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It is essential for the Union of Myanmar to write the constitution which reflects the wishes of the people in building a peaceful modern developed nation

People in Kachin State support the National Convention for emergence of an enduring constitution and perpetuation of the future State

YANGON, 8 Jan — A mass meeting in support of the National Convention was held at Kachin State sports ground in Myitkyina, Kachin State this morning, organized by Kachin State Union Solidarity and Development Association.

Present on the occasion were secretaries and executives of Mohnyin, Mogaung, Phakant, Tanai and Myitkyina Townships USDAs, members of Shan tradition and cultural group, Kachin State War Veterans Organization members, religious organizations, townsenders, entrepreneurs, members of Kachin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Women's Affairs Organization and members of USDA. Secretaries and executives of Bhamo, Mansi, Shwegu, Waingmaw and Chipwe Township USDAs, departmental personnel, delegates of Kachin Special Region-1 and 2, members of Putao and Machanbaw Township USDAs, Myitkyina University, Myanmar Fire Brigade, Nurses Association and local national races totalling 16,632 people.

Chairman U Yup Zaw Khong of Kachin Central Cultural Organization presided over the meeting together with members of panel of chairmen Rector of Myitkyina University U Soe, Head of Health Department of Kachin State Dr Maung Maung Myint, Chairman U Za Khun Ting Ring of Kachin Special Region-1, Vice-Chairman U Gorry Zaw Sai of Kachin Special Region-2, Township Education Officer (Retd) U Hla Shwe and townselder U Sai Aye Kyaw.

(See Page 8)



Panel of Chairmen of the mass meeting held in Myitkyina, Kachin State. — MNA

All brothers in the state and people have to ward off any acts to interfere in internal affairs, to encroach upon Our Three Main National Causes and to disrupt the National Convention according to the People's Desire.



Mass rally to support the National Convention in progress in Myitkyina, Kachin State. —MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 9 January, 2006

Strive together for success of National Convention

The State Peace and Development Council is implementing the seven-point Road Map, a prerequisite for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, phase by phase. In this regard, the National Convention, the first and most important step of the Road Map, is being convened.

The convening of the National Convention is imperative for the emergence of an enduring State constitution. In the course of Myanmar history, the people had to live in utter misery and trouble due to weaknesses and disadvantages of the constitution. Therefore, the National Convention is taking time in laying down detailed basic principles in order not to let the bitter experiences of the past recur.

The National Convention highlights the wishes of the entire national people. It is also a fine nation-building endeavours that will shape a future nation. The delegates from all walks of life as well as from a string of parties are meeting at the National Convention and laying down basic principles and detailed basic principles to be included in the framing the State Constitution.

At a time when the National Convention is in session for shaping a future nation out of the wishes of the national people, internal and external destructive elements with ulterior motive are making attempts to jeopardize it.

In the meantime, colonialists who are eager to wield influence on and occupy the Union are driving a wedge among national races and undermining national fervour and patriotism.

All the national people are to guard against the perpetration.

No party or individual person can hinder the changes and developments of national politics. If one tries to hinder these changes and developments, he will be regarded as a culprit of the history.

The mass rally in support of the National Convention sponsored by Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township on 7 January.

At the National Convention, delegates representing the entire national people are objectively reviewing the strengths and weaknesses of the past constitutions and trying their utmost for the emergence of a constitution in line with the national interests. At such a time, all the national people are to do their bit for the success of the National Convention.

All in all, the entire national people are to ward off the dangers of internal and external destructive elements while doing their bit for the success of the National Convention.



Dr Maung Maung Myint-Dr Moe Moe Lin and Phyoo Nyan Aung donate K 500,000 to the funds of Jivatadana Sangha Hospital in Bahan Township through Chairman of the Management Board of the hospital U Ko Ko Gyi.

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Resolution on 58th Anniversary Independence Day

There is no nobler task than safeguarding Independence & Sovereignty. Let us thus dedicate ourselves to safeguard Independence & Sovereignty with the strength of national unity as well as with full patriotism and Union Spirit at the risk of our lives.

Academy Award winners honoured

YANGON, 8 Jan — Myanmar Motion Picture Organization family honoured film artistes and technicians who presented entertainment to Myanma Motion Picture Outstanding Award (Academy) winners for 2004 and delegates of the National Convention, at the MMPO on Wingabar Road in Bahan Township yesterday evening.

First, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted the film artistes and technicians.

Chairman of the Organization U Kyi Soe Tun reported on the purpose of the ceremony.

Joint-Secretary-2 of the organization U Maung Maung Oo (Snow White), Secretary

U Tin Aung, Treasurer U Zaw Min, Joint-Secretary-3 Daw Swe Zin Htaik, Vice-Chairman-I U Myint Soe (a) U Su Wam and Chairman U Kyi Soe Tun presented K 100,000 each to the Academy Award winners, and Managing Director U Zaw Min, on

behalf of the Mingala Moden Cinema Group, K 100,000 each to the artistes and technicians.

Afterwards, seven Academy gold statues winner Nyunt Win expressed gratitude.

Chairman of the Organization U Kyi Soe Tun gave gifts to the film

artistes and technicians who performed entertainment to the National Convention delegates through Academy Yan Aung.

After the ceremony, the ministers, the deputy minister and guests were served with dinner. —MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan greet film stars and artistes.

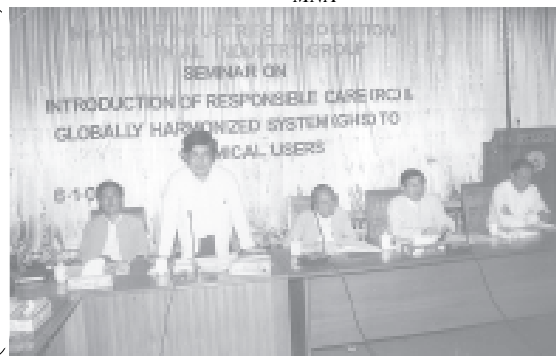
MNA

Paper reading session held

YANGON, 8 Jan— Paper reading session of Chemical Industry Group (CIG) of Myanmar Industries Association was held at Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Building on 6 January. President of CIG Dr Kyaw Htin and Vice-President U Zaw Min Win made speeches. Secretary U Paw Hein presented papers on Introduction of Responsible Care (RC) and Globally Harmonized System (GHS) to Chemical Users. Those present also took part in the discussions.

MNA

Secretary U Paw Hein of Chemical Industry Group presents papers. CIG



Departmental, Tatmadaw vehicles checked on dry day

YANGON, 8 Jan — Member of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu together with committee members Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla, Director-General U Soe

Thein of Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department and departmental officials, this morning, supervised the functions of the dry day inspection teams at the main points here. Similarly, Member of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe together with Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Director-General U Khin Maung of the Ministry of Industry-2, Commander of Wireless and Traffic Police Force Lt-Col Aung Naing and departmental officials also performed supervision tasks in the evening.

The dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver's licence, wheel tax bill, wearing of respective uniform and breaking of traffic rules from 7 am to 5 pm today.

MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. Second best time is now.

China's rising economy benefits Southeast, East Asia

JAKARTA, 7 Jan — China's rapid economic development has stimulated countries in Southeast and East Asia to improve their economy, Indonesian Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda said here on Friday.

Speaking at an annual Press statement event here, the minister said, "The awakening of China's economy, ranking the fifth biggest in the world, has helped provide an opportunity for East and Southeast Asian countries to take benefits to make economic progress."

Wirajuda said that the cooperation between the region and China helps facilitate the economic progress and diplomatic ties.

"With the spirit of cooperation, that has been rooted well among the countries, the potential of emerging threat (of conflict) can be declined," he said.

He said, Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jabao had convinced East Asian countries at the East Asian Summit held in Kuala Lumpur at the end

of last year that China regards the stability of security in the region an important thing.

The minister said that Indonesia holds on One China Policy, and China supports the unitary state of Indonesia.

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and his Chinese counterpart Hu Jintao agreed to set up a strategic partnership here last April aiming at maintaining and strengthening a long term mutual beneficial cooperation.

Trade value of both countries keeps growing. Statistics show that the trade value recorded 5.39 billion US dollars from January to April 2005, up 40 per cent over the same period in 2004.

The Chinese Government has granted over 273 millions RMB

(some 34.125 million US dollars) to finance infrastructure projects and provided 800 million US dollars concessional loan to finance projects of steam power plant, double railway tracking and bridge.

To secure Malacca Strait, the two countries agreed to cooperate in marine security cooperation in last April.

MNA/Xinhua

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A Chinese man looks at lanterns on sale for the Chinese New Year, as people begin to prepare for the Spring Festival in Beijing, on 7 Jan, 2006.

INTERNET

Study blames many Iraq deaths on body armour

WASHINGTON, 8 Jan — Most torso wounds that killed Marines in Iraq might have been prevented or minimized by improved body armour, a Pentagon study found.

The unreleased study last summer by the Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner looked at 93 fatal wounds from the start of the war in March 2003 through June 2005. It concluded that 74 were bullet or shrapnel wounds to shoulders or areas of the torso not protected by ceramic armour plating.

The findings underscore the difficulty facing the Army and Marine Corps in providing the optimum level of body armour protection in a war against a guerilla movement whose tactics are constantly changing. Both services have weighed the expected payoff in additional safety from extra protection against the measurable loss

of combat effectiveness from too much armour.

"In response to the changing battlefield conditions and as new technologies emerge, the Army continues to develop improvements to soldier protection equipment to enhance survivability and mobility," Army spokesman Paul Boyce

said on Friday. Boyce said he could not discuss details, but that US soldiers' body armour is the best in the world.

"We take operational security very seriously and will not discuss in public sensitive issues that may render any insight to the enemy about our capabilities, fielding plans or tactics, techniques and procedures," he added.

According to a summary of the study obtained by *The Associated Press*, the 93 Marines who died from a primary lethal injury of the torso were among 401 Marines who died from combat injuries in Iraq between the start of the war and last June. —Internet

US sailor possible suspect in Japan murder case

TOKYO, 6 Jan — A US sailor is a possible suspect in the death of a Japanese woman, which Japanese police are investigating as a murder, a US Navy spokesman said on Thursday.

Japan's *Kyodo* news agency reported that a US sailor had confessed to killing a 56-year-old woman on 3 January in Yokosuka City, were the *USS Kitty Hawk* aircraft carrier is based, and that the sailor had been taken into custody by US Naval authorities.

"A US sailor is a possible suspect in the case," Commander John Wallach, director of public affairs for the US Naval Forces Japan, told Reuters. He added that he could not release any further details regarding the case.

"I sincerely regret and am deeply saddened by this absolutely abhorrent incident and promise our complete cooperation with all authorities, particularly those in Yokosuka," Rear Admiral James Kelly, Commander US Naval Forces, said in a statement.

"It reflects on our superb relationship with

our host city that we have been able to move so quickly to commence this critical joint investigation," Kelly said, adding that he offered his sincere condolences.

"We are all members of the Yokosuka community and are deeply affected by this tragedy," he added.

MNA/Reuters

Number of badly wounded soldiers on rise in Iraq

SAN ANTONIO (TEXAS), 8 Jan — Military medical advances are keeping more soldiers alive in the Iraq War but also creating a growing pool of badly wounded veterans who will need expensive, long-term medical care, the US secretary of Veteran Affairs said on Friday.

"We have cut fatalities a great deal and as a result of that we have people who are now seriously wounded who in previous wars would have been dead," Secretary Jim Nicholson said in a visit with wounded soldiers at San Antonio's

Brooke Army Medical Center.

"We need to provide and continue to provide these people with world class health care and we need to be there when they need it in the future."

More than 2,000 US

soldiers have died in Iraq and nearly 9,000 have been wounded, according to the Pentagon.

Nicholson also said post-traumatic stress disorder is becoming increasingly common for returning Iraq veterans, but they are in good hands because the Department of Veterans Affairs "is the world's leading expert on PTSD."

"We have a major resource center for this in Vermont and every one of our 157 major medical centers we have a highly trained PTSD specialist," he said. "We are indeed ramped up to take care of this phenomenon."

Nicholson said the current Veterans Affairs budget of \$70 billion is up 57 percent during the four budget years of the Bush administration. —Internet



British Army's armoured vehicles patrol a street in Basra, 550km (342 miles) south of Baghdad, on 7 Jan, 2006. —INTERNET

Fog, strong winds close Romania's Black Sea ports

BUCHAREST, 7 Jan — Romania closed its Black Sea ports, including the country's biggest port of Constanta, on Thursday amid thick fog and strong winds, a port authority official said. "We closed the Black Sea ports of Midia, Mangalia and Constanta... due to fog and strong, force seven winds," said an official from Constanta Port Authority. He said it was not immediately clear when the ports would reopen. Force seven corresponds with winds of 51-62 kilometres per hour (32-38 miles per hour) on the Beaufort wind force scale. —MNA/Reuters

China-Africa friendship based on mutual respect for sovereignty

BEIJING, 6 Jan — Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Qin Gang said here Thursday that the traditional friendship between China and African countries is based on mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Qin made the remarks at a regular Press conference Thursday afternoon, following the announcement of Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing's visit to six African countries.

Li's official visit will take him to Cape Verde, Senegal, Mali, Liberia, Nigeria and Libya. Chinese foreign ministers traditionally kick off New Year diplomacy by making Africa their first overseas destination.

Qin stressed that foreign countries' respect for China's sovereignty and its territorial integrity is a key political requisite for China establishing diplomatic relations with them. He reiterated that this respect is the foundation of the friendly and cooperative relationship between China and Africa.

Qin noted that China has been active in developing mutually beneficial cooperation

between Africa and itself, adding that through bilateral channels or the multilateral China-Africa Cooperation Forum, cooperation will be extended to wider areas.

Energy will be an area for cooperation, Qin said. He acknowledged

China-Africa cooperation is in the interests of both sides and conducive to the development of countries in Africa.

Further development of the friendly cooperation between China and Africa reflects a global trend to seek

peace, cooperation and growth, said Qin.

China is optimistic that China and African countries are bound to see further progress in their friendship and cooperation on the basis of the one-China principle, he added.

MNA/Xinhua



An Indian paramilitary soldier checks the identity of a man after a grenade explosion in Srinagar, India, on 7 Jan, 2006. —INTERNET

Three car bombs explode in Baghdad, killing two

BAGHDAD, 6 Jan— Three cars bombs, two of them suicide attacks, exploded in Baghdad on Thursday, killing two people and wounding six, police and Interior Ministry sources said. They said a car bomb went off in central Baghdad, followed shortly afterwards by a suicide car bomb in the east of the city which wounded three police officers.

A third suicide bomber then detonated a car near a bridge in the centre of the capital, killing an Iraqi soldier and a civilian and wounding three people.

MNA/Reuters

Five US soldiers killed by roadside bomb in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 6 Jan — Five US soldiers were killed in a roadside bomb attack in the Iraqi capital Baghdad on Thursday, the US military said.

"Five soldiers assigned to Baghdad Task Force were killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near their patrol in Baghdad area on 5 January," the US military said in a statement.

The incident is being investigated, it said. The names of the killed soldiers were being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement added. — MNA/Xinhua

US agent kills Mexican with "dum-dum" bullet

MEXICO CITY, 6 Jan— The US Border Patrol used a "dum-dum" bullet, banned in international war but standard issue for border agents, to kill an 18-year-old undocumented Mexican immigrant whose death last week angered Mexico.

The hollow-point bullets, designed to expand on impact, cause more tissue damage and bleeding than standard rounds.

A Border Patrol spokesman said on Wednesday the bullet fired into Guillermo Martinez after he crossed the US

border near San Diego on Friday was a .40-calibre hollow-point round.

The ammunition is banned in international warfare under a century-old treaty, but is standard issue for the Border Patrol and some US police departments.

"The agent in question

was carrying a .40-calibre Beretta ... a .40-calibre round," Nicholas Coates, a spokesman for the Border Patrol's San Diego sector, told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Coates said the bullet fired was hollow-tipped and that "all Border Patrol agents carry hollow-tipped rounds."

The ammunition is banned under the 1899 The Hague Convention, which prohibits use in warfare of expanding or fragmenting bullets, generally referred to as "dum-dum" rounds after an Indian arsenal where they were introduced in the 19th century.

MNA/Reuters

Suicide bomber kills 49 in Kerbala

KERBALA (Iraq), 6 Jan— A suicide bomber killed 49 people and wounded 68 in the southern Shiite city of Kerbala on Thursday in the worst single attack in

Iraq for over a month, and one with worrying sectarian undertones.

Police said the bomber detonated his explosive belt on a crowded street near one of the city's main Shiite places of worship, the Imam Hussein shrine.

It was the second bomb attack in Kerbala in as many days after more than a year of relative calm. It followed a day of carnage across the country on Wednesday, when at least 58 people died in multiple killings and bombings.

MNA/Reuters

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Zeta becomes tropical storm again in Atlantic

MIAMI, 6 Jan— Zeta strengthened back into a tropical storm on Thursday after briefly weakening into a depression.

Forecasters at the US National Hurricane Centre said the storm's regeneration should be short-lived and Zeta should weaken over the next 24 hours, bringing an overdue end to the record-breaking 2005 Atlantic hurricane season.

Zeta, the 27th named cyclone of the season and a laggard that formed a month after its November 30 official end, had winds near 40 miles per hour by 10 am EST (1500 GMT), the centre said.

Situated roughly 1,045 miles (1,680 kilometres) east-northeast of the northern Leeward Islands, the storm was moving west-northwest at 8 miles per hour.

Zeta capped an unprecedented hurricane season that forced forecasters to choose storm names from the Greek alphabet after exhausting their annual list of 21 names. — MNA/Reuters

Poland denies reports it would back US in event of attack on Iran

WARSAW, 6 Jan — The Polish Foreign Ministry on Thursday denied reports that Warsaw has pledged to support the United States in the event of a US decision to attack Iran.

The Polish Foreign Ministry Spokesman, Pawel Dobrowolski, said on Thursday that the Polish Government has not made any declaration to Washington on this matter, saying the related reports were fabricated.

The Iranian nuclear issue was not a topic which came up for discussion when Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Stefan Meller and Minister of National Defence Radoslaw Sikorski visited the US previously, the spokesman said. Poland is voicing concerns about the Iranian nuclear issue within the framework of the European Union and NATO, said the Foreign Ministry said.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman stands on guard on a police patrol car with shattered windows after a suicide bombing attack in Baghdad on 7 Jan, 2006. —INTERNET

China to strive for peaceful development of cross-Straits relations

BEIJING, 7 Jan—Looking into the new year, the Chinese Mainland will strive for peaceful and smooth development of cross-Straits relations, a Chinese Mainland official said here on Friday.

"We will adhere to the fundamental policy of peaceful reunification and 'one country, two systems', the eight-point proposal on developing cross-Straits relations and promoting of peaceful reunification of the country at current stage, and the four-point guideline on cross-Straits relations put forward by Hu Jintao, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, said Li Weiyi, spokesman for the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council.

"We have repeatedly stated that we will seek for peaceful reunification with our utmost sincerity and efforts," he said, stressing "we will never permit 'Taiwan independence' or anyone to separate Taiwan from China".

"We will continue to unite with Taiwan compatriots and overseas Chinese to further promote cross-Straits personnel and economic exchanges and cooperation, promote the early realization of the "three direct links" of the two sides," he said.

The Chinese Mainland will continue extensive exchanges and dialogues with parties, organizations, personages of various circles in Taiwan who oppose 'Taiwan Independence', acknowledge the "1992 Consensus", and maintain the development of cross-Straits relations, he said.

As long as the Taiwan authorities acknowledge the one-China principle and the "1992 Consensus", the cross-Straits dialogue can be resumed, he said, stressing "any topic

can be discussed".

"We have full confidence in the prospects of cross-Straits relations' development and peaceful reunification of the motherland," Li said.

MNA/Xinhua

Venezuela blames US delaying signing of anti-drug agreement

CARACAS, 7 Jan—It was the US Government's fault that a new Venezuelan-US anti-drug agreement had been delayed, Venezuela's Justice and Interior Ministry said in a statement on Wednesday.

It added that Venezuela had returned the document under discussion to the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

In mid-2005, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez suspended the previous anti-drug agreement, saying DEA agents had been implicated in "intelligence infiltration"

Cuba supports Iran's peaceful nuclear programme

HAVANA, 7 Jan—Cuban President Fidel Castro has expressed his support for Iran's nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

"Iran, like any nation, has the right to produce atomic energy for peaceful purposes, and to have access to modern technology for this aim," Thursday's *Granma* daily quoted Castro as saying on Wednesday. Castro was

speaking to his Iranian counterpart Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in a telephone conversation, said the paper. Ahmadinejad, who initiated the phone call, thanked Cuba for its support for Iran's peaceful nuclear programme and

spoke of Cuba's resistance to what he described as the United States arrogance.

The United States is leading a group of nations to try to stop Iran's nuclear programme, citing the possibility of using it to develop weapons, a charge Teheran has repeatedly rejected. Ahmadinejad also said he was pleased that Cuba would host the next meeting of the non-aligned nations and that Iran was ready to help with the preparations. Iran wants to work with all people's governments, especially those of South America, Ahmadinejad said.

The Iranian President also called newly-elected Bolivian President Evo Morales, who is currently visiting Spain, to congratulate him on his December 18 election victory, said the paper.—MNA/Xinhua

which threatened Venezuela's security.

Neither the United States nor Venezuela has specified what changes must be made to the new deal to replace the suspended agreement.

Jesse Chacon, Venezuela's Interior Minister, said it would be continually difficult to close the

deal if the DEA keeps changing its terms.

"The delay is for them, not us," he added. Washington Press reports said the DEA has already approved a budget of nearly eight million US dollars to fight drug trafficking in Venezuela even though the deal has not been finalized. —MNA/Xinhua



A house and car demolished by Hurricane Katrina block a sidewalk in the Lower Ninth Ward district on 6 Jan, 2006, in New Orleans. —INTERNET

Argentine Ambassador rejects US criticism of President

BUENOS AIRES, 7 Jan— Jose Octavio Bordon, Argentine Ambassador to the United States, on Thursday rejected the US criticism of Argentine President Nestor Kirchner's talking style.

Borden told local media that Kirchner used "democratic and popular" discourse, not the "populist rhetoric".

He was responding to a report by *The New York Times* which quoted the US State Department as saying Kirchner "sometimes uses populist rhetoric". A *Times* editorial also spoke critically of Kirchner's centralization of power.

"It is not the Argentine style to comment publicly on other countries,"

Borden said. But he said that the US-Argentina relationship is the one "our government believes should exist".

In a related development, Argentine Interior Minister Anibal Fernandez rejected a similar attack on the president's governing style by Peruvian writer Mario Vargas Llosa, who described Kirchner as "disagreeable and demagogic" and lacking clear ideas.

Fernandez said that

Llosa, a one-time Peruvian presidential candidate, had no experience in governing.

"The biggest difference between a writer and a ruler is that an article can be corrected with another article, while a government decision, by the time you correct it, has already affected the lives of millions of citizens," he quoted French writer Andre Malraux, a former culture minister, as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Falling rocks kill three American climbers on Mt Kilimanjaro

MT KILIMANJARO (Tanzania), 7 Jan— Three American tourists were killed when rocks tumbled down Mount Kilimanjaro and smashed into climbers preparing to scale the peak of Africa's highest mountain, officials said on Thursday. Five others, three

Americans and two Tanzanians, were injured in the rock slide close to Arrow Glacier base camp on Wednesday, said James Wakibara, chief warden at Mount Kilimanjaro Park. The camp, at an altitude of some 4,700 metres (15,500 feet), lies on

one of the mountain's most arduous routes.

"Above that particular altitude on the mountain, there was a massive fall of rocks that went straight into the people who were climbing," Wakibara said.

MNA/Reuters

Two US soldiers killed in Ramadi

BAGHDAD, 7 Jan—Two US soldiers were killed in an suicide attack targeting a police recruitment centre in the western Iraqi city of Ramadi on Thursday, the US military said on Friday.

The two soldiers were assigned to the 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), the US military said in a statement.

On Thursday, a suicide bomber blew himself up among a queue of police recruits in Ramadi, killing nearly 70 people, including the two Marines, and wounding over 100 others, the military said.

The names of the killed soldiers were being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement added.

The latest deaths bring the total death toll of US military personnel in Iraq to about 2,188 since the US-led invasion in March 2003.—MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi police inspect the wreckage of a suicide car bomb, on 7 Jan, 2006, in east Baghdad, Iraq. —INTERNET

Respect the law

Htay Lwin (Salingyi)

On my way to Yangon this time I stopped over in Nyaunglebin. In fact, it was not the town itself. I went to the Tawya Monastery outside the town. I first intended to drop in on Athokayon Sayadaw in Kyaukdaga to pay obeisance to him. But I learned that the Sayadaw at the time was away in the Tawya Monastery outside Nyaunglebin. So, I proceeded to the monastery to see the Sayadaw there. It is a well-known monastery.

The Nyaunglebin Tawya Monastery was established in 1256 Myanmar Era. As the present year is 1367 ME, the monastery is now 111 years old. The centenary was marked in 1356 ME but I missed the occasion.

My arrival at the monastery coincided with the 109th recitation of Vinaya Rules. The recitation was introduced by the late Venerable Sayadaw U Sila, who was widely acknowledged to be an arahat. The first presiding abbot of the monastery was U Soma. The third was Agga Maha Pandita Sayadaw U Ariya. The Sayadaw was born in Pazunmyaung Village, four miles from Nyaunglebin.

The Sayadaw's life was partly portrayed in a feature titled, A meal a monk missed of film director U Thu Kha. Most people have a fond memory of this feature for its significance. The Sayadaw had compiled 16 treatises. He created them with the word Ayatha, the taste, added to the titles.

For instance, the treatises were called, Dwe Matika Ayatha, Alanka Ayatha, Gondaw Ayatha, Bhavana Ayatha, Visuddhi Magga Ayatha, and so on and so forth. There are nine treatises under Alanka. The literati of the present age categorize them as knowledge literature. Since the Sayadaw used the term Ayatha, it may be generally accepted that he was the first to introduce the literature of knowledge.

After my arrival at the monastery, I went

round it. I noticed a brick building with a signboard, Yarpyi Beikman (Centenary Building). I entered the building. It was donated by Ashin Vijaya and disciples. He was Pyundaza Zabuaye Sayadaw.

Inside the building, there stood the life-size statues of the three venerable Sayadaws. There were also paintings on the respective Sayadaws on display. They were created by Artist Win Thu and associates of Nyaunglebin. The Sayadaws were:

(1) Sayadaw U Sila, who was widely acknowledged to be an arahat,

(2) U Soma, the first presiding abbot of Tawya Monastery,

(3) U Ariya (Agga Maha Pandita), the third Sayadaw

On the walls, I saw excerpts from the Sayadaw's words of advice. Of them there were also the words of wisdom that one and all can apply. His words of advice titled, Do not get Sila tarnished, were as follows:

(1) When your property and limbs are in danger, sacrifice your property but protect your limbs;

(2) When your limbs and your life are in danger, sacrifice your limbs but protect your life;

(3) When your life and sila are in danger, sacrifice your life but protect your sila.

The Sayadaw urged everyone not to let morality decay. So, members of the Sangha as well as the laymen are to keep this in mind and put it into practice. Words of advice of Agga Maha Pandita Sayadaw U Ariya were elaborated thus:

Loss in trading

When an occasion arises to choose someone, do not choose the colour or the level of someone, just choose his or her quality like sila or morality.

What the Sayadaw meant was that when the need arises to choose someone, his colour of whether white or black, his age of whether young or the old, his body of whether small or big do not matter. The

Sayadaw advised choosing persons of sila (morality), samadhi (integrity) and panna (wisdom) and associating with them. Otherwise, it would amount to a great loss in life. According to the Sayadaw, the loss suffered in trading would affect one's life. If the choice has gone wrong and if the one associates with the wrong persons, one will be at loss in the circle of lives. The Sayadaw's advice stresses the need to associate with the right persons.

The last advice of Sayadaw U Ariya was also on display in the building. His last advice was not spoken but written when he was bedridden at Yangon General Hospital receiving treatment for paralysis. It was the third time to be hospitalized. When he received treatment first and second time, it brought relief. But during the last treatment, he could move his hands only and could not speak. The Sayadaw was weak because he did not take food. He refused to have tea, coffee or soup in the afternoons or evenings when the nurses advised him to do so. Finally, the Sayadaw wrote down as follows:

Respect the law

Government employees have to strictly abide by the law.

Similarly, members of the Sangha, namely, monks and novices, have to follow the Vinaya rules.

The Sayadaw passed away soon afterwards. Sayadaw U Sila practised as he had preached.

The teachings of the Sayadaw should be followed by the monks and the laymen alike. Today, the Government has been building the nation after laying down the political, economic and social objectives. The first of the four political objectives calls for prevalence of law and order. Hence, the heading of this article is, Respect the law.

Translation: AK

Myanma Alin: 8-1-06

DAD carrying out rural development undertakings

YANGON, 8 Jan— In hailing the National Convention, a ceremony to open a new tarred road was held in Pathein yesterday attended by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, officials and others.

The road was built at a cost of K 10.1 million from the funds of Development Affairs Depart-

ment and K 12 million contributed by the people.

The commander and the minister also attended blood donation ceremony organized by Ayeyawady Division Union Solidarity and Development Association in Pathein. Members of USDA, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization, Fire Brigade and Red Cross Society totalling 40 donated blood.

Next, the minister inspected laying of tar on one mile long Kangyidaunt-Begayet road carried out by Kangyidaut

Township DAD at a cost of K 18 million and building of Kyonkhayin wooden bridge on Innma-Khayegan-Danaw earth road carried out by Pantanaw Township DAD at a cost of 11 million kyats and gave instructions.

Afterwards, the minister met people from Innma, Khayegan, Inndagaw and Danaw village-tracts and explained matters on rural development undertakings carried out by the State and attended to their needs.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Minister Col Thein Nyunt formally open tarred Strand Road in Pathein on 5-1-06. — PBANRDA

Industrial sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of industries in the time of the Tatmadaw Government

Factories built to produce consumer goods

The third task out of the four major tasks declared by the Tatmadaw government when it assumed the State's duties was to raise

the economic standard of the people. In carrying out this task, the Tatmadaw government has repaired old and damaged factories and built new ones in the suitable regions.

Attention has been



No 3 paper mill (Paleik) of Ministry of Industry -1.

Emerging consumer goods factories

Sr	Factory	1988	2005	Progress
1	Textile factory	17	37	20
2	Foodstuff industry	34	52	18
3	Pharmaceutical and consumer goods factory	15	19	4
4	Ceramics industry	16	21	5
5	Paper and chemical factory	8	10	2
6	General and maintenance industry	12	29	17
7	Machine tool factory	9	34	25

given to meeting the manufacturing targets of factories, running the factories in full capacity, substituting raw materials at home for the ones imported, quality control and

research and development. To fulfil the people's needs, textile, foodstuff, pharmaceutical, ceramics, paper and chemical industries have

been built in the time of the Tatmadaw government. The table shows increase in the number of factories in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

USDA Secretary-General receives Japanese delegation

YANGON, 8 Jan — The visiting Japanese delegation led by Mr Kazuyama Shimba called on USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo this morning at the headquarters of USDA, here.

Also present at the call were Secretariat member U Thaug, CEC Member Thura U Myint Maung

and officials and Japanese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Nobutake O dano.

At the meeting, Secretary-General U Htay Oo explained the objectives, principles and procedures of USDA, the participation of USDA members in implementation of development tasks of the

State in cooperation with the people and activities of USDA for the development of the State, and replied to the queries raised by Mr Kazuyama Shimba.

After the meeting, Secretary-General U Htay Oo and Japanese delegation exchanged souvenirs and posed for a documentary photo. —MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo meets Mr Kazuyama Shimba. — MNA



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein inspects 2006 Independence Day Exhibition. — MNA

Independence Day Exhibition continues

YANGON, 8 Jan — The 58th Anniversary Independence Day Exhibition continued today attracting 5,928 people at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall, here, on U Wisara Road.

Chairman of the Information Subcommittee of the 58th Anniversary Independence Day and for Organizing the 58th Anniversary Independence Day Exhibition Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and party viewed the booths at the exhibition this morning.

At the exhibition, stu-

dents participated in Teaching Contest with Audio Language Lab conducted by Soft Guide Computer Co Ltd and winners were awarded. Book shops of News and Periodicals Enterprise and Sarpay Beikman under the Ministry of Information are being opened. The exhibition will be kept opened until 11 January from 9 am to 5 pm daily.

In the booth of the Ministry of Education, the tables on courses (28-5-98 to 30-6-05) conducted by National Human Resources Development Departments

and Centres for Human Resources Development, newly opened universities and degree colleges during the special four-year-education promotion programme in accord with the objective of building modern, developed nation through education, and constant education activities through inclusive education community centres are being staged. In the booth of the Ministry of Electrical Power, the maps and charts of projects implemented, those under construction and those to be built are on display. — MNA



U Yup Zaw Khong addresses the mass meeting.
MNA

education, health and transport sectors are the valuable results for both Kachin State and the nation. Such developments strengthen national solidarity and the Union Spirit and local people now enjoy peace and stability and prevalence of law and order.

The National Convention comprising the people's delegates is necessary for writing the constitution. Fifteen members of coordination committee for the Na-

sons in 1995. The government laid down the objectives for future State and invited delegates to resume the National Convention in 2004. At the convention, there are 1,089 delegates including 55 delegates representing Kachin State. It is essential for the Union of Myanmar to write the constitution which reflects the wishes of the people in building a peaceful modern developed nation. That is why the National Convention

Kachin State support the National Convention for emergence of an enduring constitution and perpetuation of the future State. Nearly 30 million people from USDA, MAAF, MMCWA, MWVO, MRCS and auxiliary fire brigades support the convention.

Internal and external elements are trying to disrupt the convention in various means. **All brothers in the state and people have to ward off any acts to in-**

leadership of the government.

Secretary of Kachin State USDA U Ra Wam Jon tabled a motion calling for support of the National Convention. He said that the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw are striving day and night for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation in line with the political, economic and social objectives through Union



People in Kachin State support ...

(from Page 1)

Daw Munja of Myitkyina Township USDA acted as master of ceremonies together with

to the mass meeting saluted the State's Flag.

Chairman U Yup Zaw Khong delivered a speech.



U Ra Wam Jon of Kachin State USDA.
MNA

He said the Union of Myanmar is a beautiful garden with flowers where national races are living in amity. They have been residing there in unity, friendship and mutual understanding. Kachin State like a small union is a peaceful and beautiful place where national races live in unity. Bitter experiences and evil legacy in Kachin State were removed due to the efforts of the government, the Tatmadaw and the people. Progress in agriculture, livestock breeding, industry, edu-

ditional Convention and 29 delegates from political parties and elected delegates held discussions from 23 June to 20 July 1992.

The National Con-

vention is being held for emergence of an enduring constitution.

A government elected by the people is responsible for management of the nation in accord with

terfere in internal affairs, to encroach upon Our Three Main National Causes and to disrupt the national convention according to the People's Desire.

Spirit and nationalism by upholding Our Three Main National Causes, and now, progress can be made. **Local people in Kachin State enjoy unprecedented peace and**

The Union of Myanmar is a beautiful garden with flowers where national races are living in amity. They have been residing there in unity, friendship and mutual understanding. Kachin State like a small union is a peaceful and beautiful place where national races live in unity. Bitter experiences and evil legacy in Kachin State were removed due to the efforts of the government, the Tatmadaw and the people.

Daw Htu Mai of Myitkyina Township USDA. The chairman, members of panel of chairmen and the people

vention commenced on 9 January 1993. Altogether 702 delegates from eight categories including 49 from political parties and 107 elected delegates attended the convention. However, the National Convention was adjourned for various rea-

sons. Processes are to be laid down for emergence of a modern developed nation and security of the people and amity among the people. The constitution to be drafted must be free from weak points and it must last long. People in

conclusion, he urged local people to work hard for success of the convention and emergence of the constitution as the national duty and to make efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map under the correct

stability and prevalence of law and order. While implementing the sector-wise plans in the nation, the Government is convening the National Convention in which the delegates of the entire nation are attending
(See page 9)



Those attending the mass meeting to support the National Convention in Myitkyina, Kachin State. — MNA



Those attending the mass meeting to support the National Convention in Myitkyina, Kachin State. — MNA

People in Kachin State support ...

(from page 8)
for drafting the State Constitution. The delegates of national races are holding discussions at length for completion of the various steps of the National Convention. They presented their wishes in the group discussions and plenary sessions.

So far, about 70 per cent of the tasks of the National Convention have been completed as the delegates of the National Convention unanimously adopted 104 basic principles and some detailed basic principles for drafting the Constitution. At a time when the National Convention realize its goal successfully, tasks will be undertaken step by step for flourishing of genuine and disciplined democracy.

Myanmar is a sovereign nation. The people themselves have rights to serve interest of the State and the people. Myanmar people having rights are realizing the seven-point Road Map that the State had adopted and is implementing, for serving interest of the nation and shaping its future with their wishes. The peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing nation is being built.

Since its assumption, the Tatmadaw Government had laid down and is carrying out development tasks while placing emphasis on measures being taken for peace, stability and unity. Now, successful infrastructures have been gained.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the national duty of all citizens. Delegates are holding discussions at the

National Convention to draft the Constitution. The National Convention will play a crucial role in the future State. The National Convention is a very important one to walk on the path to the national goal for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

U Sayaw Pawlu of Waingmaw Township read out a proposal in support of the National Convention. National races of different faiths are living in amity and unity in Myanmar.

There is no racism nor conflicts over traditional custom and belief of different national races who



U Lan Kyau Hsaung Teint of Kachin Special Region-1. —MNA

are living in amity with a highly developed moral sense.

The Government designated religious significant days of Buddhism, Christianity, Islam and Hinduism as gazetted holidays. Moreover, the Government is providing assistance to religious leaders in making trips abroad to participate in international religions meetings.

All national races are given the freedom of worship. Sule Pagoda, a Mosque and an Immanuel Church located at the centre of Yangon downtown stand witness

to the freedom of worship in Myanmar.

Regarding the religious sector, the freedom of worship is guaranteed by the constitution. Moreover, according to the constitution, the Government shall provide assistance to those religions. Hence, we all believe that the convening of the National Convention in which delegates representing all national races are participating is the only way to have the constitution. So, we unanimously support the National Convention.

In giving her proposal in support of the National Convention, Daw Tin Tin Htay, Chairperson of

national culture. Making use of existing development infrastructures, the State is taking measures to transform the nation into a democracy. In the constitution, there are four detailed principles regarding the health and education affairs. They are: the State is to place emphasis on the improvement of the people's education and health; the State shall enact a necessary law for the national people to participate in the public education and health care services; the State shall establish a free compulsory education system; and the State shall establish a modern education system for the

National Convention

- * Due regard for Our Three Main National Causes
That's our objective.
- * Patriotism, so noble
We espouse and practise
- * Down the line of lineage without fail.
We keep maintaining them.
- * Getting together for legislation
Constantly having regard.
- * Rally around true relatives
Hands clasped together.
- * With genuine objectives
Repulse enemies of the nation
- * For success of National Convention
Put extra vigour into it.

Po Yan Naing (Kyaukkyi)

(Honouring the National Convention in session)

Myanmar is home to over 100 national races living in amity and unity. The government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working together to build up a peaceful, modern and developed nation with Union Spirit. The onus is upon all citizens to serve their own interest.

Kachin State Women's Affairs Organization, said the National Convention is laying down basic principles to frame a constitution that will shape a bright future of the State. Myanmar has stood tall among the world's nations as a sovereignty nation.

Myanmar is home to over 100 national races living in amity and unity. The government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working together to build up a peaceful, modern and developed nation with Union Spirit. The onus is upon all citizens to serve their own interest. The National Convention has laid down 104 basic principles. As regards the national culture, it is stated that the State has a responsibility to develop and safeguard

people to get good education and to be morally good in the interest of the State.

People's opportunities to receive free primary education, and high and higher education can help the nation to improve its national education pro-



U Khun Naung of Kachin Special Region-2. —MNA

motion. Traditionally, Myanmar people are helpful to one another. Now, measures are being

taken to make sure that there is no forced labour in the nation. Myanmar women have always enjoyed equal rights with men. This is why the entire mass of women support the proposal submitted by U Ra Wam Jon.

In her proposal to support the National Convention, Dr Daw Myint Myint Than, Joint-Secretary of Kachin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, said Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association has over four and a half million members. MMCWA is an association that is nurturing and caring the mothers and new generations who will have to shoulder future tasks of

the State. Today the Tatmadaw and the people are striving day in, day out for the development of all sectors of the State under the leadership of the government. Due to their strenuous efforts, the country is now in a position to enjoy development fruits. Similarly, Kachin State has made significant progress in its all sectors as well. Now the National Convention, the most fundamental of the seven-point Road Map, is in progress. The NC has laid down 104 basic principles. Next, Dr Daw Myint Myint Than explained the nine basic principles out of the 104 concerning fundamental rights and responsibilities (See page 10)



Daw Munja and Daw Matu Mai act as masters of ceremonies. —MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the national duty of all citizens. Delegates are holding discussions at the National Convention to draft the Constitution. The National Convention will play a crucial role in the future State. The National Convention is a very important one to walk on the path to the national goal for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

People in Kachin State support ...

(from page 9)

of the citizens and the two basic principles regarding mothers, children, the old and the infirm. She said only the National Convention that represents the State, the Tatmadaw and the people from all walks of life including political parties can build up a future nation. So, all national people wish the success of the National Convention and fully support it.

In giving a proposal to support the NC, Captain Lazun Kham Aung (Retd) said the National Convention is holding discussions with Union Spirit for the emergence of a State constitution that is an essential factor of the nation. The State is taking steps to shape a bright future of the nation by working hard to ensure peace and stability, national solidarity, strong economy and development of human resources.

The National Convention is drawing a State constitution to reach the goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. He next explained the six principles out of the 104 adopted by the NC regarding the Tatmadaw affairs. He said the State is striving for the development of the nation, upholding Our Three Main National Causes and the 12 objectives. Like political parties, the Tatmadaw also has the duty to safeguard the cause of national politics. It is the Tatmadaw that always stands by the State and the people in times of emergency. It did safeguard lives and property of the people in 1949, 1958, 1962 and 1988 in order not to cause the disintegration of the Union. A principle which prescribes for the Tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership

role of the State was adopted to enable the Tatmadaw to safeguard the independence, sovereignty, national consolidation and lives and property of the people.

The National Convention was convened in 1993 and it laid down 104 basic principles to draft a constitution. A basic principle on foreign



Daw Tin Tin Htay. MNA

issues is that any foreign troops shall not be permitted to deploy in the State. A basic principle regarding agriculture states that the State shall have to provide technique, resources, machinery and raw materials as much as it can. As for industry sector of the State, a basic principle prescribes that the State shall have to provide techniques, resources, machinery and raw materials as much as it can.

A Constitution is needed for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing nation that is the national goal. In conclusion, he seconded the motion tabled by U Ra Wam Jon that all are to participate in achieving success of the realization of the National Convention that delegates of the national people are holding the discussions to draw the Constitution through united strength and patriotic spirit of the entire people.

Central Committee member U Lan Kyau Hsaung Teint of Kachin State Special Region-1 seconded the motion to support the National Convention. He said that

the nation is made up of States and Divisions similar to the mini-unions where the national races are living. While maintaining and enhancing the fine tradition of unity that

National Convention is holding discussions with Union Spirit for the emergence of a State constitution that is an essential factor of the nation. The State is taking steps to shape a bright future of the nation by working hard to ensure peace and stability, national solidarity, strong economy and development of human resources. The National Convention is drawing a State constitution to reach the goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

national brethren are residing in the Union through weal and woe, national people are to discharge a national duty to safeguard the nation



Captain Lazun Kham Aung (Retd). —MNA

for its perpetual existence. Likewise, the Government is taking measures for peace, stability and development.

He said they could restore peace in the state after building mutual understanding and trust with the Government. Their organization is serving interest of the region after ensuring prevalence of law and order and stability.

Now, local national people enjoy fruitful results of the development. Hence, unity, national consolidation and Union Spirit are being strengthened among the national races.

The National Convention is being reconvened as political transition to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. As political, economic

and social systems will be changed, a State Constitution that can serve the interest of the State and the people is being drawn. The Constitution is very important for the future State.

It can be seen that the

is strong, the State's power will strengthen. It is known that if the politics, economy and security of the nation weaken, the sovereignty can be lost.

Priorities are given to the national reconso-

ing part in the NC.

We, the group of Special Region-2, do not accept any schemes to hinder the National Convention which is important for every national race, and will cooperate with the State until the

National Convention focused on national interest. With regard to the national races, the principles were drawn that Government will assist development of language, literature, fine arts and culture of the national races, cultivate the unity among the national races, and render assistance for i m p r o v e m e n t of education, health, economy and transport of the national races.

At present, 56 delegates from townships in Kachin State, Kachin State Special Region-1 and Kachin State Special



Townselder U Tun Tun. MNA

Region-2 are attending the National Convention.

In conclusion, he seconded the motion to support the National Convention for the emergence of the Constitution.

U Khun Naung, Central Committee member of Kachin Special Region-2 discussed that the process of the State's history is akin to the process of national consolidation. As the national unity

validation and propagation of Union Spirit due to the political process of the past the State faced. The fundamental concern of Our Three Main National Causes is safeguarding of the Union. It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever he lives to cultivate and possess strong Union Spirit and Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to uphold and safeguard.

We, national race organizations, in cooperation with the State are serving the interests of the people under the correct leadership of the State. At present Kachin State is enjoying peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order.

In the time of Tatmadaw government, better transport and communication, health, education, livestock breeding and irrigation, supply of electricity facilities are provided in the special



U Sayaw Pawlu. MNA

region. These are fruits of development.

The National Convention is being held for drafting the new enduring constitution. We are citizens of the Union of Myanmar not aliens. So We have the obligation to attend the National Convention that can shape a new developed one. Five delegates of the Special Region-2 are tak-

conclusion of NC.

The National Convention is well under way. Only when the constitution comes into existence can tasks be carried out according to the political processes. Therefore, we all are in support of the National Convention.

Deputy Law Officer of Kachin State Daw Mary Maynan was seconded the motion.

She said the country has been a sovereign state from time immemorial. She lost her independence after three aggressive wars of the imperialists in 19th century. During the colonial periods, political, economic and social conditions deteriorated and rights of the citizens were also lost. But, due to the united strength of the national races, she regained her independence on 4 January 1948.

After regaining independence, the State practised two constitutions—1947 and 1974 constitutions. However, the two constitutions were defunct. The constitution now being drafted is in accord with the prevailing political, economic and social conditions and it is free from outside influence and only people can lead the future State. Delegates from all strata of life are attending the national convention and discussing detailed basic principles that serve the interest of the people.

She said the national convention is successful due to the active participation in the discussions. Only when the constitution comes into existence, can other tasks be carried out in accord with (See page 11)

It is the Tatmadaw that always stand by the State and the people in times of emergency. It did safeguard lives and property of the people in 1949, 1958, 1962 and 1988 in order not to cause the disintegration of the Union. A principle which prescribes for the Tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the State was adopted to enable the Tatmadaw to safeguard the independence, sovereignty, national consolidation and lives and property of the people.

At the National Convention, 104 basic principles have been laid down for drafting the constitution. According to the basic principles laid down in the interests of all national people, rights of farmers, workers and intellectuals and intelligensia shall be guaranteed by the State Constitution.



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

People in Kachin State support...

(from page 10)
the political process. Therefore, the National Convention is essential for building the future State. She emphatically seconded the motion to

support the national convention.

Next, Agga Maha Thirithudhamma title recipient U Tun Tun of Mansi Township also seconded the motion sup-

porting the national convention.

He said an area of cultivable land increased from 440,000 acres to 600,000 acres and production in livestock breeding sector also increased dramatically. Jade production of the region reaches thousands of kilos.

Regarding the hydroelectric sector, three hydel-power stations have been constructed and two are under construction now. The number of schools increased up to 137 and

over 280,000 students are attending the schools. One university, two degree colleges and two technical colleges were established in Kachin State.

In transportation sector, 350-mile-long Mandalay-Shwebo-Myitkyina Road and 417-mile-long Mandalay-Shwegu-Bhamo-Myitkyina Road were inaugurated in an effort to improve transportation sector in the region. A total of 15 bridges which are 180 feet and above long including 2,688-mile-long

Bala Minhtin Bridge were constructed and the number of bridges which are under 180-foot-long reached 226. The number of hospitals increased from 35 to 44. Now, local national races are enjoying the fruits of development.

At the National Convention, 104 basic principles have been laid down for drafting the constitution. According to the basic principles laid down in the interests of all national people, rights of farmers, workers and intellectuals and intelligensia shall be

guaranteed by the State Constitution.

Regarding the economic sector, seven basic principles were laid down to implement the market economy and to safeguard the interests of the people. Hence, all national races are supporting the National Convention. I second the motion to support the National Convention.

Afterwards, the meeting chairman sought the approval from the mass meeting. Later the meeting ended with chanting of the slogans. —MNA



Dr Daw Myint Myint
Than of Kachin State
MCWSC.—MNA



Deputy Law Officer of
Kachin State Daw Mary
Maynan.—MNA

Pires double helps holders Arsenal past Cardiff in FA Cup

LONDON, 8 Jan—Two Robert Pires goals in the opening 18 minutes set holders Arsenal on their way to a 2-1 win over Cardiff City in the third round of the FA Cup on Saturday.

Aston Villa also went through with a 1-0 win over Second Division Hull City but Wigan Athletic, the third Premier League club with an early kickoff, were taken to a replay by Leeds United after a 1-1 draw at the JJB Stadium.

Only six minutes into the defence of the trophy Arsenal won for the 10th time in a penalty shootout against Manchester United last May, Frenchman Pires found the net with a right-footed strike. Twelve minutes later and Arsenal were 2-0 up, Pires taking a pass from Dennis Bergkamp and again finishing coolly with his right foot.

Cardiff gave the Londoners a late fright when Cameron Jerome bundled the ball over the line for a goal three minutes from time and Arsenal goalkeeper Manuel Almunia was forced to save at Jeff Whitley's feet in stoppage time. Seven-times winners Villa had the best of the first half at Hull but the Second Division team showed a little less respect after the break and Villa's Mark Delaney had to clear a Leon Cort header off the line after 57 minutes.

Four minutes later and Gareth Barry had Villa in front, beating three defenders before finding the net

with a right-footed shot that took a deflection off the unfortunate Cort.

Hull's chance had passed and Villa, upset by Third Division Doncaster in the League Cup earlier this season, reached the fourth round for the first time in five seasons.

Wigan looked to have booked their passage into the fourth round when David Connolly gave them a 1-0 lead over Leeds just after half time. However, Rob Hulse pounced on a stray ball to equalize two minutes from the end and the clubs will meet again at Elland Road on 17 January. —MNA/Reuters

Deportivo up to third after 2-1 win at struggling Bilbao

MADRID, 8 Jan—Deportivo Coruna moved up to third in the Primera Liga with a 2-1 win at Athletic Bilbao on Saturday.

An own goal from Bilbao defender Mari Lacruz and a howling error by keeper Daniel Aranzubia gifted Depor a fourth away victory in a row which pushed them within six points of second-placed Osasuna.

Bilbao made a bright start but the visitors snatched the lead when Lacruz bundled Juan Carlos Valeron's low cross-shot into the net as he tried to clear in the 26th minute.

The Basque side continued to press and gained

a deserved equalizer early in the second half when substitute Ismael Urzaiz scored a trademark bullet

header after outjumping the Depor defence to meet a Joseba Etxeberria cross. —MNA/Reuters



Burton Albion's manager Nigel Clough (R) and captain Darren Stride (L) pose for photographs with the FA cup at the Pirelli Stadium in Burton-on-Trent, central England on 6 Jan, 2006. Non-league team Burton Albion will take on English soccer giants Manchester United in the 3rd round of the FA Cup on 8 Jan. —INTERNET

Detailed basic principles explained by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted

YANGON, 8 Jan— *The following is a translation of suggestions submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township Constituency, Shan State (North), regarding the detailed basic principles for legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw in formulating the State Constitution collectively presented by the three Independent Representatives-elect — Dr Hmu Htan of Htantalan Township Constituency, U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township Constituency, Shan State (South); and U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township Constituency, Shan State (North) — on 5 January at Nyaungghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

I am now going to present the excerpts of our compilation concerning the legislation of the Region and State Hluttaws.

At the plenary session of the National Convention the Work Committee Chairman explained the following detailed basic principles:

1. (a) The day the term of Region or State Hluttaw comes into force is that of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (b) The first regular session of Region or State Hluttaw shall be convened within 15 days after the commencement of the term of the Hluttaw.
2. (a) The State Peace and Development Council shall convene the first regular session of Region or State Hluttaws after the Constitution has come into force.
- (b) The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw who continues to perform his duties in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution shall convene the first regular session for the next terms of Region or State Hluttaw.
3. (a) Members of Region or State Hluttaws shall take oaths before the chairman of Region or State Hluttaw at the first regular session of Region or State Hluttaw.
- (b) Members of Region or State Hluttaw who have not taken oaths, shall take oath before the Speaker of the Hluttaw at the session of the Region or State Hluttaw they first attend.
4. The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw shall convene the regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw at least once a year. The interval between two regular sessions shall not exceed 12 months.
5. The following matters are carried out at the session of the Region or State Hluttaw:
 - (a) Recording the address delivered by the Union President.
 - (b) Reading out and recording messages sent by the President and other messages permitted by the Speaker.
 - (c) Recording the address delivered by region or state chief minister.
 - (d) Submitting, discussing and making decision on a bill.
 - (e) Discussing and deciding the matters the Region or State Hluttaw shall implement in accordance with provisions of the Constitution and the existing laws.
 - (f) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Region or State Hluttaw.
 - (g) Submitting proposals, holding discussions and making decisions.
 - (h) Raising questions and giving replies.
 - (i) Implementing matters permitted by Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw.
6. (a) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaw can convene special session or emergency session of Region or State Hluttaws if necessary.
- (b) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaw shall convene a special or emergency session of region or state as soon as possible when the Region or State Chief Minister informs to do so.
- (c) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaws shall convene a special session of region or state as soon as possible if at least one-fourth of the Region or State Hluttaw members ask to convene it.
7. (a) The first day session of the Region or State Hluttaw is valid if more than half the number of members who have the right to attend the session of the

Region or State Hluttaw, are present. The session if invalid shall be adjourned.

- (b) The sessions that are adjourned due to invalidity in accordance with the sub-para (a) as well as the valid sessions that are extended are valid if at least one-third of the Hluttaw members, who have the right to attend a session of Region or State Hluttaw are present.
8. (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting in the Region or State Hluttaw shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.
- (b) The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker discharging duties as the Speaker shall not vote in the first instance in the sessions of the Region or State Hluttaws, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes.
9. If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Region or State Hluttaw is, without permission of the Hluttaw, absent from a session of Region or State Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw can declare the seat of the Region or State Hluttaw member vacant in accordance with prescribed provisions. In computing the said period of 15 days, no account shall be taken of any period during which the session is prorogued, or is adjourned.
10. Although there are vacant seats, the Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.
11. The functions and records of the Region or State Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But, the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Region or State Hluttaw shall not be published.
12. Region or State Hluttaw has the power to make laws for the whole or any part of the Region or State concerning matters stated in the Region or State Legislative List.
13. (a) When the Region or State Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —
 - (1) entrust the right to issue bylaws, rules and regulations concerning the law to a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution.
 - (2) authorize the organization or authority to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures concerning the law.
- (b) The bylaws, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by a law shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.
- (c) after issuing a bylaw, rules or regulations under the law enacted by Region or State Hluttaw, the organization concerned shall circulate the bylaw, rules or regulations to Hluttaw members during the nearest regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw with the arrangement permitted by the Hluttaw Speaker.
- (d) If the bylaw, rules or regulations are found to be not consonant with the provisions of the law concerned, Region or State Hluttaw members can submit a proposal to annul or amend the by law, rules or regulations to Region or State Hluttaw within 90 days from the date they are circulated.
- (e) If a decision is made by Region or State Hluttaw to annul or amend a bylaw, rules or regulations, the decision shall not affect however without prejudice to the validity of any action previously taken under the bylaw, rules or regulations.
14. (a) Matters that requires decision, assent and approval of Region or State Hluttaw shall be implemented as follows:
 - (1) If the Region or State Hluttaw is in session, the matter shall be decided at that session.
 - (2) If the Region or State Hluttaw is not in session, the discussions and decisions on the matter

Independent representative-elect U Tun Kyaw of Shan State (North) reads the proposal . MNA



shall be made at the nearest Region or State Hluttaw session.

- (3) A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.
15. (a) Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, the Region or State level organizations formed under the Constitution, can submit bills on matters under their management to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
- (b) Bills on region or state plans, annual budgets and taxation which are to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government shall be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
16. Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, except those prescribed under the Constitution to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government, the Region or State Hluttaw members can submit bills on other matters in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
17. Region or State Hluttaw shall make a decision when Region or State Government submits region or state budget in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
18. (a) The Region or State Chief Minister shall
 - (1) sign the bill approved by the Region or State Hluttaw and promulgate it as a law, within seven days after receiving it.
 - (2) sign the bill approved by the Self-Administered Region leading body and promulgate it as a law, within 14 days after receiving it.
- (b) Although the Region or State Chief Minister does not sign the bill and promulgate it as a law with the fixed time, the bill shall come into force in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the fixed time.
- (c) The bills signed by the Region or State Chief Minister and bills which have come into force in like manner as if they were signed by him, shall be promulgated in the Union Gazette. The laws shall come into force on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention are expressed.
19. (a) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, members of Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right of discussing and voting concerning bills or matters related to their organizations in the Hluttaw sessions.
- (b) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, those members who are not Region or State Hluttaw members while attending the session with the permission of Hluttaw Speakers shall have the right of discussing concerning bills or matters related to their organizations.
20. The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall —
 - (a) supervise Region or State Hluttaw sessions.
 - (b) invite the Union President if he informs him of his desire to address the Region or State Hluttaw session.

(See page 13)

Members of the delegate group of workers make a suggestion that the explanations of the Work Committee Chairman be adopted



U Nyein
Maung of
Shan State
(North).
MNA

YANGON, 8 Jan— *The following is a translation of suggestions of Delegate Group of Workers submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Nyein Maung of Lashio Township, Shan State (North) regarding the detailed basic principles for legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw in formulating the State Constitution on 6 January at Nyaungmapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

Representatives of the delegate group of Workers U Min Myint Maung Lay of Chaungzon Township, Mon State, and U Poe Rai Aung Thein of Loikaw Township in Kayah State, U Tha Aye of Yanbye Township, Rakhine State, and I will present the paper of the delegate group of workers regarding the detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw in formulating the State Constitution.

At the plenary session of the National Convention held on 13 December 2005, the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee explained matters related to the detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He made clarification in accordance with the prevailing situations of our nation referring the legislative functions related to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaws prescribed in the constitutions of others nations, and legislative functions related to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw prescribed in the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution. His explanation contributed towards our compiling this paper regarding the detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. So, we representatives of the delegate group of workers thank him for his invaluable explanation.

The National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman, regarding the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, explained matters on the adoption of the detailed basic principles to convene the regular sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and the vesting of the power to convene the first regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; the fixing of the number regular sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to be held at least in a year; the person or body who convenes regular sessions, the addressing of Pyidaungsu

Hluttaw sessions occasionally by the President, the President's sending messages, recording of such speeches and messages, and other messages; the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker's scrutinizing, reading and recording; submission, discussing and approving of bills prescribed by the Constitution; raising queries by members at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; replying of respective administrative bodies and members to such questions; attendance of heads of other nations at the sessions to deliver a speech if their visits coincide with the sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; detailed basic principles for special or emergency meetings of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; the power of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker to convene sessions if need arises to convene a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session or an emergency session in the times that the President, as well as the administrative head, has to tackle extraordinary situations on political, security, economic and social affairs of the State; and fixing of quorum necessary for validity of sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman also explained matters on making a decision through votes of members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the right of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker's right to cast decisive vote for the matters the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has to decide; adoption of detailed basic principles regarding Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members who are absent for many days successively from Hluttaw session without permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker; ensuring validity of decisions and activities of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw even if it is discovered later that a person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings, when there are vacant seats for members in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for various reasons; public information about activities of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; matter in which the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has to approve the bill that has been approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw regarding matters for which the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is vested with power to enact a law; issuing of bylaws, rules, regulations, notifications, directives and procedures in the name of a body or authority in the law enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the power of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to revoke and amend them if they are not in conformity with the Constitution or the law concerned. The explanations of the Work Committee Chairman are proper, so they should be adopted into detailed basic principles.

The Work Committee Chairman discussed matters on participation of the Union of Myanmar in tasks of international and regional bodies, signing treaties and ratifying agreements with international and regional countries; power of the President to issue an ordinance to take a prompt action for matters such as State security; a matter to be handled by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to decide to approve or not such an ordinance; power of Union level bodies formed under the Constitution including Union government and Union Supreme Court to submit a bill in accord with the procedures regarding their administrative matters; annual budget; bills on taxation and laying down

national level plans; discussing bills, that are submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw; ways, if necessary, to handle the bills, to be decided only at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after scrutinizing them; seeking the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw do not reach an agreement to handle a bill; sending the bills to the President approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the bills that shall be presumed as though they were approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; promulgation of laws under the signature of the President and issuing them; sending the bills to the President approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the bills that shall be presumed as though they were approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; promulgation of laws under the signature of the President; issuing in the Union gazette the laws signed by the President and the laws that shall be presumed as though they were signed by the President and fixing a date for these laws to come into force. We members of the delegate group of workers make a suggestion that the explanations of the Work Committee Chairman be adopted.

Besides that, the Work Committee Chairman explained matters on power to be vested in members representing Union level bodies to attend, submit and discuss at the session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw regarding the bills and matters submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for approval; duties and rights of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker prescribed under the Constitution or a law; the right of the Union level body concerned formed under the Constitution to submit its matters to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; power to be vested in members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to submit and discuss proposal and raise queries; prohibition of physical insults in enjoying these rights; the right of members representing a Union level body and persons invited to a session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to enjoy freedom of speech at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw subject to the provisions of respective laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; ways to arrest a member of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw attending a Hluttaw session if need arises; ways to arrest a person attending a session under the permission or at the invitation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Patron; and legal privileges on records and documents published by or in the name of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The explanations are proper, so they should be adopted into detailed basic principles.

Regarding the detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in formulating the State Constitution, I would like to present the suggestions of the delegate group of workers that the following points—

- (1) "The first session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be held within 15 days after the beginning of the first session of the Pyithu Hluttaw".
The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."
- (2) "The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at least once a year. The maximum time limit between one meeting and another should not exceed 12 months"
(See page 14)

Detailed basic principles...

(from page 12)

- (c) make necessary arrangements when the Region or State Chief Minister informs him of his desire to address he wishes.
 - (d) have the right, if necessary, to invite members or persons of region or state level organization formed under the Constitution to the Region or State Hluttaw session to make clarification as regards matters under discussion.
 - (e) perform other duties and responsibilities entrusted by the Constitution or a law.
21. (a) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members of Region or State Hluttaw have freedom of speech and voting at the Region or State Hluttaw as well as at Region or State Hluttaw committee and organization. Concerning the discussions and functions, a Region or State Hluttaw member shall be privileged except under the Region

- or State Hluttaw Law.
- (b) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members or persons who are permitted or invited to attend Region or State Hluttaw session have freedom of speech at the Region or State Hluttaw or Region or State Hluttaw committee and organizations. Concerning such discussions, they shall be privileged except under the Region or State Hluttaw Law.
 - (c) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub-para (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.
22. (a) If there arises a need to arrest a Region or State Hluttaw member attending a Region or State Hluttaw session or a person attending the Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.

- (b) If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or an organization formed by the Region or State Hluttaw attending a session of the committee or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the committee or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.
 - (c) If there arises a need to arrest a member of Region or State Hluttaw or committee or organization formed by the Hluttaw while the Hluttaw or the committee or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw Speaker.
23. The reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged."

As Work Committee Chairman's explanations are comprehensive and appropriate, I have no further discussions concerning the matter. The detailed basic principles explained by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted for the Constitution. — MNA

Members of the delegate...

(from page 13)

- (3) The following tasks shall be carried out at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meetings:
- Recording the address delivered by the President
 - Reading out and the recording the message sent by the President and other messages permitted by the President
 - Submitting and discussing and making decision on a bill
 - Discussing and deciding the opinion and remarks of the President concerning a bill approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
 - Discussing and deciding the matter the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has to implement in accord with the provisions contained in the Constitution
 - Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
 - Submitting proposals, and making discussions and decisions
 - Asking questions and replying answers
 - Implementing the matters permitted by the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (4) "The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as necessary"
- (5) "The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw soonest when the President informs the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker to convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw"
- (6) "The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw when at least one fourth of the total number of members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw ask to convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw"
- (7) (a) "The first day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be valid if more than half the number of members, who have the right to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting, are present. The meeting if invalid, shall be adjourned.
- (b) "The meetings that are adjourned due to invalidity in accord with the sub para (a) as well as the valid meetings that are extended will be valid if at least one third of the Hluttaw members are present."
- (8) (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting, shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.
- (b) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker acting as such, shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.
- (9) "If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is, without permission of the Speaker absent from all meetings of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Speaker shall inform the Hluttaw concerned to take action against the member according to the prescribed rules. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days no account shall be taken of any period during which the Chamber is prorogued, or is adjourned."
- (10) "Although there are vacant seats, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or vote or took part in the proceedings are discovered later"
- (11) "The functions and records of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall not be published."
- (12) (a) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to make laws for the whole or any part of the Union concerning the matters stated in the Union Legislative List.
- (b) If a bill initiated in the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw is approved by both Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, it shall be presumed that the bill is approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (13) (a) When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —
- entrust the right to issue rules, regulation and bylaws concerning the law to the Union level organizations formed according to the Constitution.
 - authorize the respective organizations or authority to issue notifications, orders,

directives and procedures.

- The rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by an Act shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.
 - If both the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw decide to annul or amend any one the rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be presumed that the rules, regulations or bylaws are annulled or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
 - If there is any disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning the said rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be decided by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
 - If a decision is made to annul or amend any of the rules, regulations or bylaws according to the para (c) or para (d), the decision shall be without prejudice, however, to the validity of any action previously taken under the rules, regulations or bylaws.
- (14) "The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw —
- shall give the decision on matters in connection with ratifying, cancelling and withdrawing from international agreements, regional treaties or bilateral agreements submitted by the President.
 - may fix the international, regional or bilateral agreements that do not need Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's approval and delegate the President to ratify, cancel and withdraw from them.
- (15) (a) Matters that requires decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, agreement and approval should be implemented as follows:
- If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the matter shall be decided at that session.
 - If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the discussion and decisions on the matter shall be made at the nearest Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.
 - A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.
- (b) When the President after issuing an ordinance having the force of law submits it to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for approval, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall
- pass a resolution to approve it or not.
 - fix the further period to which the ordinance shall continue to be in force if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves the ordinance.
 - The ordinance shall cease to have effect from the date on which it is disapproved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (16) (a) Of the matters included in the Union legislative list, the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, shall have the right to submit bills on matters under their management, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed procedures.
- (b) Bills on national plans, annual budgets and taxation, which are to be submitted exclusively by the Union government shall be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions for decision.
- (17) "Except the bills that are prescribed by the Constitution to be initiated exclusively in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the bills initiated by the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be discussed initially at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw according to the prescribed provisions."
- (18) "If a need arises to scrutinize the bills, that are to be discussed and approved exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, they are to be scrutinized jointly by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw bill committee and the Amyotha Hluttaw bill committee, and the bills together with the findings and comments of the joint committee can be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with prescribed provisions."
- (19) "If there arises disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning a bill, the bill shall be discussed and approved in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."
- (20) (a) Within 14 days after the date the President receives the bills sent to him by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after approving them and the bills in like manner as if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have approved them, he shall sign the bills and shall promulgate them into law."
- (b) The President shall send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu

Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time to sign and promulgate it into an Act.

"(c) Although the President does not send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, if the Bill is not signed by the President within 14 days after the date of presentation, the same shall be become an Act in like manner as if he had signed it on the last of the said 14 days."

- (21) (a) If the President sends back the bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after studying the President's comments, can accept his comments or can decide to amend the bill, or shall make a decision to approve the bill in its original state if it does not agree the President's comments.
- (b) The President shall sign the bill and enact it into an Act on the last of the said seven days if the bill so amended according to his comments or his comments are not accepted and the bill approved in its original state is sent back to him with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's decision.
- (c) If the bill sent back to the President by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not signed by the President within the fixed time, the same shall be become an Act in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the said time limit.
- (22) "The Acts signed by the President and the Acts deemed to have been signed by the President shall be promulgated in the gazette. The Act shall come into force on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention is expressed."
- (23) "Members of the organizations representing the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution while attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker have right to explain the bills and other matters in connection with their respective organizations."
- (24) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker shall —
- supervise the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sessions
 - invite the President, if the President informs him of his desire to address the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
 - have the power to invite organization and persons representing any Union level organizations formed under the Constitution to attend and give clarifications on one of the matters of the ongoing discussions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session if necessary
 - implement his other duties and functions designated by the constitution or any law
- (25) "The Union level organizations formed under the Constitution shall submit their general condition, necessary to be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with the permission of the Speaker."
- (26) (a) Subject to the provisions contained in the constitution, and the provisions stipulated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Committee. Concerning the discussions and functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Joint Committee, a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member shall be absolutely privileged, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (b) Subject to the provisions contained in the constitution, and the provisions stipulated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of organizations or persons representing any one of the Union level organizations invited to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have the freedom of speech. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (c) However, if the persons mentioned in the above para (a) and para (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing law."
- (27) "If there arises a need to arrest a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member attending a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at the invitation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without the prior permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker."
- (28) "The reports, documents and Hluttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged."
- should be adopted into detailed basic principles.

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

Two innocent people wounded in bomb blasts at Nantphalon Market in Tamu

YANGON, 8 Jan — Terrorists are committing destructive acts with various ways and methods so as to disturb peace and stability, and prevalence and law and order of the nation, and to kill and wound innocent people and frighten them. A bomb blast occurred at the noodle

salad shop at the Canteen No 1 of Nantphalon Market in Tamu, Sagaing Division, at 8.15 am today, and another at Shwe Kaung Lyan Tea Centre outside the market at 10.45 am. U Maung Tun, 42, and U Maung Soe, 38, of Tamu were wounded in the bomb blasts.

In the incident, U Maung Tun who arrived his shop to open picked up a small cassette near a coal stove, and then the cassette blasted.

Responsible officials gave necessary medical treatments to the two wounded persons.

To avoid similar incidents, people are not to pick up and open personal goods, that there are not theirs, and suspicious items, and to report suspicious matters to officials immediately.

At present, the local Tatmadaw column and departmental officials are performing functions of inspection and searching to expose and seize the terrorists who committed the destructive acts to kill and wound the people.

MNA

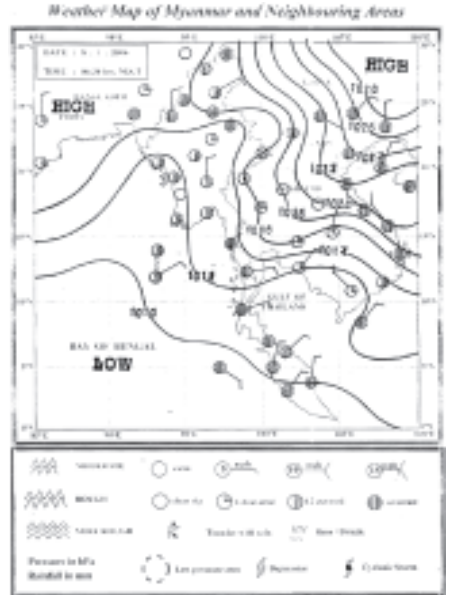
NC Delegates visits...

(from page 16) export quality garments. They also visited Myanmar Royal Tea Factory in the zone.

When they arrived at Pyay Garden Condominium constructed by Zekaba Co Ltd in Kamayut Township, Chairman of Zekaba Co Ltd Dr Khin Shwe and officials welcomed them and conducted them around the construction site of the condominium.

The delegates who are Christian this morning went to Kayin Baptist Christian Dhamma University and Immanuel Church in Kyauktada Township this evening.

MNA



WEATHER

Sunday, 8 January, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division and weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Kachin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Mon States, Bago and Ayeyawady Division, (5°C) above normal in Kayin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Putao and Heho (4°C) each. Namhsan, PyinOoLwin and Mogok (6°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 7-1-2006 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 8-1-2006 was 63°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 8-1-2006 was (83%). Total sunshine hours on 7-1-2006 was (7.4) hours (Approx).

Rainfalls on 8-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Northwest at (09:30) hours MST on 7-1-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the South and West Central Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 9-1-2006:** Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin, Chin States and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States and Yangon Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Weather will be generally fair in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-1-2006: Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-1-2006:** Generally fair weather.

EARTHQUAKE REPORT

(Issued at 20:00 hours MST, Today) An earthquake of strong intensity (6.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter over the sea near Southern Greece (outside Myanmar) about (5000) miles Northnorthwest of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory, was recorded at (18) hrs (04) min (53) sec MST on 8th January 2006.

Asleep In Jesus U Peter Mya Pe

Director (Retired) Finance (Petrol Chemical Enterprise) Treasurer (Myanmar Council of Churches) (64) years

Son of (The Rt Rev John Maung Pe + Daw Mya Thwe), son-in law of (U A Po Aung + Daw Nyein Hla), beloved husband of Daw Mary Po Aung, Assistant Director, (Retired) Finance (Petrol Chemical Enterprise), beloved father of U Pe Aung Nyein + Daw May Thet Tun, U Ye Thwe Lwin + Naw Eh She Paw, U Win Tun Naing + Naw Yuzana Lwin, beloved grandfather of three grandchildren passed away on 7-1-2006 at 7:50 am. Funeral service will be held on 9-1-2006 (Monday) at Holy Cross Church, 104 Inya Road, Kamayut at 11:00 am and thence to Yayway Cemetery.

Bereaved family

ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့ ပိုင်းစားကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့

၂၀၀၆-ခုနှစ်၊ ဇန်နဝါရီလ (၅)ရက်နေ့အထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင် ကျေးဇူး ကိုယ်အားကိုးကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက် (၄၈,၀၆၄) တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးလက်နေပြည်သူများ ပညာဗဟုသုတတိုးပွားရေးနှင့် ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုးကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် စာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန၊ ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လျှောက်ခံနိုင်ကြပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန၊



Monday, 9 January View on today

- 7:00 am
- ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကျွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ ဗဟုသုတအဖွဲ့၊ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ ဝေဟာ ရှုရှု၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအဖွဲ့၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ ဝေဟာ၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မ ဘာဏ္ဍာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိမ္မာသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ် တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
- To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- Morning news
- 7:40 am
- Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
- Song of National Races
- 8:00 am
- Cute little dancers

- 8:10 am
- အတိတ်ဗြဲပွဲ
- 8:20 am
- နိဗ္ဗာန် ရေထိန်းတံခါး
- 8:30 am
- International News
- 8:45 am
- Grammar Made Easy
- 4:00 Pm
- Martial song
- 4:15 Pm
- Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 Pm
- Practice in reading
- 4:45 pm
- Musical Programme
- 5:00 pm
- အစေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ တတ်ယူနစ် (ရုပ်ပေးအထူးပြု) (ရုပ်ပေး)
- 5:15 pm
- Dance Variety
- 5:25 pm
- မြန်မာ့စား၊ မြန်မာ့စား
- 5:35 pm
- Song and Dance of National Races
- 5:45 pm
- Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar

- Modern Music Troupe)
- 6:00 pm
- Evening news
- 6:30 pm
- Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- နိုင်ငံခြားကားတွန်း၊ စာတိလမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်ရယ်အေးအေး ပုရွက်ဆိတ်လေး" (အပိုင်း - ၅၃)
- 6:50 pm
- Industrial Achievement
- 7:05 am
- နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိလမ်းတွဲ "အရယ်ရယ်အေးအေး" (အပိုင်း - ၂၈)
- 7:40 pm
- Musical Programme
- 8:00 pm
- News
- 8:15 pm
- International news
- 8:30 pm
- Weather report
- 8:45 pm
- မြန်မာ့စီးပွားစာတိလမ်း "အမြင်ဆုံး" (အပိုင်း - ၁)
- 9:00 pm
- ရန်အောင်၊ အသန်းနု (ဒါရိုက်တာ ခင်မောင်ဦး၊ နိုးသိမ်းထွဋ်)
- 9:15 pm
- The next day's programme



Monday, 9 January Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Romeo & Juliet ... SOAP
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: Do you wanna dance 98
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Torn - -Nine
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music -Love sensation
- 9:15 am News & Slogan
- 1:30 pm Lunch time music
- 1:40 pm -A thousand smile ... Vanessa Celion
- 9:00 pm -Eternal Flame ... Humannature
- 9:10 pm -Sailing ..N' syne
- 9:20 pm Spotlight on the star
- 9:30 pm Jennifer Lopez
- 9:45 pm Article
- 9:50 pm Pouri
- 10:00 pm Women's Affairs
- 10:05 pm Local Gems
- 10:10 pm -It might be you -A Groovy kind of love
- 10:15 pm New & Slogan
- 10:20 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

Strengthening of unity and amity among national brethren, vitalizing Union Spirit and propagating true patriotism focused

Excursion tour of UDNR trainees coordinated

YANGON, 8 Jan— The second coordination meeting of Management Committee for excursion tour of the trainees attending the 37th batch of BED four-year course at University for Development of National Races was held at the meeting hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road yesterday, attended by Chairman of the Committee Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were members of the committee, chairmen of the sub-committees, departmental heads and officials.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe made a

speech saying that the first meeting of the committee was held on 14 November 2005 and duties were assigned to the sub-committees; that national brethren from states and divisions were attending the UDNR; and that the excursion tour was arranged for the national brethren and thus all were to place emphasis on the convenience of them. The commander urged officials to thoroughly supervise their respective tasks with a view to strengthening of unity and amity among national brethren, vitalizing Union Spirit and propagating true patriotism.

Next, the master of ceremonies Director-General of Civil Service Selection and Training

Department U Hla Kyi presented matters relating to discussions of the previous meeting and those present approved it.

Afterwards, the chairmen of reception sub-committee, accommodation sub-committee, decoration sub-committee, security sub-committee, transportation sub-committee, health and sanitation sub-committee, information sub-committee and entertainment sub-committee reported on their respective tasks. Those present took part in the discussions concerning the excursion tour.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the needs and made a concluding remarks.

MNA



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe addresses coordination meeting of Management Committee for excursion tour of UDNR trainees. — MNA

NC Delegates visit Mingaladon Garden City, Yangon Industrial Zone

YANGON, 8 Jan — Delegates to the National Convention yesterday morning visited Mingaladon Garden City, Yangon Industrial Zone and Pyay Garden Condominium here.

First, they went to Mingaladon Gardent City in Mingaladon and visited pagodas constructed in the city.

Afterwards, the delegates went Yangon Industrial Zone and visited A-1 Garment Factory which has over 1,300 employees and produces

(See page 15)



Delegates to the National Convention attending service in Insein Township Kayin Baptist Theological University.

MNA

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* *What the Sayadaw meant was that when the need arises to choose someone, his colour of whether white or black, his age of whether young or the old, his body of whether small or big do not matter.*

* *The Sayadaw advised choosing persons of sila (morality), samadhi (integrity) and panna (wisdom) and associating with them.*

Htay Lwin (Salingyi)