

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Wednesday, 29 December 2004

## The struggle to regain independence lasted over 100 years

For over 2,000 years, Myanmar had lived under their own national leader, own law and own culture with dignity before falling under servitude at the end of 19th century. The independence had been restored only after over 120 years of struggle. The struggle lasted over 100 years to regain independence which was lost within two weeks.

**Senior General Than Shwe**  
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council  
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From address delivered at the opening of Special Refresher Course No 3 of the Union Solidarity and Development Association)



*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Yenwe Multipurpose Dam Project in Kyaukdaga Township, Bago Division. — MNA*

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects DaikU-Nyaungkhashe Road, Yenwe Multipurpose Dam, Shwekyin hydel power project

YANGON, 28 Dec — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Bago

Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and officials on 26 December inspected construction of

DaikU-Nyaungkhashe Road and construction of bridges on it.

(See Page 5)

## Cash and kind donated to disaster-hit villages

YANGON, 28 Dec — Accompanied by departmental officials, Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development

Council Chairman South West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Minister for Social Welfare, Relief

and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa yesterday morning inspected the disaster-hit areas (See Page 5)



*Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing presents cash assistance and aids to a tidal-wave stricken victim. — MNA*

## Shan State (North) USDA makes resolution of speedy implementation of seven objectives, nine future tasks adopted by AGM (2004), and plans in the region



YANGON, 28 Dec — The Shan State (North) Union Solidarity and Development Association met at the City Hall in Lashio on 26 December to implement the seven objectives and nine future work programmes adopted by the

USDA Annual General Meeting (2004) and to carry out the plans in Shan State (North).

It was attended by members of the USDA, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Medical Association, nurses association (branch), Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Red Cross Society, auxiliary fire brigades and cultural troupes of national races, outstanding

students, townsenders and wellwishers.

Shan State (North) USDA Secretary, chairman of the meeting, gave an introductory speech, saying that firmly standing as a strong national force and made up of national people, the majority of which are youths and middle age people, the USDA is participating in the national-building tasks.

Under the correct leadership of the government, the USDA members are playing an active (See Page 6)

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 29 December, 2004

### Work hard for speedy and successful implementation of special projects

The State Peace and Development Council is expending all its efforts to increase productivity of the manufacturing industry and to build infrastructures for the national and regional development. Moreover, to be able to carry out development tasks speedily, it has also formed the Special Projects Implementation Committee. The coordination meeting 2/2004 of the Committee was held at the meeting hall of the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) on 27 December and it was attended by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, who is also Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee.

In his address at the meeting, Senior General Than Shwe said, "As the special projects are very important for national development, the more speedily they are finished, the more beneficial they will be for the nation. We should put our energies into all the nation-building tasks as they will surely go down into history."

It is important to start implementation of special projects for national development as soon as they have been approved and all the responsible personnel are required to try their level best to complete their respective projects as speedily as possible.

Delays in the implementation of projects can entail more expenditure and therefore it is necessary to finish them ahead of schedule, to avoid unnecessary costs and for the workmanship to be of high quality.

Now the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is constructing five dams, three river water pumping stations and a sluice gate, the Ministry of Electric Power is implementing four hydel power projects, the Ministry of Industry-1 is building four new factories and the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Transport are also engaged in their respective new projects.

We would like to call on various ministries to bear in mind the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and strive for speedy and successful implementation of their relevant projects for the sake of regional and national development.

### Minister inspects rural development tasks in Mahlaing Tsp

YANGON, 28 Dec — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Pyi Sone together with officials concerned went to Laymyethnar Township yesterday morning and paid homage to Sayadaws of Hlaymyatnyar Sarthintaik there and offered alms to the Sayadaws.

Next, the minister and party inspected tube wells and lakes carried out by rural people and Township Development Committees in Ywathaaye village in Mahlaing and met with rural people and discussed development of the village, health and education with them. Afterwards, the minister met with secretaries and members of Meiktila District USDA and townsenders and held discussions with them on successful realization of objectives laid down by the association and seven-point future policy of the State. After that, the minister accepted 3988 membership applications from the wards in the township and comforted aged persons in Mahlaing Township Home for the Aged and donated traditional medicines to them.

MNA

### People's Desire

- \* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- \* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- \* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- \* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

### Minister inspects Mandalay International Airport, upgrading of Hkamti Airport

YANGON, 28 Dec — Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe together with officials concerned arrived at Mandalay International Airport on 26th December morning and inspected its buildings. On arrival at the aviation tower, officials reported to the minister on use of aviaional instruments such as NDB, HF and VHF. Regarding the reports, the minister gave instructions to officials.

Next, the Minister together with Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Deputy Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn and officials went to Hkamti Airport by air.

At the briefing hall, Project Engineer U Win Lwin reported to them on tarring of the runway of

Hkamti Airport, extending of it up to a total length of 5,100 feet. Next, Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn gave supplementary reports on assistance rendering to the project. The minister gave instructions to officials concerned.

Afterwards, the ministers inspected upgrading tasks of the runway and the earth work. Next, CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with executives of Hkamti Township USDA and instructed them to actively participate in regional development affairs and to realize nation-building endeavours.

MNA



Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein delivers an address at 6th annual coordination meeting of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation. — L & F

### Minister visits prawn breeding camps in Taninthayi Div

YANGON, 28 Dec — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein together with Taninthayi Division Head of Fisheries Department U Tun Win and officials concerned went to Lawtlaw village, Kyaukphar village tract, Myeik Township, Taninthayi Division on 25th December and inspected prawn breeding camps and instructed the officials to pay serious attention to increased production of prawns.

On the following day, the 6th annual coordination meeting of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation and duty assigning ceremony were held in Paleyadana hall of Myeik. Present on the occasion were Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council

Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister for Hotel and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hon Ngai and senior military officers, the vice-chairman of the MFF and executives and members of the MFF.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister delivered addresses on the occasion and so did Chairman of International Taninthayi Fisheries Enterprise Co Ltd U Kyar Maung.

After that, wellwishers presented cash donation K 2.85 million for Taninthayi Division Fisheries Federation to the commander and the minister. — MNA

### Interdepartmental Workshop on Occupational Health opens

YANGON, 28 Dec — Jointly-organized by the Ministry of Health and WHO, a ceremony to open Interdepartmental Workshop on Occupational Health was held at Grand Plaza Parkroyal Hotel this morning.

Persent on the occasion were Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, directors-general of health departments, rectors, directors, deputy directors, guests of other related ministries and officials of the WHO and social organizations.

In the opening ceremony, Minister for

Health Dr Kyaw Myint delivered an address. In his address he said measures are to be taken for reducing occupational hazards and diseases. Next, acting resident rep-

resentative of the WHO Dr Stephen Jost clarified matters related to the WHO's arrangements made for health of worksite. Altogether 40 representatives attended

the workshop and they submitted papers and held discussions on recommendations necessary for the State, dividing themselves into two groups and made decisions. —MNA



Minister Prof Dr Kyaw Myint delivers an address at the Interdepartmental Workshop on Occupational Health. —NLM



## President Hu offers condolences to Myanmar top leader over tsunamis

BEIJING, 28 Dec — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Monday sent a messages to Myanmar top leader Senior-General Than Shwe to offer condolences to the victims of Sunday's powerful earthquakes and tsunamis.

In the message to Senior-General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of Myanmar, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people, President Hu also extends his sincere condolences over casualty and property damage caused by tsunamis.

Hu said he believed the Myanmar Government and people can overcome the disaster and difficulties, and resume normal life in the disaster

area soon.

The tsunamis triggered by a series of huge undersea earthquakes near the Indonesian island of Sumatra swept across the coastal countries of the Indian Ocean rim Sunday, destroying villages, flooding cities and killing over 15,000 people.

The Chinese Government announced Sunday evening that it has launched an emergency aid mechanism and will deliver the emergency

humanitarian aid to India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Thailand as soon as possible.

MNA/Xinhua

## China to airlift aid to tsunami-struck countries

BEIJING, 28 Dec — China will airlift emergency aid to the earthquake and tsunami-struck countries in South and Southeast Asia, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said Monday.

Premier Wen extended sincere condolences on behalf of the Chinese Government to the effected countries by calling leaders of those countries, including Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapakse, Bangladeshi Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Myanmar Prime Minister Soe Win.

MNA/Xinhua

## Two-thirds of Maldives capital flooded

COLOMBO, 27 Dec — Two-thirds of the Maldives capital was flooded on Sunday after a series of tsunami waves triggered by an earthquake swamped the low-lying Indian Ocean archipelago, a popular tourist destination.

"The damage is considerable," chief government spokesman Ahmed Shaheed told *Reuters*. "The island is only about three feet (one metre) above sea level and a wave of water four feet (1.3 metres) high swept over us." Male, which is 1.25 miles long and half a mile wide and home to 75,000 people, is bursting at the seams.

The streets of white-washed houses are heavily built up, living conditions often cramped and areas of communal open space sparse for the country's 300,000 people — most of whom are involved in the tourist industry, the Maldives' economic backbone.

"It is a very bad situation. It is terrible," Shaheed told *Reuters* by telephone after a tour of the capital.

"As you know it is the peak tourist season. We are trying to get reports from those areas. The whole of the Maldives is a tourist area so we are just hoping and praying."

He said the international airport was unusable, adding that President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom would shortly declare a national disaster and appeal for international assistance. — MNA/Reuters



A villager cleans debris following tsunami tidal wave, triggered by Indonesia's huge earthquake, that hit a village in Penang Island, northwestern Malaysia, on 28 Dec 2004. — INTERNET

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ ခိုးမြင့်ကြ



People look at vehicles, boats and other debris lying on the Marina Beach after it was hit by tidal waves in Madras, in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, on 26 Dec, 2004. —INTERNET

## S-E Asia's quake most powerful in 20th century

WASHINGTON, 27 Dec — The earthquake that shook southern Asia on Sunday was one of the most powerful since the start of the 20th Century, the US Geological Survey said.

"We've just updated it to 8.9 magnitude. That makes it the fifth largest earthquake since 1900," said Julie Martinez, geophysicist for the US Geological Survey's Earthquake Hazards Programme in Golden, Colorado.

It was the largest quake in the world since 1964, she said. That year, a major earthquake hit Alaska's Prince William Sound. Sunday's quake struck at 7.59 am (0059 GMT) off the coast of Aceh Province on the northern Indonesian island of Sumatra and appeared to swing north into the Andaman islands in the Indian Ocean.

It triggered a tsunami that killed

hundreds in Sri Lanka,

Thailand, Indonesia and India.

"These big earthquakes, when they occur in shallow water, ... basically slosh the ocean floor ... and it's as if you're rocking water in the bathtub and that wave can travel basically throughout the ocean," USGS geophysicist Bruce Presgrave told the BBC. He said there had been no signs of the impending quake. "Unfortunately, we are not able to predict earthquakes at this time and one of the big reasons is typically these big earthquakes occur with no warning, no foreshock activity or anything like that," he added. — MNA/Reuters

## Chinese President offers condolences to tsunami victims

BEIJING, 27 Dec — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Sunday sent messages to leaders of seven Asian countries hit by the tsunami to offer condolences to the victims.

In separate messages to Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Indian President Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga, Bangladesh President Iazuddin Ahmed, Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, King of Thailand Bhumibol Adulyadej, Malaysian Supreme Head of State

Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail, President Hu offered condolences to victims of the disaster on behalf of the Chinese Government and people. Hu said he believed governments and peoples of these countries can overcome the difficulties and rebuild their homeland.

MNA/Xinhua

## 1,325 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 27 Dec — As of Monday, 27 Dec, 2004, at least 1,325 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,038 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include three military ci-

vilians. The *AP* count is four higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Monday. The British military has reported 75 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and

Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,187 US military members have died, according to *AP*'s count. That includes at least 925 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Internet

## Poll shows most Australians believe Iraq war unworthy

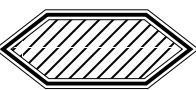
CANBERRA, 27 Dec — A growing number of Australians think Iraq war is not worth it, according to a latest poll.

A survey by Newspoll found 58 per cent of Australians think it was not worth going to war, 13 percentage points higher than the figure taken in February.

The number of those who think the war was justified has fallen from 46 per cent to 32 per cent.

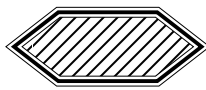
The poll, which was published on *The Australian* daily Monday, also showed that 45 per cent of survey respondents want Australian troops to stay as long as necessary, while those who think to bring back soldiers immediately take up 33 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



A US soldier  
scans the area from  
a roof position  
during a patrol in  
Tal Afar, northwest  
Iraq, on 27 Dec,  
2004.

INTERNET



## Najib inspects devastation scene in Penang left by tsunami

**PENANG, (Malaysia), 28 Dec—** Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak arrived here Monday morning to inspect the trail of destruction in Penang State, especially in the north and west coast of the island state.

A total of 33 deaths were confirmed in Penang which was hit hard by tsunamis triggered by a series of huge earthquakes in the sea near Indonesian island of Sumatra on Sunday. Soon after his arrival at the Bayan Lepas International Airport, he attended a closed-door briefing by the Penang Government on the disaster.

Najib, who is also chairman of the National Disaster and Relief Committee, later visited Sungai Batu, Bayan Lepas, one of the worst affected areas.

State Assemblyman, Syed Ameruddin Syed

Ahmad, who is also chairman of the State Housing, Culture and Heritage Committee, in his briefing to the Deputy Prime Minister, said that the losses suffered by fishermen in Bayan Lepas alone was estimated at two million ringgit (526,000 US dollars).

He said that a total of 329 fishermen were badly affected as their boats, trawling nets and fishing equipment were destroyed in the tidal waves.

Parliamentary Secretary Dr Hilmi Yahaya, who is Balik Pulau Member of Parliament, during his brief-

ing, screened a videotape of the situation recorded by a local resident at 1.24 pm on Sunday.

After his visit here, the Deputy Prime Minister will go to Kedah State and Langkawi Island, which were also affected by the tidal waves.

A total of 44 bodies of people killed by the tsunami tidal waves Sunday had been found by rescuers in the coastal areas of Penang, Kedah and Perlis states up to 9.00 am Monday, a spokesman of the Malaysia Control Centre in the federal police headquarters said Monday morning. —MNA/Xinhua

## S Korean President pledges aid to South Asian nations

**SEOUL, 28 Dec—** South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun on Monday said his government will provide relief and humanitarian aid to the South Asian countries which were hit by the ever strong tsunami.

"We are delivering deep condolences to the South Asian countries which suffered human losses and property damage from the strong earthquake and massive tidal waves," Roh was quoted as saying by his spokesman Kim Jong-min in a

news release of the Presidential Office.

"Our government will provide humanitarian aid and help relief activities," Roh said.

The strong earthquake off the northern Indonesian island of Sumatra affected several South Asian

nations, including India, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand, causing massive tidal waves along coastlines.

Reports said the quake and ensuing tidal waves caused over 11,000 deaths throughout South Asia.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesian Garuda cancels flights to Aceh

**JAKATRA, 28 Dec—** Indonesia's flag-carrier airline Garuda Indonesia decided to cancel its regular flights from and to Aceh Province starting on Sunday following the closure of Iskandar Muda Airport in Banda Aceh, the capital city of the province as of 9 am, its spokesman said.

"The cancelled flights include hajj flights from Banda Aceh. We will establish coordination with related sides for the cancellations till the reopening of the airport," Pujobroto, head of PT Garuda Indonesia's communications division was quoted as saying by the

official Antara news agency here Sunday.

The Garuda company also decided to cancel GA-192 flight from Medan, the capital city of North Sumatra province to Banda Aceh (Aceh) on Sunday.

GA-192 was scheduled for take-off from

Medan at 12.20 local time and slated for arrival in Banda Aceh at 13.30.

The quake measuring 8.7 on the Richter Scale jolted sea areas northwest of Indonesia's Sumatra Sunday morning, the most powerful recorded in 40 years.

MNA/Xinhua

မြိုင်ခွေတာ၊ ထိန်းပါလေလွင်၊ ထုတ်ကုန်မြိုင်

## Expert says Philippines could also be hit by tsunami

**MANILA, 28 Dec—** A Philippine seismology expert warned on Monday that the Philippine islands are not a safe haven from tsunami and urged the public to be watchful against a possible incoming oceanic devastation similar to that destroyed some coasts of Asia on Sunday.

The former director of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology Raymundo Punongbayan told DZMM that the country could also be hit by the tsunami that killed more than 12,000 people in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand because of the presence of trenches near the Philippines.

"We should be ready and we should tell the people that if they see the sea recedes and exposes the sea floor, then these are

definite signs of a tsunami," Punongbayan said, adding that the Philippines had been hit by destructive tsunamis.

"Historically, the country had been hit by tsunamis, such as the Moro Gulf earthquake in 1976, which killed about 8,000 people. In 1994 Mindoro was also hit by a similar quake," Punongbayan said.

"We have many craters (under the sea) that historically created tsunami," he added. He said that several trenches such

as the Cotabato Trench and the Manila Trench had generated tsunamis in the past.

Punongbayan said that Palawan can be affected by movements in the Manila-Negros Trench. The Manila Trench is affected by movements in the coastal areas of La Union, Ilocos Province and the Manila Bay, he said.

He added that in Mindanao any movement in the Cotabato Trench can affect the Surigao current.

MNA/Xinhua

## Japan vows to help tsunami-hit areas

**TOKYO, 28 Dec—** Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi pledged on Monday that Japan will help reconstruct wide areas in Asia that were hit by Sunday's massive earthquake and tsunamis.

"We're preparing to provide assistance to the devastated areas after studying what kind of help Japan can extend," Koizumi told reporters.

The Premier also voiced concern about a growing number of Japanese victims, saying, "We heard a considerable number of Japanese are included in the total death toll." The massive 8.7 magnitude quake, which originated off the Indonesia's Sumatra Island, and subsequent tsunamis killed more than 14,000 people in India, Indone-

sia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and other places.

According to a survey of 15 travel agencies across Japan, some 43 of their 1,254 customers travelling in South and Southeast Asia remained unaccounted as of 1:30 pm (0430 GMT).

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport conducted the survey and released the figure, which concerns only those on tours arranged by travel agencies. There have been unconfirmed reports that there may be Japanese among the thousands of

dead in southern Sri Lanka and that about 10 others are missing on Thailand's resort island of Phuket.

Japanese Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura said his ministry is also trying to confirm the safety of Japanese tourists believed to be in the tsunami-hit areas who did not arrange their trips through travel agencies.

The government has sent a disaster relief team of 19 doctors, nurses and other staff to Sri Lanka at the request of the Sri Lankan Government, Machimura said. —MNA/Xinhua

## Susilo declares three days of national mourning

**JAKARTA, 28 Dec—** Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has declared three days of national mourning beginning Monday after Sunday's powerful earthquake and tidal wave killed more

than 4,400 people in the country.

"Today (Monday) marks the beginning of the three-day national mourning. This is a human tragedy and I hope everyone will give assistance to the

victims," Susilo said during a stop at the Hasanuddin Airport in South Sulawesi en route to Aceh and North Sumatra, the worst affected by quake and tidal waves. —MNA/Xinhua



Environment activists, reporters and researchers examine two sperm whales stranded on a beach off the North Sea coastal resort of St Peter-Ording, on 27 Dec, 2004. — INTERNET





*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than unveils the stone inscriptions of Shwekyin People's Hospital. — MNA*

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends opening of Shwekyin Township People's Hospital

YANGON, 27 Dec — The opening ceremony of Shwekyin Township Hospital was held in Shwekyin Township this morning, where member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony and formally unveiled the signboard of the newly-built hospital.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, officials at division, district and

township levels, members of social organizations, national races, nurses, students and local people numbering over 2,000.

First, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence formally unveiled the signboard of the newly-built hospital and Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo formally

opened the hospital.

While Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party were inspecting the hospital, they were conducted around by Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and Medical Superintendent Dr Kyi Win.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko delivered addresses on the occasion.

Afterwards, cash donations for the hospital were presented K1,346,505 by U Maung Toe; K 750,000 by U Kyaw Min Naing; K 3 million by U Kwun; K 450,000 by U Htin Kyaw; K 2521545 by U Myint Zaw and K 1 million by Dr Saw Myint. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Dr Mya Oo accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to wellwishers.

MNA



*Shwekyin People's Hospital. — MNA*

## Cash and kind donated to...

(from page 1)

along southern coastal strips in Ayeyawady Division by helicopter and greeted local people. The disaster occurred due to tidal waves caused by a massive earthquake under the Indian ocean.

First, the commander, the minister and party met the victims in Htanbignon Village, Kongyi Village-tract, Pyinsalu Township and explained the occurrence of the disaster and assistance to be rendered by the State. Next, they presented clothes, necessary items, food and medicines donated by the SWRR Ministry, the Ministry of Health and the division PDC to the victims individually. After they had inspected the villages along the coast, the commander and

party met and comforted the victims and gave necessary assistance. In the village-tract, Htanbignon, Mingala Thaungtan, Kanpyat-thaung and Layyinkwin villages along the coast were hit by the disaster that killed 17 people and destroyed some houses.

This morning, the commander, the minister and officials went to Pyinsalu People's Hospital where they were welcomed by Head of Division Health Department Dr Than Aung and officials. They next comforted the stricken patients and gave cash assistance and food to them. Afterwards they inspected the operation theatre, X-ray room, and medical store.

The commander and party inspected con-

dition of roads in Pyinsalu, the township post and communication office, BEHS, and township general administration office where they met the staff and attended to the needs.

Later, they proceeded to Kwinpauk Village where they met the victims and gave necessary assistance.

After hearing reports by officials, the commander and the minister presented cash donations, clothes, personal goods, food and medicines to the villagers. In Kwinpauk village-tract, some villages of Kwinpauk village and Aung Hlaing village were stricken by the disaster that claimed five people.

The commander and party went to the BEHS (Branch) Kyaukkalat village, Haigyi Township, Pathein Dis-

trict where they cordially met the victims of the village and explained the occurrence of the disaster and assistance to be rendered. They then donated cash, necessary items, food and medicines to the villagers. The disaster destroyed some houses along the coast in Kyaukkalat and Oaktwin village-tracts, killing 5 people from Baydaai village and Kyaukkalat village.

The donations made for the victims included 517 bales of six different items, 15 bales of warm clothes and K 1514517 by the SWRR Ministry; five packs of medicines and medical equipment; and K 2105000, 250 bags of rice, 160 viss of edible oil and consumers' goods by the Ministry of Health.

MNA

## Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects...

(from page 1)

When they arrived at milepost No 7/1, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with local farmers and inspected winter crop cultivation.

Manager of Bago Division Myanmar Agriculture Service reported on cultivation of beans along DaikU-Nyaungkhashe Road. Now, 70,225 acres of beans have been cultivated in DaikU Township and 96,547 acres in Waw. Bago Division has a target of 1,350,000 acres of winter crops and now a total of 1,240,000 acres has been cultivated.

During his tour, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also urged the officials concerned to construct the bridges on the road meeting the set standard and attended to the needs for construction of Thongwa-Mingalun Road.

DaikU-Nyaungkhashe Road is being constructed by the Public Works of the Ministry of Construction and it is 21 miles and 2 furlongs long. Now, earthen phase of the road was completed. Six wooden bridges on the road were constructed and one bridge across Sittaung Canal and Nagapauk Chaung Bridge are under construction. Later, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Yenwe multipurpose dam project in Kyauktaga Township. At the briefing hall, officials concerned reported on progress of the construction of main dam, diversion dam and spillway and future plans.

Yenwe Dam is being constructed on Yenwe Creek near Myochaung Village in Kyauktaga Township. The dam is 1,050 ft long and 251 ft high with a water storage capacity of 1,212,600 acre feet.

If completed, the dam will irrigate 118,500 acres of farmland and it can generate 25 MW.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived Shwekyin, Bago Division, and also viewed the bean cultivation near the entrance of the town. Next, they proceeded to Shwekyin hydel power project and inspected the construction of the dam.

Shwekyin hydel power project is located six miles north-east of Shwekyin. The dam located on Shwekyin Creek is 3,610 ft long and 185 ft high. On completion of the project, 75 MW can be generated.

MNA

## Rural road and bridge inaugurated

YANGON, 28 Dec — As a gesture of hailing the 57th Anniversary Independence Day, rural road and a bridge in Okpo Township constructed by Bago Division (West) Development Affairs Department was inaugurated yesterday morning.

A laterite road linking Oakpo and Teinnyunt Village is six miles and four furlongs long, and ThaPhanPinSeik Bridge is 130 feet long and 14 feet wide. The road and bridge were constructed at a cost of over K 26.7 million.

Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Chairman and Director-General of the Development Affairs Department formally opened the road and bridge. — MNA



*ROAD OPENED: Hailing the 57th Anniversary Independence Day, Oakpo-Teinnyunt Road, constructed by the Development Affairs Department, was put into commission on 27-12-2004. Director-General of the DAD Col Myo Myint formally opens the facility. — MNA*



*The meeting to discuss implementation of seven objectives and nine future tasks adopted by AGM (2004) and to carry out the plans in Shan State (North) in progress. — MNA*

## Shan State (North) USDA makes...

(from page 1) and skills, he said. He quoted Patron of the USDA Senior General Than Shwe, as saying that new generation youths who

will be able to decide the certainty of the nation's better future and flourishing of democracy in the nation, adding that the Association is constantly upgrading its members to mentally and physically well-rounded ones both in quality and in quantity.

Shan State (North) is indeed a small union whose number of national races is more than any other states and divisions', and USDAs at different levels in the region fully imbued with Union Spirit are contributing towards

regional development as a gesture of repaying the gratitude of the government, he noted.

In conclusion, he said that at a time when the government is taking a leading role in all-round progress of the nation hand in hand with the people, the USDA is lending itself to the process in collaboration with congenial social organizations and local residents.

Next, Shan State (North) USDA Executive U Saing Aung Pwint put forward a motion of successful implemen-

tation of the seven objectives; Shan State (North) USDA Reserve Executive Dr Nan Soe Soe Aung, a motion of successful implementation of the nine future tasks; and Shan State (North) USDA Executive U Myint Oo, a motion of carrying out plans energetically in the region.

The motions were seconded by Lashio

District USDA Executive Daw Hsaing Khawn, Muse Township USDA Executive U Maing Tun Aung, Laukkai District USDA Executive Daw Zin Mar Win, Kyaukme District USDA Executive Tar Kyaw Ohn and Kunlong District USDA Executive Daw Tin Tin Win.

Shan State (North) USDA Joint-Secretary U Aye Thaung and Executives U Saing Kyaw Myint, U Saing Myint Aye and Daw Nan Kein Phaung Tit presented gifts to outstanding youths.

The chairman announced that the meeting made a resolution to speed up implementation of the seven objectives and nine future tasks and carry out the plans in the region.

Those present shouted slogans, which brought the meeting to a close.

MNA



*USDA members, social organizations, delegates and outstanding youths saluting the State Flag in the meeting organized by Shan State (North). — MNA*



*Members of the panel of chairmen and those present shouting the slogans at the meeting. — MNA*



## POEM

## Be ever alert

\* Independence is  
Nation's life-blood, the top-rated gem  
To be valued and held in high esteem.  
Heritage of Independence  
From nation's earth, resources  
Valuable possessions, many and varied  
We will fairly extract and share  
Equally and for prosperity of nation  
And only if the debt of gratitude  
Is paid in reciprocation  
Shall we be noble citizens worth  
nourishing  
Independence  
Must be vigilantly protected  
With true alert at all times  
Can be easily lost, but hard to regain  
Only with sacrifice of life, blood, sweat  
Can it be regained  
Noble citizens, kith and kin  
Brethren, Union citizens  
With strength of unity, be ever alert.

U Aung Mon (M.A) (Trs)



# HAILING THE 57<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE DAY

## BHAMO DEGREE COLLEGE

*Thanks to the building of Bhamo degree college, students in Kachin State are now able to pursue their higher education in their own regions with peace of mind.*



## Development in the education sector in the time of the State Peace and Development Council

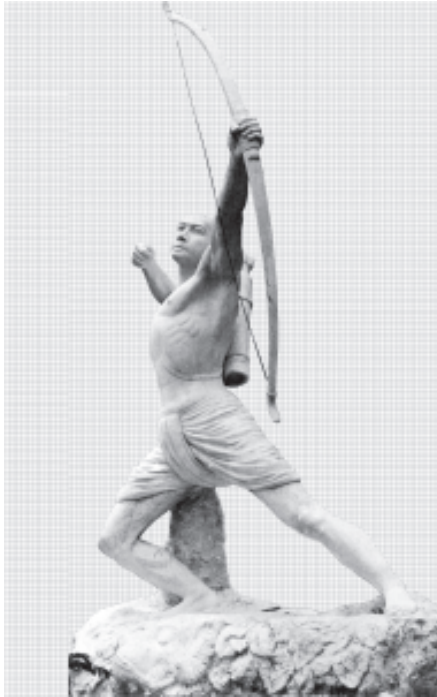
Sr	Subject	1988	2004
1	Primary school		
	Enrollment rate	77%	96.56%
2	Literacy rate	78%	93.3%

Subject	1988	2004
Primary school	33,747	40,505
Basic education teacher	173,000	222,000
Basic education student	5,239,878	7,791,500
University and college	32	156
University teacher	6,500	16,600
University student	130,000	890,000

## Patheingyi University

*To develop human resource, universities and colleges have been opened across the country. Photo shows Patheingyi University in Ayeyawady Division.*





**It is not with ease that independence was regained. The entire national brethren, arming themselves with firm Union Spirit and patriotic spirit, launched anti-colonialist movements and waged freedom fights at the cost of their lives. They also showed their determination, resolution and courage in those fights. The peasants led by Saya San launched anti-colonialist struggles in conjunction with Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine, and Shan patriotic fighters, and endeavoured to restore national independence.**

The Union of Myanmar has stood to this date as a sovereign state with its own long-standing culture and rule since yore in the global community.

It is now close to 57 years that Myanmar came into existence as an independent country after the people from all walks of life including monks had risked their lives, blood and sweat to restore the country's independence.

It is not with ease that independence was regained. The entire national brethren, arming themselves with firm Union Spirit and patriotic spirit, launched anti-colonialist movements and waged freedom fights at the cost of their lives. They also showed their determination, resolution and courage in those fights. The peasants led by Saya San launched anti-colonialist struggles in conjunction with Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine, and Shan patriotic fighters, and endeavoured to restore national independence.

It was December in 1930. After occupying the Lower Myanmar, the colonialist British government forcefully imposed excessive levies on goods and manipulated the sale of crops to make up for their administration expenses and to gain profits. With the growing demand in the world market, Myanmar rice came to fetch high prices. However, all the profits were in the pocket of the colonialists' minions. Farmers and peasants got no benefit from it. Indian chettiyars lent money to farmers and peasants at high rates of interest. Failure to settle their debts forced farmers and

## National patriotic peasants who fought against the colonialists

peasants into surrendering their farmland or cattle or paddy to Indian chettiyars, leaving them in a vicious spiral of heavy debt. In 1869 after the inauguration of Suez Canal, Indian coolies were brought in to Myanmar on the pretext of extending the sown acreage of paddy, and they were employed at lower wages

### *Thuh Aung (Aunglan)*

in paddy cultivation and production. Furthermore, penniless Indians were also brought in to the country. British banks disbursed loans to them at a rate of four or eight kyats as interest on one hundred kyats. Yet, penniless Indians lent their money to Myanmar farmers and peasants at the rate of 15 to 25 kyats as inter-



*Saya San, leader of peasants who unwaveringly fought against colonialists.*

est on one hundred kyats. Borrowing some money from penniless Indians required mortgaging paddy to them.

When farmers and peasants could not pay off the debts they owed to Indian profiteers, they lost their farmland and cattle to the latter. They were thus reduced to a life without farmland and cattle. Steel Brothers Co and Anglo-Burma Co came to control Myanmar rice. They fixed rice prices. They bought rice at low

**At the failure of receiving land tax, farm rent and interest, Indian profiteers set villages on fire, raped women, took by force property, farms and even piles of hay. Moreover, they also arrested and beat farmers who led rent-free movements. Their bullying assaults becoming unbearable, farmers led by Thupannaka Galonyaza Saya San launched a peasant movement on 22 December 1930. Yetaik and Hphashwekyaw villages in Thayawady district were where the peasant movement sparked, and later it spread across such regions as Pyapon, Hinthada, Insein, Bago, Pyay, Thayet district and Shan State.**

prices and sold them at high prices, reaping enormous profits. Over two million acres of farmland in the Lower Myanmar had fallen under the ownership of Indian profiteers during the period from 1929 to 1947.

At the failure of receiving land tax, farm rent and interest, the colonialists and chettiyars set villages on fire, raped women, took by force property, farms and even piles of hay. Moreover, they also arrested and beat farmers who led rent-free movements. Their bullying assaults becoming unbearable, farmers led by Thupannaka Galonyaza Saya San launched the peasants movement on 22 December 1930. Yetaik and Hphashwekyaw villages in Thayawady district were where the peasant movement sparked, and later it spread across such regions as Pyapon, Hinthada, Insein, Bago, Pyay, Thayet district and Shan State.

Thayawady and Insein were where the peasant  
(See page 9)



*Villagers and patriotic peasants bravely fought against colonialists who tried to enter Phashwekyaw Village situated to the northeast of Thayawady.*



# National patriotic peasants who fought against the colonialists

(from page 8)

movement reached its climax. Bo San Htoo and Bo Myat Aung, the leaders of the peasants, fought the British colonialists in those areas in conjunction with Kayin national patriots. Bo Kyar, a Kayin national, joined Saya San in their fierce fights against the British colonialists in the southern part of Hinthada.

At the same time, Chin-Bamar compatriots hand in hand launched the peasant movement in Thayet district. In January 1931, the peasant movement waged under the command of Saya San spread to the delta region and the plains, and then to Shan State.

The peasant movement made a major contribution towards the anti-colonialist movements and independence struggle. The peasant movement could en-

criminate the plains and the hilly regions. To regain independence was the common and same view shared by the entire Myanmar nationals among themselves. The national brethren of the plains and the hilly regions stood in solidarity to reach that goal.

At the end of June in 1931, Shan, Bamar, Palaung and Danu nationals headed by Saya San waged anti-colonialist fights in Yatsauk, south of Shan State. On 7 July 1931, British forces combed and raided the bases of patriotic peasant fighters. British forces engaged in a fight with the patriotic peasants who were crossing the Dokhtawady River. Mobilizing the strength of available peasants, Shan national patriots led by U Tun Hla marching from Metsanbaw camp, Dayanbo camp, and Kyauktaung camp crushed

**‘The restoration of independence does not imply a degree of sovereignty, and what defines independence and sovereignty is only the right to create one’s own country at one’s own will without any interference of the others’.**

Punjabi troops on Nyandaw Hill.

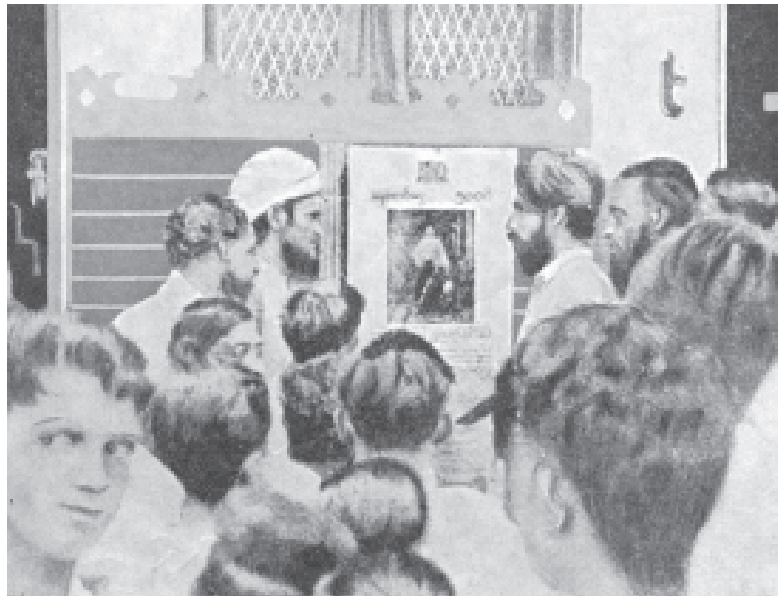
In the end, the British government had to meet the peasants halfway and was prompted to reduce land tax, disburse subsidy, and ceased collection of revenue by force.

However, lack of enough experience in revolution and insufficiency of modern weaponry resulted in the arrest of 128 patriotic peasants including Saya San. The colonialists managed to arrest the peasants, but were not capable of destroying their patriotism or the spirit refusing to be enslaved.

In the historical course of Myanmar independence struggle, Myanmar nationals stood in solidarity and showed their brilliant patriotic spirit in the fights against the colonialist intruders as well as in the national freedom movement. As a result, Myanmar clinched independence on 4 January 1948. With independence in hand, it is however still necessary to treasure it, preserve it and safeguard it.

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe once said in his guidance that ‘the restoration of independence does not imply a degree of sovereignty, and what defines independence and sovereignty is only the right to create one’s own country at one’s own will without any interference of the others’. In line with Senior General Than Shwe’s guidance, the onus is on the entire national brethren to make efforts to ensure the perpetual existence of the motherland as sovereign state amid the world nations and to safeguard her with united strength. It is also necessary to ward off and remove the internal and external threats. Only then will the Union of Myanmar be able to exist as an independent and sovereign state in glory in the international community as long as the world does.

**Translation: KTY**



Colonialists had to announce with reward of 500 kyats for capturing Saya San.

list the strength of national races and consolidate the national unity while the colonialists were putting into practice the ‘divide and rule’ policy designed to dis-

**The peasant movement made a major contribution towards the anti-colonialist movements and independence struggle. The peasant movement could enlist the strength of national races and consolidate the national unity while the colonialists were putting into practice the ‘divide and rule’ policy designed to discriminate the plains and the hilly regions. To regain independence was the common and same view shared by the entire Myanmar nationals among themselves. The national brethren of the plains and the hilly regions stood in solidarity to reach that goal.**



*The battle of Phashwekyaw was one of the famous battles in the fight against colonialists. Photo shows the battle ground on which one of British officials was killed.*



Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein explains matters related to loss of property in Myanmar caused by a strong earthquake in the Indian Ocean. — MNA

## Press conference on bomb...

(from page 16)

Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, heads of departments, Managing Director of News and Periodicals Enterprise Col Soe Win, Director (News) of

Hsan explained the terrorist acts of destructive elements that killed or wounded innocent students and people and the activities of destructionists at home and abroad, who are

to the schedule. The security personnel were able to expose the plot of the remnants of the BCP to distribute anti-Government leaflets in the nation in December. The BCP remnants selected targets among the people and the members of the Sangha and tried to contact the destructive elements in the nation to distribute the leaflets.

In addition, the BCP was trying to increase its underground political activities. The seized leaflets are displayed at the news conference. Moe Thu, with the rank of a major, of a destructive organization at the border is conducting a course on explosives for 15 trainees of the ABSDF at Noeboe refugee camp in the other nation. It is learnt that the targets are roads, bridges, airports and dams,

to tighten the national security and expose and stop some terrorist acts in time. But some occurred in the nation.

The security personnel found four time bombs — one at a platform in Yangon Railway Station at 1430 hours on 26 June 2004; another on the platform near the stairway of the Pansodan pedestrian overpass at 0500 hours on 27 June 2004; the other on the platform at the left side of the railway station at 0530 hours; and the final one at the No 7 vase of the Pansodan pedestrian overpass.

Three bombs exploded one each on the pedestrian lane leading to the railway station on Pansodan Street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township at 0330 hours on 26 June 2004; in a park at the entrance to the platform for upper-class coaches at the railway station at 0345 hours; and at the left side of a platform at the railway station at 0357 hours. The explosions were caused by sound mines. There were no destruction or injuries.



Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi explains matters related to unused vehicles. MNA

destroyed some plants. When the authorities investigated the case, they found out that two strangers met with Mar Mar Lwin, 30, daughter of U Maung Ko, a vagabond, near the ticket counter four or five days before the explosion. Of the two, a tall and dark man of Bamarrace introduced himself as Win Naing (a) Zaw Win. He spoke quickly and had a dragon tattooed on his both forearms. After meeting with the woman four or five times, the two persuaded her offering money to plant bombs in

NLD (LA) entered the nation at the end of October 2004 to plant bombs at the World Buddhist Summit and Armed Forces Day Parade. Tin Aung Phone of ABSDF battalion 202 visited BBC correspondent Win Myint's house in Maesot on 7 December 2004, and kept three US-made time bombs in the house.

Arrangements were made to convey the explosives to Yangon.

Naing Aung Lin of ABSDF transported a paper box from Rahai in



This photo shows evidences of bomb blasts and places during 2004. — MNA

NPE U Win Tin, chief editors, patrons, president and members of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, editorial staff of journals and magazines and guests.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan clarified the incident in which an innocent student was killed and some persons wounded due to the destructive acts and movement of external and internal destructionist groups that were behind such acts. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw

scheming and committing the terrorist acts.

It is a common knowledge that destructionists from inside and outside the nation are floating false information in the nation through some foreign radio stations, internet website and distributing of pamphlets to instigate the people.

At present, the destructionists are encouraging terrorist gangs to commit the evil acts according

infrastructures for national development that have been built with the nation's own strength. The Government received information that the scheme was masterminded by Dr Sein Win of NCGUB, and supervised by Pyithit Nyunt Wai (a) Maung Maung, Aung Moe Zaw of Democratic Party for New Society, Tin Oo of NLD (LA), Lwan Ni and Ko Ko Naing of ABSDF. Thanks to the information, the Government was able



This photo shows evidences of bomb explosion in Yangon Railway Station's environs and bombs which failed to explode. — MNA

A home-made bomb exploded at a park near a filling station in front of a platform of the railway station at 0530 hours on 27 June 2004. The explosion

the surrounding areas of the Yangon Railway Station. Mar Mar Lwin agreed to the offer, and accepted two green bags with mines in them and K 10,000 at 0330 hours on 26 June. The bombs were then planted at the places asked.

After the incidents, the authorities received more information about the destructive acts.

The Political Defiance Committee (PDC) based in the other country sent Ye Myint and Hla Khaing to Myanmar to blow up bombs in September 2004. A destructive organization in the so-called liberated area in the other country presented 10 advanced mines to the Democratic Party for New Society on 5 October 2004. Htein Lin and Myint Khaing were sent to Kayin State to plant bombs. Five persons including Aung Than Oo of

Thailand to four persons wearing robes in Maesot on 14 December 2004. Under the scheme, the four robe-wearing persons would enter Myanmar and try to cause unrest and bomb explosions in the nation.

Arrangements were (See page 11)



This photo shows evidences related to bomb blast at Zawgyi House Restaurant. — MNA



Imagined image of the destructionist who kept a parcel bomb in Zawgyi House Restaurant. — MNA



## Press conference on bomb...

(from page 10)

being made to transport the cartoon into the nation with a carrier.

Beginning 1 December 2004, two Americans have been conducting a special investigation and explosive training near Kyaukkhet village south of Maesot in Thailand.

Maung Maung Latt of National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB), Pyithit Nyunt Wai (a) Maung Maung and Min Thu of All Burma Student's Democratic Front (ABSDF) and five persons held a secret meeting on 1 December 2004 in the other country. The meeting decided to send two bomb teams into the nation.

selected, and arrangements were made for them to start their activities in Mawlamyine, Hpa-an and Kyondo beginning 18 November 2004.

Meanwhile, Secretary of NCUB Pyithit Nyunt Way (a) Maung Maung is launching a series of political attacks with the use of money provided by foreign nations. It is also learnt that Pyithit Nyunt Way (a) Maung Maung has been perpetrating destructive acts and atrocities to beef up the political attacks.

According to the information, the authorities concerned are stepping up security measures day and night out for roads, bridges, dams and reservoirs and the people. As a result,



*This photo shows bomb explosion in Zawgyi Restaurant. — MNA*

Nyein Chan of NLD-LA, son of a representative-elect of the NLD in Kya-in Seikkyi, Kayin State, Aung Than Oo, his cousin, and Saw La Bwe were sent into the nation to blow up bombs before October 2004.

A meeting was held from 1000 hours to 1500 hours at NLD-LA office in Maesot on 5 November 2004. Two foreigners, and 70 destructionists including those from NLD-LA, Democratic Party for New Society and ABSDF attended the meeting. Based on the latest developments in Myanmar, the meeting discussed making of contacts with some political parties in the nation to blow up bombs. Five persons including two bombers were

some destructive acts could be deterred and some could not. The following are the incidents.

Members of Myainggalay Police Station, acting on information, on 15-11-2004 afternoon, searched the house of Sein Aung Lin (a) Alin of Meinlagon Ward, Hlakar Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State and seized 1,652 rounds of ammunition for AK 47, 15 magazines, seven 79 mm grenades, nine 91-hand grenades, six 88-hand grenades, one unidentified hand grenade, and 14 fuses.

A local-made time bomb went off near Khinneinmu combined checkpoint in Kawkaik, Kayin State on 22-11-2004 morning, injuring five offi-



*This photo shows evidences of bomb explosion in Myaukmin Sports Gears Shop in front of Aungthanlwin Sports Grounds in Hpa-an. — MNA*

cials of the checkpoint.

Likewise, two unscrupulous persons, on 21-11-2004 afternoon, arrived at Zawgyi restaurant, of No 367 on Bogyoke Aung San Road, Pabedan Township, Yangon Division and left a paper box. It went off and injured a worker of the restaurant. The news had already been stated in the papers. Now, we are going to explain the event in detail.



*Aung Soe Moe, 17 who was injured in the bomb explosion. — MNA*

The injured worker was identified as waiter Sai San Win (a) Sai Sai, 31, son of U Chan Tha, of No 30, Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley Ward 2, Bahan Township. His left lateral malleolus and right big toe were in bruises and his ears had been deafened by noise. The following are the details of the event.

At 11 am on 21-11-2004, the two men—one, fat and short in his fifties wearing striped T shirt and longyi and sunglasses and, another aged about 35—who bear resemblance to Bamars, arrived the restaurant and ordered two fried vermicelli, two bottles of Mandalay beer and two cans of soft drinks. When they left the restaurant at 1.45 pm, they left a paper box measuring about 1 1/2 ft x 11/2 ft x 6 in. The waiter tried to give the item to the two persons but he did find not them. Soon

after the waiter put the paper box at the original place, it went off. Under investigation, one AIKO wall clock already in a paper box, five apples, one London cigarette, five pieces of single-use soap, five cans of Myanmar-made power soft drinks and debris of toy made up of wool, were found in the box.

There is also an incident that was deterred by the authorities con-

with handle aboard the car and left there, saying that he was going to buy a bottle of purified drinking water. As he did not arrive up to 2.15 pm, driver U Aung Myint Swe, 40, son of U Maung Ko, of Patheinyunt Ward, Mingalar Taungnyunt Township, informed Kyauktada Police Station. The authorities found one jeans jacket and one longyi in the travelling bag, one plastic rice box wrapped with blue tape in the plastic bag with handle and, wire and detonator in the rice box.

Upon investigation, the plastic rice box was local-made time bomb. It measured 7 in x 5 in x 2 in. Battery (dry cell), 5.2 cm long detonator, six-diameter explosive has been put into a compass box measuring 6 in x 2 in x 1/2 in, have been formed into the time bomb. There were also a switch and a clock used as time system. Plastic explosive has been used as gunpowder and commercial as detonator in the time bomb.

The kind of the plastic explosive had not been used yet and cannot be bought in the nation. It can be bought and is used at the areas bordering with other countries. It is learnt that there is no smell of gun-

powder like other gunpowder when it exploded. When the authorities made an investigation into the incident at Zawgyi House Restaurant, there was no smell of gunpowder.

Therefore, it is assumed that the time bomb used at the incident was the kind of plastic explosive. It is also assessed that the time bomb has been made by those who attended explosive courses at the border and was brought in.

After the explosion in Yangon there was another explosion at Myaukmin Sports Equipment Shop in front of Aungthanlwin Stadium, Hpa-an, Kayin State at 11.55 am on 24-12-2004 and first year UDE student Sa Aung Myat (a) Myo Myo, 20, son of U Man Aung Lwin, of TadaU ward, Kawkaik, was killed on the spot. Likewise, Chit Nyi Nyi, 19, son of Maung Maung Aye, of Ward 3, Kawkaik, Aung Soe Moe, 17, son of U Soe Hlaing, of Ahleywa Village, Kawkaik and Win Phone Kyaw of the sports equipment shop, 17, son of U Kyaw Nyunt, were wounded. They were admitted to Hpa-an Hospital as in-patients.

(See page 13)



*Chit Nyi Nyi, 19 who was injured in the bomb explosion. — MNA*



*After the press conference, mediamen inspect photos on evidences. — MNA*

SEOUL, 28 Dec — The South Korean Embassy in Bangkok confirmed Monday one South Korean was dead from devastating tidal waves that hit a southern Thai island on Sunday, while another 10 were missing.

The Embassy identified the victim as Lim Wu-jeong, 33, a South Korean resident in Malaysia. His Malaysian wife also died, and their daughter was in critical condition, South Korean *Yonhap* news agency quoted the embassy as reporting.

On Thailand's southern resort island of Phi Phi, nearly 100 South Koreans were stranded and the whereabouts of nine of them are yet to be confirmed, the Embassy said.

"A South Korean tourist group consisting of 45 men, women and children entered Phi Phi Island Sunday morning. All, except nine, have returned to Phuket," Hong Ik-tae, a minister in the South Korean Embassy to Bangkok, was quoted by *Yonhap* as saying.

"Of the 36 survivors, five were injured," he added.

It is difficult to confirm the exact number of South Koreans stranded in Phi Phi, let alone their conditions, due to communications and weather problems in the region.

The Thai Government said nearly 4,000 locals and tourists were trapped on the island and that naval vessels and Army helicopters were evacuating some of them.

In addition, a 75-year-old South Korean woman, identified only by her family name Bae, has been missing in Phuket since early Sunday when tidal waves swept her away. Bae was vacationing on the Thai resort island with her 46-year-old daughter, who was seriously injured, the embassy said.

The powerful earthquake, rated as the worst since 1964, spawned massive waves as high as 6 metres that hit Thailand, Sri Lanka, the Maldives and as far away as India. Reports said the death toll has already exceeded 11,300. — *MNA/Xinhua*



## Press conference on bomb...

(from pae 11)

At 9.30 am on 24-12-2004, Kayin State selected footballers—Sa Aung Myo Myat, Chit Nyi Nyi and Aung Soe Moe— took a Hilux bus with the number plates 9 Ka/1365 to AungThanLwin Stadium where students' sports meet was being held. All the passengers including the three, got off the bus in front of the stadium. Then, they went to their friend of the sports equipment shop. At that time, conductor San Htwe (a) Shan Pok followed them, saying if they had left a radio cassette player and handed it over to them. Out of curiosity, they switched on the cassette player and the explosion occurred. In connection

**The minister said that the government had received information that some local political parties under the pretext of democracy and human rights had certain connections and relations with destructive elements such as NCUB, ABSDF and poppy smuggler insurgent Ywet Sit group and other destructive elements in border areas.**

with the incident, conductor San Htwe (a) Shan Pok, 28, son of U Kyaw Shein, of Ward 3, Kawkaeik, was arrested and interrogated. Upon interrogation, it was found that San Htwe (a) Shan Pok, went to the other country to work there after he had failed in the exam twice. At a checkpoint on the way there, a man named Kyaw Lay persuaded him to join ABSDF. Kyaw Lay promised that he would on his return. In the other country, San Htwe (a) Shan Pok worked at an ice-factory in Mehtaw for one month, worked as a farmhand for two months and then worked at a wool factory in Mehtaw for three months. He left the sweater factory in Mehtaw village in the neighbouring country in 1998. Then, he left Myawady for Thingan Nynaung by bus. On his way to Kawkaeik through the forest, he met again with Kyaw Lay and group at Taungphyat camp.

Being persuaded for the second time by Kyaw Lay to join the ABSDF, Shan Pok told him that he would return three months later. And he stayed hidden in Kawkaeik two months and in Toungoo one month. After spending eight days in his home in Kawkaeik, he went to Taungphyat camp. He arrived at the camp (locally known as Sho camp) of the ABSDF in the neighbouring country at around 5 pm local time.

The Sho camp headed by Saw Kyaw Lay (a) Saw Thamu He conducts explosive courses for the ABSDF members. It is made up of some 60 members including 15 students who were involved in the 1988 political unrest. Saw Thamu He assigned San Htwe (a) Shan Pok responsibilities in the mess about two months. After being taught lessons on explosive theoretically and practically, he was sent to Myanmar to explode mines one time each in Kawkaeik and Hap-an.

Kyaw Lay (a) Saw Kyaw Lay secretly met San Htwe (a) Shan Pok at Khin Nein Mu checkpoint at 3 am on 22 November, and asked him to detonate a handmade remote-control mine at Khin Nein Mu checkpoint near the exit of Kawkaeik. Shan Pok planted the mine under a tree near the drain and detonated it by remote control from Kawkaeik cemetery at 10 am sharp. Then, he resumed his job as bus conductor.

Designating the bushes, west of the Shwekyet Pagoda, over one mile east of Kawkaeik, as the assembly point to secretly meet Shan Pok, Kyaw Lay (a) Saw Kyaw Lay gave instructions to Shan Pok through his followers Saw Ta Mu and Maung Kyaw.

On 21 December, Kyaw Lay (a) Saw Kyaw Lay gave a message of directives to Shan Pok via Maung Kyaw, which read Saw Ta Mu on 23 December would deliver explosives to detonate at the sport events to be held in Aung Thanlwin sports ground, Hpa-an. San Htwe (a) Shan Pok received the explosives from Saw Ta Mu at 6.30 pm on 23 December. He hid the explosives covering them with sand at a corner of the sports ground. At 5.40 am the next day, he got the items and hid them again at a corner of the compound around 100 yards from Amei Ein tea shop. When the drivers were away for tea break, he carried the items with a plastic bag onto the bus and threw away the bag, with which he took the items.

On arrival at Aung Thanlwin sports ground in Hpa-an, he noticed three selected Kayin State soccer players on

the bus and he decided to target them.

When the three got off the bus, he followed them and presented the plastic bag of the explosives to them including Aung Myo Myat, asking if the package was theirs. At Myaukmin sports gear store, the three took the cassette out of the plastic bag to check it. The cassette exploded when a button of it was pressed.

Further investigation led to the facts that Kyaw Lay (a) Saw Thamu He is commander of company-2 of Battalion 9 of the ABSDF. Saw Kyi Lin, Commander of the battalion, mostly lived in the neighbouring nation.

Next, the minister said that he would like to present the event of explosion that occurred in Zawgyi Restaurant in Yangon in connection with the news issued by the AFP News Agency.

The news on the bomb blast at Zawgyi Restaurant in Yangon on 21 December was featured in the dailies the next day. The BBC on 24 December 2004 at 6 am quoted the AFP news agency as saying that VBSW claimed responsibility on 23 December; that the VBSW in its announcement demanded the immediate release of all political prisoners including Daw Suu Kyi and the handing over of the State power to NLD; and that if the demands were not met, it will launch further attacks. The VBSW raised its ugly head again with the announcement. It is a terrorist gang that launched the armed seizure of the Myanmar Embassy in 1999.

Terrorists disguised themselves as the persons who came for visa application to enter the embassy. The raid was led by Johnny (a) Kyaw Oo of ABSDF, and in collaboration with Beda (a) Myint Thein and Swe Min of ABSDF, Tha Nge of Kayin insurgent group, and two Kayin youths of God's Army. The incident had been featured in the dailies in detail on 2, 4 and 6 October. The VBSW was founded with 18 members on 29 August 1999. Six more members joined it on 1 September 1999.

**If found the unlicensed cars after 31 March 2005, the government will confiscate them and take action against the owner. Action will be taken against the donor and the owner if unlicensed cars are donated to associations and other religious organizations and if they are dismantled.**

It is located at Tagolai village where God's Army has its base. Its leader is Kyaw Oo, and members: Hsan Naing (a) Ye Thiha, Min Lwin, Kyaw Oo (a) Johnny, Hla Aung, Aung Kyaw Hsan, Ko Latt, Kyaw Khaing, Tint Lwin Oo, Thant Zaw Oo, Naung Kham, Myint Thein (a) Beda, Min Min Oo, Ye Thu Naing (Australia), Tin Khet (Japan), Aung Soe, Cho Tu, Myo Myint, Than Htay (Canada), Kyaw Zin, Myat Aung, Kyaw Thiha, Min Naing (America), San Win and Maung Htwe.

The minister said that an overall views of the above-mentioned presentation, events, and seized evidences would show that NCGUB, NLD (LA), ABSDF, VBSW and other destructive elements had committed the destructive acts with the intention of creating political unrest and public panic in the nation and hampering the nation-building efforts. In conclusion, the minister said that the government had received information that some local political parties under the pretext of democracy and human rights had certain connections and relations with destructive elements such as NCUB, ABSDF and opium smuggler insurgent Ywet Sit group and other destructive elements in border areas.

Next, Director-General of MPF Police Brig-Gen Khin Yi gave clarifications on the unlicensed vehicles. He said MPF is a law enforcement organization and he explained about true conditions regarding action taken against illegally imported unlicensed vehicles, through the entrepreneurs and the bankers at the press conference on 9 November.

Under the existing law, all vehicles with license are allowed to be used or driven. The government confiscated unlicensed vehicles beginning 30 October 2004. But it will confiscate only the vehicle. The owner or the driver will not be subject to any legal action. They will not be asked about the person who has sold the car or the route of illegal import. The impounded vehicles will be confiscated according to law. It is the best way for owners of unlicensed vehicles to hand over their cars to the nearest police station as soon as possible.

The MPF has informed some owners of unlicensed

cars because they are donating them to certain organizations or dismantling them, for fear of legal action or interrogation. After the clarifications, some owners have handed over 2,900 unlicensed vehicles to the police stations up to date. But there are still unlicensed vehicles left. Taking advantage of the fact that they will not be subject to any legal action, owners of unlicensed vehicles do not hand over their vehicles and are still selling them, dismantling the parts and donating them to associations and other religious organizations.

Unlicensed vehicles are illegal properties. If they are in hand, someone is guilty. Donating such kind of property is not a right deed with genuine goodwill but a crime. Therefore, he urged the owners of unlicensed cars to hand over them to the nearest police stations 31 March 2005 at the latest.

If found the unlicensed cars after 31 March 2005, the government will confiscate them and take action against the owner. Action will be taken against the donor and the owner if unlicensed cars are donated to associations and other religious organizations and if they are dismantled.

Next, Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein told the newsmen about strong earthquake occurred in the Indian Ocean and damages in some areas in Myanmar. An earthquake of severe intensity with its epicentre about 1,000 miles Northwest of Jakarta, Indonesia took place at 7:32:4 am on 26 December. After that, nine earthquakes of intensity about 6.0 on the Richter Scale were recorded in the Andaman Sea. The eighth earthquake of strong intensity with 6.1 on the Richter Scale with its epicentre about 60 miles Southwest of Kokogyun took place at 9:38:42 am. The ninth one of strong intensity with 7.3 on the Richter Scale centred about 400 miles south of Kokogyun was recorded.

Some buildings collapsed in Taninthayi, Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and some regions in Rakhine and Shan State (South) due to the earthquake and coastal regions were hit by tidal waves. According to the latest information received, 138 buildings were destroyed and 788 people were homeless. Thirty six people were killed, 45 injured and 14 missing. Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and acting Director-General Dr U Tin Win Maung of the Ministry of Health visited the earthquake-hit regions in Ayeyawady Division yesterday morning and provided relief to the victims. Chairmen of State/Division Peace and Development Councils also visited the affected areas and carried out rescue operations.

These earthquakes are activated in the Andaman Sea. The event of severe earthquake, mild earthquakes usually follow at the weak subduction zone in the subsequent three days. Under the influences of the earthquakes tidal

**Authorities concerned reminded the people to keep away from the buildings, to beware of falling debris, to extinguish fire and turn off electricity in the buildings and not to believe rumours and urged members of Red Cross Brigade and fire fighters to make arrangements to help the people in wards and villages in case of earthquake.**

waves can occur off and along the coast of the Andaman Sea. People of inland regions can take notice of the movement of the earthquake. No country in the world can predict the earthquake.

Authorities concerned reminded the people to keep away from the buildings, to beware of falling debris, to extinguish fire and turn off electricity in the buildings and not to believe rumours and urged members of Red Cross Brigade and fire fighters to make arrangements to help the people in wards and villages in case of earthquake.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan replied to queries raised by media persons. The press conference ended at 5.45 pm.

The minister and guests observed documentary photos of those who planned to distribute agitatory pamphlets, photos of bomb explosion in Myaukmin sports equipment shop in front of AungThanLwin sports ground in Hpa-an, documentary photos of bomb explosion in Zawgyi restaurant on Bogoyoke Aung San Road, near Yangon Railway Station and its environs and unexploded bombs, records of bomb blasts in 2004, raid on Myanmar Embassy in Thailand by terrorists, terrorist acts of Vigorous Burmese Student Warriors (VBSW) and movements in Myanmar by Aitasean-Burma based in Thailand.—MNA

## SPORTS

## Papadopulo banned for 5 months for gambling related match-fixing

ROME, 28 Dec—Giuseppe Papadopulo, who was banned for five months earlier this year after an investigation into gambling related match-fixing, has been appointed as coach of struggling Serie A side Lazio.

Papadopulo replaces Mimmo Caso after Lazio's disappointing start to the season which has left them just above the relegation zone and out of the UEFA Cup.

The 56-year-old Papadopulo took Siena into Serie A for the first time in 2003 before he left the club in May.

The Italian Football League banned him in August for five months after their investigation into match fixing. Six players from Italy's top two divisions were also banned.

MNA/Reuters



Going down : Chelsea's Arjen Robben (L) is fouled by Aston Villa's Norberto Solano during Premiership football at Stamford Bridge in London.—INTERNET

## Menotti takes over for 3rd stint at Independiente

BUENOS AIRES, 28 Dec—Cesar Luis Menotti, the chain-smoking coach who led Argentina to their first World Cup victory in 1978, has taken over for a third stint at Independiente.

"I'm returning to a place for which I have great affection," the 66-year-old told reporters after agreeing terms with the club.

"I'm very happy."

Menotti, known as El Flaco (The Thin Man) has not coached since being fired by provincial club Rosario Central just over two years ago.

Independiente, who have struggled since

winning the Apertura championship in 2002, chose Menotti after unsuccessful approaches to former Argentina coach Daniel Passarella, 1986 World Cup striker Jorge Burruchaga and 1978 World Cup midfielder Americo Gallego.

They finished 15th in the Apertura championship held in the second half of this year.

Menotti replaced former Argentine and Fiorentina forward Daniel Berton, who took over in August following the death of Jose "Pato" Pastoriza but resigned less than four months later.

Youth team coach Pedro Monzon had been in charge on an interim basis for the last month.

"It's been a cruel year for Independiente," said Menotti. Since the 1978 World Cup, Menotti has coached the Mexican national team, Argentine clubs Boca Juniors twice and River Plate once, Uruguay's Penarol, Italy's Sampdoria and Spain's Barcelona.

Menotti, an exponent of attacking football, has been credited with revolutionizing Argentine football during the 1970s but his magic touch appears to have faded in the last few years.

He lasted only seven months at Sampdoria in 1997 and eight months in Independiente in 1999.

MNA/Reuters



Utah Jazz forward Matt Harpring (news), left, reacts as Seattle Supersonics forward Rashard Lewis (news), right, turns and begins a drive to the basket during the first half.—INTERNET

## Ferguson defends Rooney in incident involving Bolton defender

LONDON, 28 Dec—Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has defended teenage striker Wayne Rooney in wake of an incident involving Bolton Wanderers defender Tal Ben Haim during their weekend English Premier League match.



Manchester United's Paul Scholes celebrates scoring against Bolton. United winger Ryan Giggs said his recent run of good form was largely down to Sir Alex Ferguson's decision to rest him at the beginning of November.—INTERNET

The English Football Association (FA) is expected to investigate Rooney's role in the episode, in which television pictures captured Rooney pushing his hand into Ben Haim's face in the first half of United's 2-0 victory at Old Trafford on Sunday.

"They (the FA) should look at the Bolton player but we will have to wait and see on that one," Ferguson was

quoted as saying in The Independent newspaper on Tuesday.

"The biggest concern should be what the other player did. He was down on the ground for two minutes and he is the one that should be up before the FA, not Rooney.

"What he did was a disgrace and it's him that should be on a disrepute charge. He rolled around as if he was in agony and it was embarrassing but that issue has not even been addressed.

"All I hear about is what Wayne Rooney did. Did he punch the lad? No he didn't. He just brushed him off and the guy made an absolute meal of it."

Rooney escaped punishment during the match as referee Dermot Gallagher did not see the incident but the FA's video review panel could impose a ban. "Wayne Rooney did nothing to deserve being brought up before the FA but because it's Wayne and because it's Manchester United, then I can understand the focus," Ferguson said at the club's Carrington training ground on the eve of their Premier League match at Aston Villa.

Bolton manager Sam Allardyce said Rooney was lucky not to be sent off.

"I admit Tal went down rather too easily but there is no getting away from the fact that Rooney pushed his hand into the lad's face," he told the BBC.

"He was lucky to get away with it because had the referee seen it he would have had to send him off."—MNA/Reuters

## Indian goalkeeper banned for 3 months

NEW DELHI, 28 Dec—An Indian goalkeeper was banned for three months on Monday for fouling Brazilian-born striker Cristiano Junior, who then collapsed on the field and later died.

Dempo FC striker Junior fell unconscious after being hit in the face by Subrata Pal while scoring his second goal in the 2-0 victory over Kolkata's Mohun Bagan in the Federation Cup final on December 5.

The post mortem report said Junior had suffered a cardiac arrest.

"Subrata Pal admitted his mistake, but said he had no intention of hurting Junior and we accepted his submission," All India Football Federation (AIFF) disciplinary committee chairman Hardev Jadeja told Reuters. "We decided to treat him leniently as he is a young player. We felt he only needs a cooling period."

Pal, 20, was not booked at the time but was later suspended by the AIFF pending Monday's disciplinary hearing. His ban runs until the end of February.

The match referee was

also suspended for not booking Pal and for not promptly calling for the ambulance.

The incident led to a national uproar with

Dempo officials and the media criticizing Pal and blaming the organizers for the delay in taking Junior to hospital.

MNA/Reuters



Tennis great Martina Navratilova, seen here in August 2004, will compete in the Australian women's hardcourt championships on the Gold Coast early next month.—INTERNET



## Mily personnel withdraw from troubled southern Nigeria

LAGOS, 28 Dec — The military personnel sent to maintain peace at the heat of Warri crisis has started to pull out from the troubled oil-rich city in Nigeria's southern state of Delta, local newspaper *Vanguard* reported on Sunday.

Magnus Onyibe, commissioner of Delta State Ministry of Information, was quoted as saying that the withdrawal of the military personnel known as the "Operation Restore Hope" team would be accomplished in six months.

At a news briefing in the state capital Asaba on Saturday, the information commissioner told reporters that the reason was sequel to pervading relative peace.

However, he added, the state government pleaded that even though after the withdrawal arrangement should be made to maintain "skeletal services" by the military.

He also said the state government on its part was already working out what it called "a self-adjusting mechanism" for sustenance of peace.

In his Christmas and New Year message to the people, Delta State Governor James Ibori stressed: "The prevailing peace which has come to our state of late needs to be consolidated."

He said it was only under a peaceful atmosphere that the state government could focus, pursue its vision without distractions and also deliver the dividends of democracy to the people.

"The return of peace to Warri and its environs provides a very conducive atmosphere for addressing the developmental needs of the state which had been slowed down by incessant internal conflicts," he said.

"With the completion of the democratization process in the state, especially in the local government councils in the Warri Federal constituency, I believe that a new chapter has begun for the people of the area to relate to one another as brothers and sisters," he said.

Warri is an oil-rich area in south Nigeria's troubled Niger Delta which produces over 2.3 million barrels of crude a day, making Nigeria Africa's largest oil producer or the sixth largest oil export in the world.

MNA/Xinhua

## Obituary Donor of Pagoda, Thein and Monastery

**U Khin Maung Aye**  
(Writer Tain Moe Hlaing)  
(Age 88 years)

U Khin Maung Aye, son of (U Ngwe Hlaing + Daw Hpwa O), beloved husband of Daw Aye Aye, younger-brother of (U Ba Nyein + Daw Khin Sein), (U Ba Thwe) + Daw Hone Shein, elder-brother of (U Chit Sein + Daw Sein Yee), (U Maung Maung) + Daw Sein Sein, beloved father of Daw Khin Marlar Aye, Dr Phone Myint Aye + Daw Yee Yee Khin, (U Htein Win) + Daw Khin Thu Zar Aye, U Hla Myint + Daw Mu Yar Aye, U Than Zaw + Daw Khin Yu Par Aye (No 3 B.E.M.S., Tamwe), U Thin Ko Nyunt + Daw Khin Mar Mar Aye (No 5 B.E.M.S., Yankin), U Aung Cho Aye + Daw Nan Nan Oo, grand-father of (11) grandchildren, of No 3 (A), Sunlungu Kyaung Street, Bauktaw, 16th Ward, Yankin Township, Yangon, has passed away on Tuesday (28-12-04) at (3:15) am at home and the cremation shall be held at Yay Way Cemetery on Thursday (30-12-04) at (2:00) pm.  
(The buses will leave the Residence at 12:30 pm).

Bereaved Family

## Earthquake kills one in southwest China Province

KUNMING, 28 Dec — One person has been confirmed dead after an earthquake hit Shuangbai County in the Yi Autonomous Prefecture of Chuxiong in southwest China's Yunnan Province on Sunday, local earthquake relief headquarters said Monday.

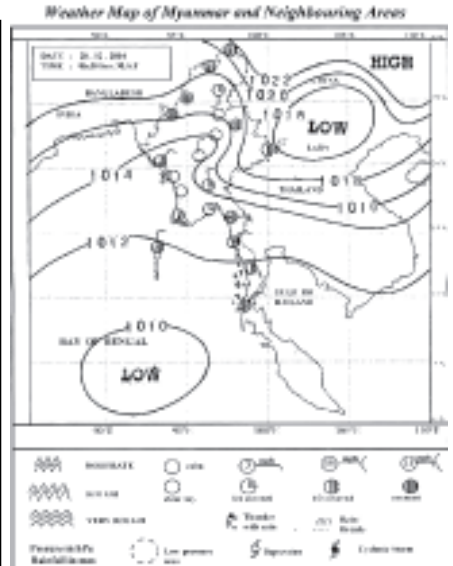
The earthquake, measuring 5.0 on the Richter Scale, hit Malong Village at Tuodian Township in Shuangbai County at 3:30 p.m. Sunday. The village is home to about 2,000 villagers and 100 kilometres from

Kunming, capital of Yunnan.

The epicentre is located at 24.43 degrees north latitude and 101.32 degrees east longitude, according to Yunnan Provincial Seismological Department.

Another earthquake measuring 4.6 on the Richter scale hit Binchuan County in the Bai Autonomous Prefecture of Dali in Yunnan at around 9:00 a.m. Sunday.

MNA/Xinhua



## WEATHER

Tuesday, 28 December, 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperature were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Chin State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Hakha (-1°C), Pinlaung (2°C), Heho and Moekok (3°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 27-12-2004 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 28-12-2004 was 56°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 28-12-2004 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 27-12-2004 was (8.0) hours approx. Rainfalls on 28-12-2004 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2004 were 112.28 inches at Yangon Airport, 106.77 inches at Kaba-Aye and 109.68 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 7 mph from Northwest at (13:30) hours MST on 27-12-2004.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 29-12-2004:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Generally fair weather in the whole country.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 29-12-2004:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 29-12-2004:** Fair weather.

## Obituary Donor of Pagoda, Thein and Monastery

**U Khin Maung Aye**  
(Writer Tain Moe Hlaing)  
(Age 88 years)

U Khin Maung Aye, son of (U Ngwe Hlaing + Daw Hpwa O), beloved husband of Daw Aye Aye, grand-father of Dr Bryce Cleland + Dr Myo Ma Ma Thin, Maung Sithu Phone, Maung Kyaw Htin Phone, Maung Min Min Oo (MTM Shipping) + Ma Htet Htet Htein Win, Maung Yu Ko Win + Ma Aye Pa Pa Hlaing, Maung Wint Ko Win, Maung Zay Nyein Chan Myint (MBA-1), Maung Min Khant Phone, Maung Banya Thin Ko, Maung Kyaw Zay Yar Ko, Maung Tun Lin Taryar of No 3 (A), Sunlungu Kyaung Street, Bauktaw, 16th Ward, Yankin Township, Yangon, has passed away on Tuesday (28-12-04) at (3:15) am at home and the cremation shall be held at Yay Way Cemetery on Thursday (30-12-04) at (2:00) pm.  
(The buses will leave the Residence at 12:30 pm).

Bereaved Family



Wednesday, 29 December  
View on today:

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ ဓမ္မသက္ကရာဇ်ဂါရုတ၊ အဓမ္မဟာသတ္တိတ၊ အဓမ္မသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ဓမ္မာသရာဇာတေဒ်) မဟာဗြဟ္မာဓမ္မသိဝံသာ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning News

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

6. မြန်မာ့ပြည်ထောင်စုအသံ

8:05 am

7. အရေမြင်ပုံ

8:15 am

8. စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်း ဂုဏ်ထူးတေး

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let's go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လိပ်ညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရုပ်စောအထူးပြု) (ရုပ်စော)

4:45 pm

4. Song of national races

5:00 pm

5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

5:10 pm

6. Strong and Healthy

Myanmar

5:20 pm

7. (၅၇) နှစ်မြောက်လွတ်လပ်ရေးနေ့ရက်ပြဿနာအစဉ်

5:30 pm

8. ရွှေသံခရိုင် အသံသံအစဉ်

5:40 pm

9. Discovery

5:50 pm

10. Tiger Cup

- ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲတော်လွင်မှုအစီအစဉ် ဂုဏ်ထူးတေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား (ပထမပွဲ) (မြန်မာ နှင့် ဝေဟန)

8:00 pm

11. News

12. အချုပ်အခြာအာဏာ ဖွင့်ရည်ကြာ နိုင်ငံရေးစနစ် ချိုးဖျက်

13. International News

14. Weather report

15. "နားလည်တတ်စေ ချစ်တတ်စေ" လူမင်း၊ မင်းသူ၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်၊ သုညသော

16. The next day's programme



Wednesday, 29 December  
Tune in today:

8:30 am

- Brief news

8:35 am

- Music: -Everybody

8:40 am

- Perspectives

8:45 am

- Music: Cut a way

8:50 am

- National news/Slogan

9:00 am

- Music: You and me

9:05 am

- International news

9:10 am

- Music: News/Slogan

1:30 pm

- Lunch time music

1:40 pm

- A night to remember

- You to me are everything

- Forget me not

- Independence Day Talk: To Perpetuate Sovereignty by Saw Nwe

- Article/music

- Music at your request

- When you say nothing at all

- That don't impress me much

- The sound of good bye

- 9:45 pm

- News/Slogan

- 10:00 pm

- PEL

**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



*Lt-Gen Kyaw Win addresses the second coordination meeting of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. — MNA*

## Leading Committee for Observance of 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day meets

YANGON, 28 Dec—The Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day for 2005 held its second coordination meeting at the meeting hall of Yangon Command this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Management Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein, Deputy Minis-

ter for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, members of the Leading Committee senior military officers, heads of department and guests.

In his address, Chairman of the Leading Committee Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that the committees and the work committees are to present work progress on resolutions of the first coordination meeting of the Leading Committee and future tasks; and that special attention is to be paid to security in carrying out the relevant tasks.

Next, Joint Secretary of the leading Committee Lt-Col Than Soe read the resolutions of the first coordination meeting of the Leading Committee.

Afterwards, Chairman of Management Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen

Myint Swe dealt with measures taken by the Management Committee. Later, officials of the respective committees reported on work carried out. This was followed by a general round of discussions.

Next, Chairman of the Leading Committee Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, together with Chairman of Management Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and officials, inspected paintings staged by the Poetry and Fine Arts Competition Organizing Committee and gave necessary instructions.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Chairman of the Leading Committee member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.—MNA

## Press conference on bomb blast, unlicensed vehicles and damages caused by strong earthquake

YANGON, 28 Dec—Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held a press conference on clarifications on the incident of an innocent student killed and the people wounded due to the destructive act of the destructionists, movement of internal external and destructionist groups that controlled the acts, unlicensed vehicles, damages in some areas in the country because of strong earthquake in the

Indian Ocean at the Ministry of Information this evening.

Present were Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Win Sein, Brig-Gen Khin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Director-General of

(See page 10)

**INSIDE**

*Thayawady and Insein were where the peasant movement reached its climax. Bo San Htoo and Bo Myat Aung, the leaders of the peasants, fought the British colonialists in those areas in conjunction with Kayin national patriots.*

(Page 8)

THUH AUNG (AUNGLAN)



*Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan makes clarifications on the blast that killed a young student. — MNA*