wes Brown's apparent handball. And Nani compounded their misery when he fired in the winner from 25 yards.

It was harsh on Tottenham, who had mixed a solid defensive display with the odd good chance, but United were good value for something from a game they dominated for spells.

Sir Alex Ferguson had boldly stated "we will win the game on Sunday" before the match, and the fact that Spurs had failed to beat United at Old Trafford in nearly 18 years suggested the Scot's pre-match confidence was well placed.

But it was some indication of the recent turmoil surrounding Tottenham that most of the talk before the game centred around Martin Jol's position as manager, rather than the fact that United began the match second bottom. — INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

Internet

The game bursts into life in the second half and Spurs claim a penalty after Dimitar Berbatov's shot deflects off Wes Brown.
Czech opponents to US radar base stage protest march

PRAGUE, 26 Aug — Around 200 opponents to the planned US radar base in the Czech Republic set out on a protest march on Saturday through the Brdy military grounds where the facility is to be placed.

“This is not a matter of politics. It is necessary to be among the people, to have contact with them, to know what they think and react to it,” said Mayor of Jince Josef Hala, who took part in the 12-kilometre march. “We represent the people and it would be unfair to play high politics somewhere in office rooms,” he added.

Hala said the route of the march led to the military grounds was selected deliberately.

“We want the people who have never been there to see it. There is wonderful nature there, they should understand why we protect the area,” he said.

The United States unveiled its plan in January to place 10 interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar system in the Czech Republic, as components of the missile defence shield.

Poll shows most Poles against US anti-missile shield

WARSAW, 26 Aug — The majority of Poles are still against the deployment of a US anti-missile shield in their country, a survey revealed Friday.

The survey, conducted by the CBOS polling centre in Warsaw, said that 56 per cent of those questioned oppose installing the shield on Polish territory while 28 per cent favour the plan.

Thirty-four per cent thought the shield would worsen Poland’s international standing and 32 per cent said it would weaken Poland’s position in the EU, the poll said.

Seventy per cent complained that the Polish Government has not informed the public enough about the missile shield. The CBOS poll was conducted from August 3 to 6 and 859 people were questioned.

According to a recent public opinion poll, more than two thirds of Czech citizens oppose the installation of the base.

In referendums held in several municipalities surrounding the Brdy area, people have voted against the base. — MNA/Xinhua

Earthquake report

Earthquake report

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.4) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside of Myanmar about (502) miles Southwest of Ka’ba-Aye Seismological observatory, was recorded at (23) hrs (33) min (07) see MST on 25th August 2007.

Monday, 27 August

View on today

7:00 am
1. National Spirit
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. Song to uphold National Spirit
8:05 am
5. Nice and sweet song
8:20 am
6. Song of national races
8:30 am
7. International news
8:45 am
8. Grammar made easy
4:00 pm
9. Morning news
6:30 pm
10. Weather report
6:35 pm
11. National news
7:00 pm
12. Evening news
7:20 pm
13. News
7:40 pm
14. News
8:00 pm
15. News
8:30 pm
16. News
9:00 pm
17. News
9:30 pm
18. News
10:00 pm
19. News

The next day’s programme

Monday, 27 August

Tourism

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 27-8-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayin State and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Kayin State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kachin and Rakhine States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.47) inch, Bhamo (9.02) inches, Maungdaw (5.71) inches, Kyaukpyu (2.91) inches, Katha (2.36) inches, Kayan (2.24) inches and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.89) inch.

Maximum temperature on 25-8-2007 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 26-8-2007 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 26-8-2007 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 25-8-2007 was (0.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 26-8-2007 was (0.71) inch at Mingalardon, (1.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.18) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (94.09) inches at Mingalardon, (98.46) inches at Kaba-Aye and (97.44) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (15) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 25-8-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 27-8-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayin State and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Kayin State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Mon States, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 27-8-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

New Rainfall Record

New Rainfall Record

The amount of rainfall (229) mm (9.02 inches) observed at (09:30) hours MST on 26th August 2007 in Bhamo is the 24 hours new maximum rainfall record at the station for the month of August during last (41) years. The former record was (172) mm (6.7 inches) on 17th August 1968.
Wellwishers and families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) present provisions to monasteries in South Okkalapa, Hline Townships

YANGON, 26 Aug — Wellwishers and families of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) donated cash and kind to 19 monasteries in South Okkalapa Township this afternoon.

The ceremony was held at Maha Muni Dhammayon of Okkalapa Pagoda in the township.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence presented robes and other offerings to members of the Sangha.

Present on the occasion were Pre-siding Nayaka Sayadaws of monasteries in South Okkalapa Township, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, local authorities and wellwishers.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party received the Five Precepts from lecturer Sayadaw Dhammacariya Digabanaka Bhaddanta Dhammadina of Ngwekyayan Pariyatti Sarthintaik.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented robes and other offerings to the Sayadaw. Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, the vice-mayor and senior military officers presented offerings to the Sayadaw.

Three senior military officers presented provisions to the Sayadaws. Yangon Division PDC, YCDC and other wellwishers donated K 7,657,000 to the funds and provisions to the Sayadaws.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and officials accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Next, Lt-Col Maung Maung Kyaw of Mingaladon Air Base reported on the purpose of the donation.

(See page 11)