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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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends message of congratulations to UAE

YANGON, 12 Jan— Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, on his assumption of duties as Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates. — MNA

Detailed basic principles on sharing of legislative power, executive power and judicial power to be drafted into the Constitution had been successfully laid down.

National Convention Convening Commission holds meeting No 1/2006

Delegates from eight groups hold group-wise discussions and are compiling proposal papers



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein speaking at the meeting No 1/2006 of the National Convention Convening Commission. — MNA

YANGON, 12 Jan— The meeting No 1/2006 of the National Convention Convening Commission was held at the meeting room of the NCCC at the Nyaungnapin Camp, Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, at 9 am today and it was at-

tended by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Vice-Chairmen Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen

Tin Htut, Secretary of the National Convention Convening Commission Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan. U Myint Thein, Joint Secretary-2 of the Commission and Director-General of the Office of the Pyithu Hluttaw, emceed

the meeting.

In his address at the meeting, NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council said that the National Convention started on 5 December, 2005, that it had been held for over five weeks now and that the National Convention was making good progress. He continued that, if we reviewed the work done by the National Convention since it was resumed in 2004, it was found that detailed basic principles

on sharing of legislative power, executive power and judicial power to be drafted into the Constitution had been successfully laid down. Moreover, the Work Committee had already clarified the detailed basic principles on legislative power of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and region or state hluttaws to the National Convention and eight delegate groups had made discussions and gave advice on the clari-

fications of the Work Committee.

He said the National Convention Work Committee clarified detailed basic principles for laying down rights and responsibilities of the citizens and for the role of the Tatmadaw in drafting the State Constitution.

In connection with this, the delegates from eight groups held group-wise discussions and are compiling proposal papers.

(See page 8)

NCCC needs to prepare for seven chapters, namely, election, political parties, provisions on emergency, amendment of the constitution, the State Flag, the emblem, the anthem and the capital, provisions of transitional periods and miscellaneous provisions.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 13 January, 2006

Work for national development together with the government

Good transport plays the most fundamental role in the development of a region. The easier the transport of a region, the better the trade and economy of that region. In the same way, its education, health and social conditions will also improve. This being the case, the government is taking systematic measures to link one region and another the length and breadth of the Union.

In accordance with the guidance by the Head of State, construction of motor roads and railroads is being extended to link the eastern, western, northern and southern parts of the Union. In addition to motor roads and railroads, bridges, big and small, are being built.

The Panlaung bridge built across the Panlaung river was inaugurated on the morning of 30 December. It was constructed by the special bridge construction group No. 14 of the Ministry of Construction in Singaing Township, Kyaukse District. It is a two-lane concrete reinforced bridge 24 feet wide and 400 feet long and can bear 60-ton loads. It cost K 140 million plus US\$ 0.007 million.

The Panlaung bridge is the 210th of the 180-feet-and-above-long bridges built during the time of the Tatmadaw Government and it is the 190th built by Public Works. Before 1988, Mandalay Division had only eighteen 180-feet-and-above-long bridges but it has 27 now. In addition, there are five bridges under construction. Because of the opening of the Panlaung bridge, people in Sagaing Division can now reach the Mandalay International Airport direct, not via Myitnge as before, and the Yangon-Mandalay highway through Paleik. Moreover, the bridge will enable people to travel easily from Paleik to TadaU and vice versa and surely contribute to social and economic development of the local people.

As the government is doing everything in its power for all-round development of the nation, the people on their part are required to cooperate with the government and lend themselves to all the nation-building work being carried out by the government.



Myanmar Livestock Services Co Ltd donates K 100,000 to the Hninzigone Home for the aged through Joint-secretary U Thein Aung of Administrative Board of the Home for the Aged.—H

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

Objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

- * To work in concert with the people for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic new nation
- * To strive for successful realization of the seven-point policy programme of the State
- * To crush every danger posed to the State hand in hand with people
- * To build a strong, capable and modern Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes

Yangon Division to put 500,000 acres of land under jetropa curcas

YANGON, 12 Jan— The opening ceremony of course on growing jetropa curcas organized by Myanma Agriculture Service under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was held this morning at Central Farm Research and Training Centre near Zayatkwint village in Hlegu Township, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

In his address, the commander urged trainees to thoroughly study their lessons lectured at the course as plans have been made to put 500,000 acres of land under jetropa curcas in Yangon Division in 2006.

Deputy General Manager U Aye Tun of MAS reported to the commander on growing methods of jetropa curcas.

After the ceremony, the commander and offi-

cial observed demonstration of jetropa curcas oil and running of power tillers using bio diesel processed from jetropa curcas.

Next, the commander and party viewed thriving honey orange in the compound of Vegetable and Fruit Division of MAS.

At the jetropa curcas nursery farm, the commander and party inspected 100,000 jetropa curcas saplings.

The commander also attended the ceremony to demonstrate growing of jetropa curcas.

Afterwards, the commander inspected growing of jetropa curcas on 20 acres of land.

Next, the commander and party also took part in the ceremony to grow jetropa curcas.—MNA

MWAF holds educative talks

YANGON, 12 Jan — Organized by Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, an educative talk was given at the Ministry of Transport this morning.

It was attended by Heads of department of MWAF Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo and Dr Daw Khin San Nwe, officials of MWAF, Chairpersons and executives of MAO of District and Township of Yangon Division and members of MWAF of the Ministry of Transport.

First, wife of the Minister for Transport Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha extended greetings. Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha presented membership applications to MWAF to Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo.

Deputy leader of Organizational Department Daw Thein Thein Nyunt gave the educative talk to those present and the ceremony ended.

MNA

ITF 14 & under Asian championship tennis tourney continues

YANGON, 12 Jan— International Tennis Federation (ITF) 14 & under Asian Championship 2006 Group (2) tennis tournament continued at Theinbyu tennis court this morning.

Aung Kyaw Naing in men's singles events and Aung Kyaw Naing and Aung Ko Oo in men's doubles events reached finals.

Khaing Nyein Tha in women's singles events and Khaing Nyein Tha and Thanda Aung in women's doubles events also reached finals.

The final matches of men's and women's singles and doubles events will be held tomorrow.

MNA

Malaysian entrepreneurs to visit Myanmar

YANGON, 12 Jan— Second Secretary of the Malaysian Embassy Mr Syahmi (a) Muhammad Syahmi Bin Jaafar met General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at UMFCFI this afternoon. They discussed matters on visit to Myanmar of a 16-member delegation of Kuala Lumpur & Selangor Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Malaysia on 24 January, entrepreneurs who will provide job opportunities for Myanmar workers and promotion of trade between the two countries. Myanmar entrepreneurs who wish to meet Malaysian entrepreneurs may register at UMFCFI. —MNA



Deputy leader of Organizational Department of MWAF Daw Thein Thein Nyunt speaking at a ceremony to give an educative talk.—MR

Chavez says US blocks Brazilian plane deal

CARACAS (Venezuela), 11 Jan—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Tuesday accused Washington of blocking a sale of Brazilian military aircraft to his government as part of a US campaign against his socialist revolution.

An ardent foe of US President George W Bush, Chavez last year sought out arms deals with Russia, Spain and Brazilian manufacturer Embraer to modernize the military in Venezuela, the world's No 5 oil exporter and a key US energy supplier.

US officials, who brand Chavez a negative influence in South America, worry his government's purchase of attack helicopters, patrol ships and new automatic rifles could test the stability of the region.

"The United States did not authorize Embraer to make the planes for Venezuela because Embraer uses US technology, just like they tried to stop the Spanish making boats for

us," Chavez told officers at a military academy.

"If we are independent, they want to neutralize our military power," he said. Washington must authorize companies such as Embraer to sell military systems containing US components to third countries. Caracas was negotiating to buy Tucano-type turboprop training planes from Brazil.

A spokesman for the

US Embassy in Caracas and an official at Embraer in Brazil declined to comment on Chavez's remarks. Venezuela last year signed a 2-billion-US-dollar deal to buy ships and transport aircraft from Spain and ordered military helicopters and 100,000 Kalashnikov rifles from Russia.

Venezuela and the United States are increasingly at odds as Chavez

promotes his socialist model as an alternative to Washington's political and trade influence in Latin America. Chavez accused Washington of trying to block the sale by Spain and has previously said US officials were sabotaging delivery of spares and maintenance for Venezuela's US-made F-16 fighter jets. US officials reject those accusations. — MNA/Reuters

New York City sued over right to film in public

NEW YORK, 11 Jan—An award-winning Indian documentary-maker sued New York City on Tuesday because police ordered him to stop filming

in public in 2005 and held him for four hours, apparently suspecting he was plotting an attack.

The New York Civil Liberties Union, acting as lawyers for filmmaker Rakesh Sharma, believes it is the first suit to challenge police restrictions on taking pictures in public following the 11 September attacks.

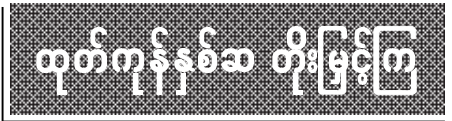
It alleges Sharma's constitutional rights to free speech and against unreasonable search and seizure were violated.

Sharma has won numerous international film awards for the documentaries "Final Solution," on the killing of Muslims in the northwest Indian state of Gujarat in 2002 and 2003, and for "After-shocks," on the 2001 earthquake in Kutch, Gujarat.

He was taking video with a hand-held camera

in midtown Manhattan for a project about New York taxi drivers last May when he was stopped by a plain-clothes officer, questioned on the sidewalk, taken in for more questioning and had his camera damaged, the federal lawsuit alleges.

The civil liberties union said it was concerned about a growing but undetermined number of incidents where police stop people from taking pictures in public. — MNA/Reuters



A worker removes snow from a building rooftop in the northern Japanese town of Tsunan, on 12 Jan, 2006. — INTERNET

Russian oil production up 2.4% in 2005

MOSCOW, 11 Jan—Russia pumped 470 million tons of oil in 2005, up 2.4 per cent year-on-year and hitting its highest level in five years, the Industry and Energy Ministry said on Tuesday.

Crude oil exports declined 1 per cent to 251 million tons last year, but these are in line for a boost with the construction of the East Siberia-Pacific oil pipeline.

President Vladimir Putin said earlier this month that Russia will start construction of the oil pipeline from Siberia to the Pacific Ocean this summer. The line will span about 4,000 kilometres and is expected to have the capacity to transport up to 80 million tons of oil a year.

Russia has the world's largest natural gas reserves and is the second largest producer and exporter of crude oil.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

2,210 US troops killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan — As of Wednesday, 11 Jan, 2006, at least 2,210 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,741 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is the same as the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Wednesday.

The British military has reported 98 deaths; Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 2,071 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,632 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers. — Internet

100 Thai workers injured in gas leakage

BANGKOK, 11 Jan—Some 100 workers at a factory making hard disk parts were rushed to hospitals late Tuesday night after two tanks of gas used for cleaning tools leaked in central Province of Pathum Thani, local police said on Wednesday.

Police said the leakage occurred just before midnight Tuesday at the Belton Industrial in Klong Luang District. About 2,000 workers were on the night shift, police said.

The plant manager Sangad Kosoomsuriya told police that the gas was vapourized form of acid used for cleaning tools at the plant. Two tanks leaked without explosion, he said.

Workers seeking the white fume from the tanks ran out of the plant but some 100 of them inhaled parts of the gas and suffered nausea. Some of

them became unconscious.

The workers were rushed to Thammasat Hospital and Phattara Thonburi Hospital. Three workers remained in the intensive care unit of Thammasat Hospital until Wednesday.

MNA/Xinhua

Cholera death toll rises to 17 in Rwanda

KIGALI, 11 Jan—Death toll of the recent outbreak of cholera in Rwanda has risen to seventeen, officials said here on Monday.

"We are facing a serious outbreak of cholera; so far, over 150 people have been admitted in Masaka Hospital, out of which 80 have already received treatment and have been discharged. Seventy are still admitted in the hospital," said Fidel Ndayisaba, the executive secretary of Rwandan capital Kigali.

The disease which erupted in December is attributed to the use of contaminated water from Nyabarongo River, he added. The official said that the state-run company for water and electricity, Electrogaz is expediting repairs on the water pipes.

"We are trying to supply enough clean water to the area with the help of the city council, police, Army and volunteers," he said. — MNA/Xinhua



The wreckage of a car lies on a roadside after a bomb attack near Baquba, northeast of Baghdad, on 9 Jan, 2006. An Iraqi army officer and a civilian died while four others were wounded in the attack, police said. — INTERNET

Report says million pupils at poor schools in England

LONDON, 11 Jan—Around a million pupils are studying at poorly performing schools in England but the number of failing schools is falling, an official report said on Wednesday.

It also found the number of teachers applying to be head teachers was dropping, on a perception that heads were under too much pressure.

The National Audit Office found 1,557 schools across the country were "poorly performing", educating 980,000 pupils or around 13 per cent of all school students.

The schools represent around 23 per cent of secondary schools and 4 per cent of primary schools.

Edward Leigh, Chairman of the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee, said pupils were being let down by the quality of their school education.

"Although the number of poorly performing schools has fallen, it is tragic that so many pupils are still not getting the

education they deserve," he said.

"Most of these schools need better leaders and governors, higher standards of teaching, and more effective support from their local authority."

The Audit Office said the government was spending around 840 million pounds a year in various programmes to either turn schools around or prevent them failing in the first place.

Some 577 of the substandard schools have been identified as needing improvement by the government school inspector Ofsted.

Of these, 242 are in "special measures" after Ofsted judged them to be failing to provide an acceptable standard of education.

But the Audit Office said the number of failing schools in special

measures had fallen by half between 1998 and 2005.

The remaining 980 schools had been earmarked as poor performers by the Department for Education and Skills.

The Audit Office said the number of primaries in the figures could rise as the Education Department has only recently started identifying poorly performing primary schools.

MNA/Reuters



A Chinese woman walks past a home appliance store in Shanghai, China, recently. — INTERNET

Iraq still a soft target for suicide bombers

BAGHDAD, 11 Jan—As the past week has shown, death tolls in suicide bombings are appallingly high in Iraq generally

much higher than elsewhere in the world.

Analysts say this is because Iraqi security checks are still sporadic despite US training, policemen are often ill-equipped and ill-disciplined, public gatherings tend to be large and chaotic, and high-grade explosives are readily available.

"Security just isn't good enough to cope in Iraq," said Mustafa Alani, an Iraqi consultant with the Gulf Research Centre

in Dubai. "Until it improves, we'll keep on seeing these very high death tolls from suicide bombings."

Only last week, two bombers struck in the cities of Kerbala and Ramadi. Both were alone and on foot, but they still managed to kill 120 people between them and injure around 200. By contrast, no suicide bomber in Israel has managed to kill more than six people in a single blast for well over a year.

Iraq's vulnerability to such attacks was exposed again on Monday when two bombers dressed as senior police officers walked through the main checkpoint of the Interior Ministry compound in Baghdad and killed 28 people.

With the US ambassador at a nearby police ceremony, security should have been solid, but al Qaeda, which claimed responsibility, said the bombers evaded nine checkpoints.

They also got hold of high-level security passes that enabled them to get inside the compound and would have admitted them to the ministry building itself.

Internet

African swine fever kills 2,000 pigs in northwestern Uganda

KAMPALA, 11 Jan — Over 2,000 pigs have died of African swine fever in Adjumani District, northwestern Uganda in the last one week, local Press reported on Monday.

Dozens of rotting carcasses on Thursday lay in the villages while many other pigs were being given out to the residents to eat, a report from Adjumani said.

Local veterinary officer Christopher Dratele confirmed the report, saying that "it's true the disease has hit the area and our department is trying hard to contain the pandemic from spreading further".

Dratele said the worst affected sub-counties

include Pakelle, Dzaipi and Ofua where over 1,500 pigs had been reported dead in the last five days.

"This type of disease spreads very fast especially if proactive measures are not taken in time by the farmers. We have been advising them to keep their pigs indoors to avoid catching the disease since it can even be spread through eating the bones of the dead animals," he said.

Dratele added that

they were still tracing the origin of the epidemic that kills about 100 pigs in the affected areas on a daily basis.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing declares war on spitting, littering on streets

BEIJING, 11 Jan — China's capital Beijing has vowed to eradicate five boorish behaviours among its citizens this year, including spitting and littering on the street.

For the citizens' convenience, Beijing will set up trash boxes at every 100 metres in the city's major streets and other public areas and provide handy sanitary bags for people to spit into on buses, taxis and other public facilities.

Most Beijingers said hawking phlegm and throwing wastes onto the pavement were among the five most disgusting habits in a survey among 10,000 citizens last November, according to officials with Beijing office for the promotion of social ethics.

It was also considered rude for pedestrians to run about the road amid heavy traffic, for passengers to create a rowdy scrum while getting on buses and for pet owners to allow their animals to relieve themselves on the streets,

the officials said at a meeting on the capital's ethnic building on Monday.

MNA/Xinhua

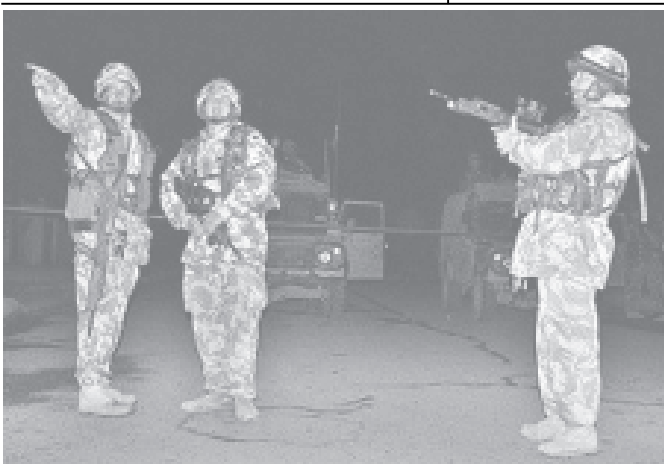
Ocean disasters leave 371 people dead, missing in China in 2005

BEIJING, 11 Jan—Ocean disasters left 371 people dead and missing in China in 2005, in addition to 33.24 billion yuan (approximately four billion US dollars) of direct economic losses, according to a yearly report on ocean disasters issued by the State Oceanic Administration.

The economic losses were six times that of 2004, and also the biggest ever since 1949 when the People's Republic of China was founded, the report said. "China saw frequent occurrences of ocean disasters in the year 2005, which affected wide-ranging areas," it said.

A total of 176 ocean disasters, including storm tide, red tide, ocean wave, and oil spill, were reported in the past year, affecting all the 11 Chinese provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions along the coast, such as Liaoning, Tianjin, Shanghai, Fujian, Guangdong and Hainan, statistics show.

MNA/Xinhua



British troops cordon off the area following a car bombing in the centre of the southern city of Basra recently. — INTERNET

Most US states ill prepared for medical crises

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan— Most US states are ill prepared for emergency medical crises such as terror attacks, natural disasters or flu outbreaks, according to a report released by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) on Tuesday.

The organization gave an overall grade of C-minus to emergency care in the 50 US states and the District of Columbia, with more than half earning below-average scores in areas dealing with the availability of hospital beds and emergency specialists, immunization rates, injury-prevention programmes, malpractice

laws and sophistication of 911 telephone systems.

In the report, no state received an A grade. California, Massachusetts, Connecticut and the District of Columbia scored the highest, with overall ratings of B.

Overall, more than 80 percent of the states earned poor or near-failing grades.

At the bottom, earn-

ing D grades, are Arkansas, Idaho and Utah.

The report supported what many Americans have experienced directly — long waits in overcrowded emergency rooms, loss of health insurance, and specialist shortages in areas such as neurosurgery and obstetrics. Many patients are facing higher bills and travelling longer distances to receive necessary care, it

said.

From 1990 to 1999, hospitals across the United States cut 107,000 beds, 7,800 of which are critical-care beds, according to the report.

At the same time, more and more people sought care with emergency department visits increasing by 5 million a year, hitting 144 million patient visits in 2003, the last year for which data were available.

MNA/Xinhua



Members of the Special Action Force of the Philippine National Police (PNP) guard the main gate of the US Embassy in Manila, on 12 Jan, 2006.—INTERNET

Britain's Morrison to cut 1,600 jobs as depots close

LONDON, 11 Jan — Britain's Wm Morrison Supermarkets Plc said on Tuesday around 1,600 jobs would be cut when it closes two distribution centres.

The country's fourth-largest grocer said it was closing the depots in Kent in south-east England and Bristol in western England after reviewing its distribution network following its three billion-pound (5.3 billion US dollars) takeover of the Safeway supermarket chain in March 2004.

"We announced in September that the depots

were being reviewed following the Safeway takeover and the planned closure of some stores and we can confirm now that the Aylesford and Bristol centres are to shut," a Morrisons spokesman said. "The figure of 1,600 job cuts is about right," he added.

Morrisons said in a statement it aimed to minimize the redundancies and would be talking with staff about alternative employment options at the group.

Morrison, whose acquisition of the Safeway group resulted in spiralling costs and a sequence of profit warnings, recently sold five stores to supermarket firm Waitrose.

It also sold 30 fuel stations and convenience stores to supermarket rival Tesco Plc. Morrison shares were steady at 196-1/2 pence by 1031 GMT, valuing the business at around 5.2 billion pounds.

MNA/Reuters

Mozambique rains kill 22, cyclone alert declared

JOHANNESBURG, 11 Jan — At least 22 people have been swept to their deaths in Mozambique and thousands more have fled heavy rains there and in neighbouring South Africa and Malawi, emergency officials said on Tuesday.

Government officials in Mozambique said the death toll had risen sharply from the initial 8 reported on 3 January, and heavy rains were expected to continue until March, forcing the government to put the country on a cyclone alert.

Rains had fuelled the spread of disease, with 114 cases of cholera reported in the central Sofala region, but Mozambique had contained the crisis well and there were no deaths from cholera, State Administration Minister Lucas Chomera said.

"The death toll stands at 22. Heavy rains continue but there is no cause for alarm yet," said a senior emergency official.

Officials said Mozambique's major rivers remained near the 7-metre flood alarm level but were not a concern at the moment.

Mozambique weather services predicted rain would continue to fall over the entire week. Meteorologists

have forecast normal to above-normal levels of rainfall in central and northern Mozambique to the end of the rainy season in March.

Southern Mozambique is expected to see normal to below-normal rain.

In 2000, devastating floods in Mozambique killed an estimated 700 people and made up to 500,000

homeless. Rains damaged roads and other infrastructure and threatened food supplies to the needy, officials said.

Rains had made it difficult for relief workers to distribute food to some 800,000 people cut off in the Sofala and Gazaregions where stocks were declining fast, one official said.

MNA/Reuters

India among top ten world travel destinations

HOUSTON, 11 Jan — India figures among the top ten world travel destinations and is the fifth choicest place to visit.

According to the latest list of the Top Travel Destinations by iExplore, an online seller of adventure and experiential travel, India ranks amongst the fifth choicest place to visit in the world in 2004 and 2005.

Egypt, Peru, Galapagos and China are the first four top travel destinations.

Other destinations preferred after India are South Africa, France, Italy, New Zealand and Alaska.

Destinations that showed strong growth in 2005 included Morocco (12th), Argentina (14th) and Jordan (16th). Bumped from last year's top ten were Chile (20th) and Costa Rica (40th).

MNA/PTI

Explosion at Dutch shopping centre

AMSTERDAM, 11 Jan — An explosion at a shopping centre, possibly caused by gas, in the central Dutch city of Utrecht has injured several people, police said on Tuesday.

"There has been a large explosion at a shopping centre ... We have heard from the fire brigade radio that it may have been a gas explosion. We cannot confirm this," a police spokeswoman said.

The spokeswoman said people were wounded in the blast but could not give any numbers or details. — MNA/Reuters

23 killed in Morocco coach crash

RABAT, 11 Jan — Twenty-three people were killed and 63 injured when two coaches collided on a road in southern Morocco on Tuesday, state news agency MAP reported.

The accident, which took place 20 kilometres (12 miles) from the tourist city of Marrakesh, was blamed on excessive speed, MAP said, citing local authorities.

The Moroccan Government launched a road safety campaign two years ago after it was estimated that around 10 people died everyday in road accidents that cost the country 11 billion dirhams (1.21 billion US dollars) a year. — MNA/Reuters

Three die in rockfall at S African mine

JOHANNESBURG, 11 Jan — Three people died and four were injured in a rockfall at AngloGold Ashanti's TauTona mine near Carletonville on Tuesday, the company said in a statement.

The fall was caused by a seismic event with a 2.4 magnitude which occurred some 3 kilometres below the surface at 11.37 am (0937 GMT).

Two of the four injured were seriously hurt, according to a report from South African Press Association. TauTona mine was in the process of notifying the families of the employees involved.

The Department of Minerals and Energy and the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) had been informed.—MNA/Xinhua

Three killed in fire in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 11 Jan — An adult and two children died on Tuesday when their home was extensively damaged by fire in Secunda, about 100 kilometres east of Johannesburg.

"The bodies are being removed now," said Mpumalanga police spokeswoman Captain Tanya Oosthuysen. She said it was too early to reveal the identity of the deceased, but police believed it was a father and his children who had died in the fire.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi police secure the main entrance of the Ministry of Interior, on 9 Jan, 2006, in Baghdad, Iraq, moments earlier guerillas attacked the ministry during National Police Day celebrations, killing 29. — INTERNET

Mining sector witnesses sustained progress

Increased output of mineral resources in the time of the Tatmadaw Government

Increased output of mineral resources

Devoting all its energies to national development, the Tatmadaw government, relying on own strength, is seeking various ways and means to exploit minerals in all parts of the country and thanks to these relentless efforts, precious gems and minerals have been unearthed year by year. Coal is one of the



Coal-fired power station being run in Tikit Region in Shan State (North).

Increase in minerals mined

Sr	Subject	1988	2005	Progress
1	Coal (metric ton)	39332	367025	327693
2	Antimony (metric ton)	-	5470	5470
3	Marble (metric ton)	-	4064	4064
4	Gypsum (metric ton)	21188	72196	51008
5	Fireproof soil (metric ton)	-	43654	43654
6	Soft soil (metric ton)	-	7317	7317
7	Sandstone (metric ton)	-	10533	10533

minerals found in Myanmar. In the past, there was only 2 coal mining blocks namely Kalaywa coal mine and Namma coal mine, but now, there are 82 coal mining blocks in the country. Increase in the number of coal mining blocks fulfils the fuel needs of the country. There were very few antimony and marble mining blocks in the past but now the number of antimony and marble blocks has increased up to 68 each and 18 blocks of fireproof soil, 11 blocks of soft soil and 2 blocks of sandstone has emerged. Moreover, the number of gypsum blocks has reached 7 from one in the past. The table shows minerals exploited in ores of the country in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

Vietnam's electronics export to surge in 2006

HANOI, 11 Jan— Vietnam is expected to earn two billion US dollars from exporting electronics goods this year, up 33.3 per cent against last year, said an industry group official on Tuesday.

"We reaped nearly 1.5 billion dollars from exporting electronics goods, including computers, in 2005. By penetrating deeply into both traditional and new markets, including Japan, some Southeast Asian countries, China, South Korea and France, we can make export turnover of two billion dollars this year," said Tran Quang Hung, general secretary of the Vietnam Electronic Industries Association.

To gain bigger export revenues and maintain domestic market shares under pressure of regional tariff reduction roadmaps, electronics producers in Vietnam, many of them are making electronics appliances under outsourcing contracts with foreign firms, should increase the added value in their products, which currently stands at only 10-15 per cent, he said. The producers should either design their own product models, instead of relying on models supplied by the foreign firms, or strengthen production of components and spare parts for export, he said, noting that foreign-invested enterprises in Vietnam are doing that very well. "We've proposed the government slash the current import tariffs of 5-20 per cent imposed on electronics components to zero per cent. I think the government will agree with our proposal soon," Hung said. *MNA/Xinhua*

Excavation brings out vital clues about primitive human beings

RANCHI, 11 Jan— The discovery of a huge stone engraved into the shape of primitive tools has led the archeologists to believe that Basadera Village of East Singhbhum District in the eastern state of Jharkhand could shed light on important evidence about the transformation of primitive human beings.

"We stumbled upon several axes, scrapers and choppers near a stream, Dharagiri, in Ghatsila block recently and the tools are strikingly similar to the ones found at excavations at Sohan Valley in northern state of Jammu and Kashmir, Narmada Valley in central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh and Cauvery-Godavari Valley in south," the Superintending Archaeologist of the Archaeological Survey of India, O N Chauhan told PTI. The deep elephant-shaped furrows stunningly resembled 'stegodon', the first of the true elephants that had probably roamed in this part of the world during the 'pleistocene' period, the official said.

As per the records, 'stegodon' was a long-legged extinct elephant that lived in Asia and Africa between 12 million years and one million years ago during the 'pleistocene' period. The pleistocene period fell between 'pliocene' and 'holcene' phases. Explaining the physical features on the engraved boulder that forms the shape of an elephant, Chauhan said the length of the 'elongated' trunk is very long and the about four-inch imprint point to a primitive species. "This unusual figure of an elephant on the stone at Basadera takes one back to a primitive period," he said. Describing the tools — 'bifacial' and 'unifacial' — found at Basadera in the district as 'mini-polished' and 'crude', Chauhan said his team would explore the site to determine evidence of the life-style of 'homo sapiens' (ancient human beings) who roamed on earth after 'homo erectus' 1.2 million years ago. *MNA/PTI*

China highways to carry 1.855 bln passengers during holiday

BEIJING, 11 Jan— With the Spring Festival, or the traditional Chinese New Year, approaching, China predicted that its highway network will carry a massive 1.855 billion passengers during the upcoming holiday season, up 3 per cent from the same period last year.

China has identified a 40-day period — from January 14 to February 22 — as the peak travel season, while the Spring Festival falls on 29, January. Waterways will transport 28 million passengers, up 1.5 per cent year-on-year, said the Ministry of Communications. People around China celebrate the Spring Festival as a special occasion for family reunion. For years, the nation's transportation system has been strained during the season, as millions of migrant workers and other Chinese flock back home and then return to the workplace in just two weeks. The ministry said as the Lunar Spring Festival comes not more than one month after the New Year's day, a large number of people, including students, migrant workers and other staffers will visit their homes in this short period. The ministry said about 700,000 vehicles and 20,000 ships are ready to transport passengers. *MNA/Xinhua*

Delegate Groups hold meetings to compile proposals

YANGON, 12 Jan — Delegate Groups of the National Convention — the Delegate Group of Peasants, the Delegate Group of Workers, the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia, the Delegate Group of State Service Personnel and the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons — held their group meetings at designated hall of Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township today.

Delegate Group of Peasants

The Delegate Group of Peasants held its meeting at the hall-4 this morning. U Mya Aye of Yangon Division presided over the meeting together with members of the panel of chairmen U Sai Tint

tion committee and assigned duties to it to submit the proposal on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.

After the meeting, the proposal compilation committee and members of the panel of chairmen held a discussion.

Delegate Group of Workers

The Delegate Group of Workers held its meeting at the hall-5. The meeting was presided over by U Khin Maung Aye of Sagaing Division together with members of the panel

of Yangon Division and U Bo Thein of Shan State (East) explained clarification made by the Chairman of NCC Work Committee concerning detailed basic principles for the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting chairman gave the concluding remarks.

After the meeting, members of the proposal compilation committee and members of the panel of chairmen compiled the proposal to be submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention.

Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia

The meeting of the



The meeting of delegate group of peasants in progress. — MNA

The meeting formed two proposal compilation groups and assigned duties to them to submit the proposal on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties

Hla Tin of the Ministry of Commerce.

The meeting was opened with a speech by the meeting chairman.

All the participants took part in the discussions to submit the pro-

posal of the Delegate Group of State Service Personnel on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.



The meeting of delegate group of workers in progress. — MNA



The meeting of delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia in progress. — MNA

Aung of Shan State (North) and U Kan Nyunt of Sagaing Division. Deputy Director U Myint Kyaing and Assistant Director Daw Myint Sein of Work Group-6 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee acted as MCs.

Cent per cent delegates attended the meeting. First, meeting chairman U Mya Aye of Yangon Division delivered a speech.

Next, the meeting set up a proposal compila-

tion committee and assigned duties to it to submit the proposal on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting was opened with an address by meeting chairman U Khin Maung Aye.

Members of the Panel of Chairmen of the group Dr Myo Thant Tin

of Yangon Division and U Bo Thein of Shan State (East) explained clarification made by the Chairman of NCC Work Committee concerning detailed basic principles for the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting chairman gave the concluding remarks.

of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution. Next, they compiled the proposals.

Delegate Group of State Service Personnel

The Delegate Group of State Service Personnel held its meeting at the hall-7. Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin of the Ministry of Health presided over the meeting together with members of the panel of chairmen U Myat Ko of the Ministry of Home Affairs and U

proposal of the Delegate Group of State Service Personnel on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

Group of Other Invited Persons

The meeting of the Group of Other Invited Persons was held at the meeting hall-8. U Aung Kham Hti of Shan State (South) Special Region-6 together with members of

U Aung Kham Hti gave an opening speech.

The delegates assigned the duties to the proposal compilation committee for compiling a proposal of the group on detailed basic principles concerning the Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Role of the Tatmadaw to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks.

MNA



The meeting of delegate group of State service personnel in progress. — MNA



The meeting of group of other invited persons in progress. — MNA

National Convention Convening ...

(From page 1)

He spoke of the need for the commission to study and prepare for seven chapters, namely, election, political parties, provisions on emergency, amendment of the constitution, the State Flag, the emblem, the anthem and the capital, provisions of transitional periods and miscellaneous provisions.

He said the National Convention Convening Commission, Work Committee and Management Committee are to discharge their functions until the National Convention ends and to make arrangements for convenience of the delegates regarding meals, health and accommodation.

Next, members of the commission discussed papers presented by the Work Committee and matters to be submitted to the National Convention Plenary Session.

Chairman of the commission the Secretary-1 took part in the discussions. The meeting ended at 11.30 am. — MNA

The Tatmadaw Government making...

(from page 16)

In studying progress of the politics, anarchism



U Sai Than Tun Lay of Shan State (East)
USDA.—MNA

occurred due to the 1988 disturbances, and the nation with lack of security reached the situation to lose Independence and sovereignty of the State. At that time, the Tatmadaw took responsibility of the State unavoidably for serving interests of the nation and the people.

After that, the Tatmadaw Government gave first priority to prevalence of law and order, peace and stability, smooth and secure transportation and fulfilment for requirements of the people.

In addition, the Government had laid down Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and non-disintegration of sovereignty — as national policy. Furthermore, four political objectives, four economic

objectives and four social objectives were adopted for the emergence of a modern and developed nation in the future.

Successes have been achieved due to these correct policies and objectives of the State. Therefore, national race armed groups that realized genuine goodwill and correct endeavours of the Government, had returned to the legal fold to make peace with the Government for ensuring national reconsolidation. The Tatmadaw Government made utmost efforts step by step for drafting an enduring State Constitution through national unity, and met with respective delegates for several times. Later, six objectives of the National Convention could be adopted.

With wishes of the entire nation, the National Convention in which delegates representing all strata of the people and national races are attending is being convened in line with six objectives of NC for drafting the enduring State Constitution. So far, 104 basic principles and detailed basic principles have been laid down. After that, the National Convention was adjourned temporarily.

Despite facing many difficulties, the Government made arrangements for designating 24 special development regions, and development of transport facilities, dams and embankments, education, health and other sectors in

accord with the policy on cent per cent equitable development of all parts of the Union without losing sight of the emergence of a democratic nation that the entire people long for. Moreover, the seven-point Road Map of the State was adopted and the National Convention that was adjourned due to internal and

State Constitution that will safeguard the interests of the people.

U Sai Than Tun Lay of Shan State (East) USDA discussed that the delegates representing all the people residing throughout the Union are attending the National Convention. It is important for the National Con-

in mind the four-point People's Desire, we must safeguard the people and National Convention being harmed. Shan State (East), the border area, plays a key role in maintaining the national prestige.

The state has lagged behind in developments due to many issues such

witnessed thanks to concerted efforts of the people and the State.

As a result of the national consolidation, border areas and national races development projects have been systematically implemented in the time of the Tatmadaw government. In addition, to improve the

In accord with the seven-point Road Map, the delegates upholding the Three Main National Causes are unitedly attending the NC so as to enable the nation to become a democratic one

external destructive acts was reconvened.

At present, internal and external destructive elements that do not want to see progress and achievements in political sector of the nation are trying to disturb the National Convention by using various ways and means. Therefore, the people are to guard against the danger posed by destructive elements through strength of the people.

All the national races, all strata of the people and political parties meet in the National Convention to drive stakes and to lay down cornerstones for the future State. Only when the first step of the seven-point Road Map meets with success, will all the people reach the goal—a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In conclusion, he urged all with Union Spirit to take part in drafting the

vention to draft a new enduring constitution. It is also the one that will create the rights of democracy for minority groups. In accord with the seven-point Road Map, the delegates upholding the Three Main National Causes are unitedly at-



Captain Chit Wai (Retd) of Kengtung Township WVO.—MNA

tending the NC so as to enable the nation to become a democratic one. The destructive elements and some big nations have been placing various kinds of obstacles to the National Convention. So, bearing

drugs, human-trafficking and lack of knowledge. However, it is known to all that Tatmadaw government is making relentless efforts for filling rural-urban development inequality gap, by implementing border and rural areas development projects. Kengtung is one of the 24 special development regions. These are genuine goodwill of the State.

It is important for the state to cultivate a sense of unity among all national races.

To enable the region to be a developed one, we have to live in unity and amity. In the 21st century, all the world nations are heading for progress. So, all national races of the Union must cultivate a sense of unity and amity for peace and progress. By doing so, the progress can be witnessed. So, we have to support the National Convention that is headed for the progress. We strongly support the National Convention.

Captain Chit Wai (Retd) of Kengtung Township WVO supported the NC saying that unlike the past periods, the significant developments can be

living standards of the national races in far-flung regions, a new Ministry on border areas was also formed.

In doing so, the far-flung areas were provided with transport and communication, education, health, agriculture and livestock breeding and supply of electricity facilities.

It contributes a lot towards the people in border areas. At the same time, having realized the genuine goodwill of the Tatmadaw government, the national races armed groups have returned to the legal fold. The national consolidation was built on peace and tranquillity. As a result, tasks were implemented to convene the National Convention for the emergence of the State constitution.

Therefore, the successful completion of the NC is the duty of all national races. It is understood that a genuine democracy will flourish in the nation by implementing the State's seven-point Road Map.

So, I support the National Convention.

(See page 9)



Mass meeting in support of the National Convention held in Kengtung, Shan State (East) in progress.—MNA

Bearing in mind the four-point People's Desire, we must safeguard the people and the National Convention from being harmed



The panel of chairmen at the mass meeting in support of National Convention held in Kengtung, Shan State (East) chanting slogans. — MNA

In accordance with the wishes of the entire nation, the National Convention in which delegates representing all strata of the people and national races are attending is being convened in line with six objectives of NC for drafting the enduring State Constitution. So far, 104 basic principles and detailed basic principles have been laid down.

Tatmadaw Government making...

(See Page 9)

Afterwards, Daw Nan San Hwam of Kengtung District Women's Affairs Organization seconded the motion in support of the motion in support of the National Convention. She said that the motion tabled by Shan State East USA Executive U Sai Than Tun Lay highlighted how important the National Convention is for the nation. But, the destructive elements holding negative views are scheming against the National Convention by all means.

Myanmar has good and friendly relationships with the neighbouring countries including ASEAN nations.

The Head of State and officials went to those countries on goodwill visits and Myanmar also warmly welcomed the goodwill visits to the nation. It stands witness to having local security in Myanmar.

Besides, they accused Myanmar of being involved with narcotic drugs, human rights, trafficking in human and money laundering. They are the only one-sided accusations discredit Myanmar having peace

and stability.

In 1992, the discussions of the National Convention were held for three times and agreements were achieved in principle. On 10 July 1992, the third discussion was held upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

For building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation which is also the national goal of the State, the basic foundation of the State, the National Convention was successfully launched by attendance of national races from all walks of life on 9 January 1993.

In August 2003, the



Daw Nan San Hwam of Kengtung District WAO. — MNA

Seven-Point Road Map was laid down for building a new modern developed and democratic na-



Those at the mass meeting in support of the National Convention held in Kengtung, Shan State (East) chanting slogans. — MNA

tion in accord with the enduring Constitution of the State.

As the first phase, the National Convention held from 1993 to 1996 had been able to adopt 104 basic principles.

Thus, she seconded the motion in support of the National Convention that will formulate the enduring Constitution which is the most appropriate one for the nation guaranteeing the full rights of citizens.

In conclusion, she urged the nationalities including people and Tatmadaw to actively play

a role for the success of the National Convention for the future nation.

Next, Daw Na Hka Bo seconded the motion in support the National Convention.

At such a time, the nation is in transition to democracy National Convention which is the first phase of the Seven-Point Road Map is being convened and the NC delegates are discussing the basic principles and the



Daw Na Hka Bo of Kengtung Township basic MCWA. — MNA

detailed principles for drafting the Constitution of the State.

But, it is heard that the National Convention has been convened with own accord of the government and these are the only instigations to mis-

led the people. Though there were two Constitution in 1947 and 1974, and the weaknesses of them caused the crises for the nation.

That is why the National Convention was convened in 1993 to be able to lay down the basic principles for drafting the enduring Constitution for the nation.

Before convening the National Convention, the government held discussions with representatives-elect of political parties, and independent representative to be able to convene the National Convention.

The reason why the discussions are being held at the National Convention to lay down the basic principles and the detailed basic principles is for adopting the Constitution essential for the future nation.

In conclusion, she seconded the motion in support of the National Convention that is the lifeblood of the nation and plays an important role in transition to democracy.

Advocate U Sai Kyaw

Zan of Ward 1 of Kengtung seconded the motion in support of the National Convention. He said that in the National Convention, national races and delegates of various strata are holding meetings to adopt detailed basic principles that need in drafting the Constitution. The six objectives of the National Convention are in conformity with the Union of Myanmar.

Over 1,000 delegates who are attending the National Convention came from all the national races and various strata of the people residing in the entire nation.

In laying down detailed basic principles, the delegates are holding discussions freely.

Colonialists made instigation among the national brethren in the colonial eras.

Nowadays, destructive elements are also sowing discord among the national people. Various national races are residing in unity and amity in States and Divisions of the country.

(See page 10)

At present, internal and external destructive elements that do not want to see progress and achievements in political sector of the nation are plotting to disturb the National Convention by using various ways and means. Therefore, the people are to guard against the danger posed by destructive elements through strength of the people.

Tatmadaw Government making...



Advocate U Sai Kyaw Zan of Kengtung.
MNA

(from page 9)
As the destructive elements are sowing discord among the national brethren, the national races groups who had returned to the legal fold should not misled by their propagation. At a time when the national brethren are performing their tasks with trust, no one can disunite among. At present, the na-

tional people enjoy fruitful results of the development of the nation. In conclusion, he supported the motion in support of the National Convention that will serve interest of the State in the future while urging all to live in unison.

Afterwards, town-



Townselder U Min Nyo of Kengtung. — MNA

selder U Min Nyo of Ward 5 of Kengtung seconded the motion in support of the National Convention. He said that progress can be witnessed in all aspects of the nation. Dailies, periodicals, radio and TV reported that the nation meets with success in

The successful completion of the NC is the duty of all national races. It is understood that a genuine democracy will flourish in the nation by implementing the State's seven-point Road Map.

health, education, transport and economic sectors with momentum.

It is visible that some organizations that do not want to see progress of the nation are perpetrating destructive acts.

Due to their destructive acts, about 150 factories were closed down and workers lost their jobs.

The destructive elements are satisfied that economic sanction was imposed on Myanmar. Actually, national people are to suffer.

They should consider difficulties of jobless employees' families. Despite saying that they are doing good for the people, they are causing troubles to the people in reality.

They committed acts harming lives of the people by using sweet words. Therefore, those who

treated the people unfairly are the common enemy.

In conclusion, he strongly denounced internal and external destructive elements that are trying to impose economic sanctions on Myanmar and broadcasting units that air false and fabricated news concerning the Na-

tional Convention, and he supported the National Convention.

The mass meeting announced that all the participants supported the National Convention.

Later, the mass meeting ended with chanting of the slogans.

MNA

It is important for the State to cultivate a sense of unity among all national races. To enable the region to be a developed one, we have to live in unity and amity. In the 21st century, all the world nations are heading for progress. So, all national races of the Union must cultivate a sense of unity and amity for peace and progress.



Kengtung District USDA Executive Daw Nan Hwam Kham and Kengtung Township USDA Executive Daw Nan Wo Kham. — MNA



Blazon Department Stores in Yangon and Mandalay hold special sales

Digital cameras put on sale at Blazon Department Stores.

MNA

YANGON, 12 Jan — As part of sales promotion programmes, Blazon Department Stores in Yangon and Mandalay are holding special sales from 9.30 am to 8.30 pm daily on 7 to 15 January.

Those who wish to purchase quality digital cameras may join the special sales of Blazon. At the department stores, Cannon, Panasonic and Sony

brand digital cameras are being sold at special prices. The buyers can win memory card and other gifts.

Yangon Blazon Department Store is located at 72, corner of U Wisara Road and Chindwin Road in Kamayut Township, and a similar store in Mandalay at 462 on 80th Street between 28th and 29th Streets.

MNA

New digital photo copier introduced

YANGON, 12 Jan — A ceremony to introduce QSS brand digital photo copier jointly imported by Noritsu Singapore Pte Ltd and Accel International

Co Ltd was held at Traders Hotel today.

Managing Director of Accel Int'l Co Ltd Mr Alvin Law extended greetings and Country Sales Manager of Noritsu Singapore Pte Ltd Mr Leong made a speech.

Noritsu Business Manager of Accel Int'l Co Ltd U Thiha Zaw explained matters related to QSS brand digital photo copier.

Various kinds of cards can be made with the use of new brand photo copier in a short time. Moreover, the company is selling Noritsu Digital Copier and Noritsu film developer. For more details, facts, contact No 442/426, sixth floor, Forest Joint Venture Commercial Building, Botahtaung Pagoda Road, Yangon, (Tel:

202092/ 202096).

Pacific digital color lab on Anawrahta Street, here, is offering service of copying photos to the customers with QSS-3411 machines.

MNA



Noritsu Singapore Pte Ltd awards prize to an official of Accel International Co Ltd for best performance to use Noritsu Digital Copiers. — MNA



International Fair 2006

organized by

Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association

(MAWFA)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Pyay Road

14th January 2006
Saturday 10 A.M.

The detailed basic principles to be adopted meet the standard of the international principles



*U Sai
Thein
Aung
of
Kachin
State.
MNA*

YANGON, 12 Jan—*The following is a translation of suggestions of Delegate Group of National Races submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Sai Thein Aung of Kachin State 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 5 January at Nyaungghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

I will now submit the delegate group's suggestions on the detailed basic principles concerning the legislation of the Region and State Hluttaws that should be adopted for the Constitution.

The Work Committee Chairman explained the 28 detailed basic principles for legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, 19 detailed basic principles for legislation of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and 23 detailed basic principles for the legislation of the Region and State Hluttaws point by point. In addition the Work Committee Chairman explained the necessary sessions of the 1947 Constitution and related articles of the 1974 Constitution and important fact about the constitutions of the world nations.

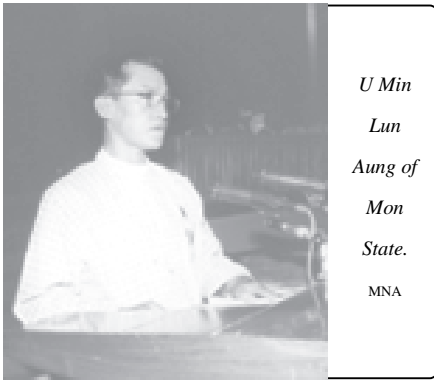
At the plenary session of the National Convention, the Work Committee Chairman gave a comprehensive clarification on the legislation of the Region and State Hluttaws. Thus, in my view, the following detailed basic principles as clarified by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted as the provisions of the Constitution.

1. (a) The day the tenure of region or state Hluttaws comes into force is that of the People's Hluttaw.
- (b) The first regular meeting of region and state Hluttaws shall begin in 15 days after the commencement of the tenure of the Hluttaws.
2. (a) The State Peace and Development Council shall call the first regular meeting of region or state Hluttaws after the State Constitution has gone into force.
- (b) The present Speaker of region or state Hluttaws shall call the first regular session for the next tenures of region or state Hluttaw in accordance with the provisions of the State Constitution.
3. (a) Representatives of region or state Hluttaws shall take oaths in front of the Speaker of region or state Hluttaws at the first regular meeting of region or state Hluttaws.
- (b) Representatives of region or state Hluttaws who failed to attend the first regular meeting for various reasons shall take oaths at the meeting they attend for the first time before the meeting chairman.
4. The Speaker of the region or state Hluttaw shall call 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. (a) Recording the speeches delivered by the State president
- (b) Reading and recording messages sent by the State president and other messages sent under the permission of the chairman.
- (c) Recording the speeches delivered by region or state prime minister
- (d) Submission, discussing and approval of draft of law
- (e) Dealing with or judgment on matters region or state Hluttaws shall carry out in line with provisions of the constitution and an existing law

- (f) Discussion, judgment and recording the reports to be submitted to region or state Hluttaws
- (g) Submission, discussion and judgment of proposals
- (i) Raising queries and replying them
- (j) Carrying out matters permitted by chairmen of region or state Hluttaws
6. (a) Speakers of respective region or state Hluttaws shall have the right to call a special or emergency meeting of region or state Hluttaws.
- (b) Speakers of respective region or state Hluttaws shall call a special or emergency meeting of region or state as soon as possible in the directive of the Prime Minister for region or state.
- (c) Speakers of respective region or state Hluttaws shall call a special meeting of region or state as soon as possible if at least one-fourths of the members of region or state Hluttaws call for a meeting of region or state Hluttaw.
7. (a) The first day meeting of the region or state Hluttaws shall be considered to be valid if more than half the number of members who have the right to attend the sessions of the region or state Hluttaws, are present. If the meeting is not valid it shall be postponed.
- (b) The postponed meetings and the valid meetings, that are extended, shall be considered to be valid if at least one-thirds of the members, who have the right to attend a meeting of region or state Hluttaws, are present.
8. (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting in the region or state Hluttaws 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 or the Deputy 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. The region or state Hluttaw may declare the seat of the region or state Hluttaw member vacant in accord with the rules prescribed if he is absent, without asking the region or state Hluttaw for leave, from a session of the region or state Hluttaw for at least 15 days successively. In computing the absent 15 days from a session of the region or state Hluttaw, the postponed period of the session shall not be included.
10. A region or state Hluttaw shall have the power to act despite some vacancies in the membership. Any functions in the Hluttaw shall be valid notwithstanding that it is exposed subsequently that an unentitled person attended a session, voted, or took part in the functions.
11. The activities and records of the region and state Hluttaws shall be released for the knowledge of the people. However, the activities and records that shall be restricted under an act or the order of the region and state Hluttaws shall not be released.
12. Region and state Hluttaws have the right to make laws that cover entire or part of the region or state in the matters stated in the Region or State Legislative List.
13. (a) (1) to invest a region or state level body formed under the Constitution with the power to release bylaws, rules and regulations derived from that law
- (2) to invest a body concerned or an authorized body with the power to release notifications, orders, directives and producers derived from that law
- (b) bylaws, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and producers enacted under the power entrusted by a law shall be in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution and respective laws
- (c) after releasing a bylaw, rule or regulation enacted under the law promulgated by region or state Hluttaw, the body concerned shall, under the permission of the Speaker, submit the bylaw, rule or regulation to members at the nearest session of region or state Hluttaw
- (d) if it is found out that a bylaw, rule or regulation is not in conformity with the provisions of the law concerned, Hluttaw members shall have the right to submit a proposal to region or state Hluttaw within 90 days from the date the

- bylaw, rule or regulation is released so as to abolish the bylaw, rule or regulation
- (e) if region or state Hluttaw decides to nullify or amend a bylaw, rule or regulation, it shall not harm the matters carried out before abrogation of the bylaw, rule or regulation
 14. (a) matters that calls for decisions and approval of region or state Hluttaw shall be:
 - (1) at the ongoing session if region or state Hluttaw is in session
 - (2) at the nearest session if region or state Hluttaw is not in session
 - (3) at a special or emergency meeting in the interests of the people if they need to be tackled urgently
 15. (a) Region and state level bodies formed under the Constitution shall, of the matters stated in the Region and State Legislative List, have the right to submit bills on matters solely administered by region or state government, to region or state Hluttaw in accord with the procedures prescribed.
 - (b) Regional plans, annual budget and taxation matters that region and state government shall have the right to solely submit, shall be presented to region or state Hluttaw in accord with the procedures prescribed.
 16. Region and state Hluttaws shall make a decision if region and state governments submit budget of region or state in accord with the procedures prescribed Region or state Hluttaws shall make a decision if region or state governments submit budget of region or state in accord with the procedures prescribed.
 17. Region or state Hluttaws shall make a decision if region or state governments submit budget of region or state in accord with the procedures prescribed.
 18. (a) Region or state chief minister shall—
 - (1) sign and declare the bills approved by region or state Hluttaw, as a law within seven days from the date of reception.
 - (2) the bills approved by self-administered divisions or self-administered regions shall be declared as a law within 14 days from the date of reception.
 - (b) Even though chief minister fails to ratify the bills in a fixed period, the bills shall be a law on the date after the expiry of the period as if prime minister ratified the bills.
 - (c) The laws ratified by region or state prime minister and the laws that are to be assumed as if ratified by region or state prime minister shall be declared in the State Gazette. This law is attached with no separate statements, it shall be come into force commencing from the date of declaration.
 19. (a) Among the members representing a region or state level body formed under the Constitution, members of region or state Hluttaw shall have the right to hold discussions and vote to resolve the bills or matters related to their bodies at the Hluttaw sessions.
 - (b) Among the members representing a region or state level body formed under the Constitution, members of bodies who are not Hluttaw members shall have the right to hold discussions to resolve the bills or matters related to their bodies at the Hluttaw sessions under the permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.
 20. The Speaker of region or state Hluttaw shall—
 - (a) supervise sessions of region or state Hluttaw
 - (b) invite the President of the State if he informs he wishes to deliver a speech at a session of region or state Hluttaw
 - (c) make arrangements if the region or state prime minister informs he wishes to deliver a speech
 - (d) have the right, if necessary, to invite a member or a person representing a region or state level body to a session of the region or state Hluttaw to make clarification at the region or state Hluttaw
 - (e) resolve duties and powers entrusted under the Constitution or a law
 21. (a) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and region and state Hluttaw Act, members of region and state Hluttaws shall have the freedom

“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” is appropriate



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YANGON, 12 Jan— *The following is a translation of suggestions of Delegate Group of Peasants submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Min Lun Aung of Mon State 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 5 January at Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

The delegate group of peasants see the detailed basic principle “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” appropriate to be laid down for the constitution.

Concerning the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw regular session, the point “The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall call the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at least once a year. The maximum time limit between one meeting and another should not exceed 12 months” should be laid down as detailed basic principle to be stipulated in the Constitution.

The delegate group of peasants agree that the detailed basic principle “The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall call a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as necessary” should be adopted.

In our view the adoption of the detailed basic principle “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” is appropriate.

Concerning the number of hluttaw members required to call the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, we support that the detailed basic principle “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”.

The delegate group finds the para 7 and its sub paras appropriate to be adopted as detailed basic principle. In connection with the voting, the following detailed basic principle should be adopted:

“(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.”

As regards the absence without leave of the hluttaw members and vacant seats, we would like to adopt the para 9 and para 10 as detailed basic principles for the Constitution.

Concerning the detailed basic principle “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” we find it suitable for the Constitution. Similarly, we are in support of the paras 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee explained at the plenary session of the National Convention.

As for the detailed basic principle “Except the bills that are prescribed by the Constitution to be discussed and decided exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the bills submitted by the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be discussed initially at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw according to the prescribed provisions” we find its appropriate for the Constitution. The points stated in the para 8 are also appropriate for the Constitution.

In connection with the disagreements between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, the detailed basic principle “If there arises disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning a bill, the bill should be discussed and approved at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw” should be adopted. We are in support of the detailed basic principle stated in the paras 20 and 21 which concern the approval of the bills to be promulgated as Acts and sending back of the bills to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

As regards the promulgation of the Acts in the gazette, we find the detailed basic principle “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” suitable for the Constitution.

The detailed basic principle “Members of the organizations representing the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution while attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker shall explain the bills and other matters in connection with their respective organizations” concerning the representatives of the Union level organizations should be adopted. We have no objection to the points of the para 24 explained by the Work Committee Chairman.

Concerning the rights of the Union level organizations to make submissions at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, we agree that the detailed basic principle “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” should be adopted. Moreover, we have no objections to the paras 26 and 27.

Concerning the records, we agree that the detailed basic principle “The reports, papers and hluttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged” should be adopted.

As the delegate group finds the 28 points explained by the Work Committee chairman complete and comprehensive, it sees them appropriate for the Constitution, and the group has no further suggestions. Now U Saw Lin Aung, a delegate of peasants, of Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Division will present the sector concerning the legislation of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.—MNA

The detailed basic principles to be adopted meet the standard of the international principles

(from page 11)

of speech and vote at region and state Hluttaw, and at the committee and body formed by themselves. Action shall be taken against a member under region or state Hluttaw Act not under other laws if action is necessary regarding discussions and activities at region or state Hluttaw, and Hluttaw committees and bodies.

- (b) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and region and state Hluttaw Act, members or persons representing region or state level body formed under the Constitution who are permitted or invited to a session of region or state Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech at region and state Hluttaw and at the committees formed by region and state Hluttaw. Action shall be taken against members or persons of region or state Hluttaw and the committees and the committees and bodies formed by region or state Hluttaw under region or state Hluttaw Act not under other laws if action is necessary regarding discussions and activities at region or state Hluttaw and at the committees and bodies formed by region or state Hluttaw.
- (c) Action shall be taken against members and persons stated in the paragraphs (a) and (b) in accord with the laws if they commit physical attack in enjoying such a privilege

22. (a) Reliable evidences shall be submitted to the

Speaker of region or state Hluttaw if action is necessary to arrest a member of region or state Hluttaw attending a session of region or state Hluttaw or a person attending that meeting under the permission or invitation of the Hluttaw Speaker. No such arrest shall be made without a prior approval of the region or state Hluttaw Speaker.

- (b) Reliable evidences shall be submitted to the Speaker of the Hluttaw concerned through the committee or the head of the committee if action is necessary to arrest a member of the committee or body attending a session of the committee or body formed by region or state Hluttaw. No such arrest shall be made without a prior approval of the Hluttaw Speaker.
- (c) Reliable evidences in support thereof shall be submitted to the Speaker of region or state Hluttaw as soon as possible if a member of region or state Hluttaw is arrested while region or state Hluttaw, or committee and body formed by region or state Hluttaw are not in session

23. No person shall be liable to in respect of reports, publications and Hluttaw records published and distributed by or under the permission of region or state Hluttaw.

Now I would like to present a separate suggestion. At a meeting, a hluttaw member can stay neutral without casting his vote for the group supporting a matter or the group opposing the same matter. It is an international

practice of the parliamentary meetings of world nations and the meetings of the UN bodies.

I present my suggestion in support of the detailed basic principle “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”. The detailed basic principle should be adopted.

In my view, the detailed basic principle of the para 8 (a) of the legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the detailed basic principle of the para 7 (a) (i) of the legislation of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and the detailed basic principle of the para 8 (a) of the legislation of the Region and State Hluttaws should be added with the prescription “A hluttaw member shall stay neutral if he wishes to stay neutral without casting his vote”.

The detailed basic principles to be adopted meet the standard of the international principles. The detailed basic principles ensure freedom of expression at the hluttaws, express the duties and rights of the hluttaw members. We are pleased to see that the Work Committee laid down 70 detailed basic principles after studying a wide array of sectors including international practices in drafting a constitution, historical lessons of Myanmar, and the matters concerned from various angles. The delegate group of peasants firmly support the detailed basic principles explained by the Work Committee Chairman.

MNA

As the delegate group find the 19 points explained by the Work Committee Chairman complete and comprehensive, it sees them appropriate for the Constitution

YANGON, 12 Jan— *The following is a translation of suggestions of Delegate Group of Peasants submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Saw Lin Aung of Bago Division 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 5 January at Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

In connection with the first session of the two hluttaws, we are in support of the following detailed basic principle:

- (a) The first session that gives birth to the tenure of the People's Hluttaw shall be convened not later than 90 days after the commencing date of general elections.
- (b) (1) The day the tenure of the National Hluttaw comes into force is the day the tenure of the People's Hluttaw starts.
- (2) The first session of the National Hluttaw shall be launched not later than seven days after the start of the tenure of that Hluttaw.

The delegate group of peasants support the detailed basic principles concerning the convening of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw by the State Peace and Development Council and the Speaker and the taking of the oath by the hluttaw members.

The delegate group is in support of the explanation made by the Work Committee Chairman in connection with the fixing of time limit for intervals which says, "(a) The Speaker of the People's Hluttaw shall call regular session of the People's Hluttaw at least once a year. The interval between two regular sessions shall not exceed 12 months" and "(b) The Speaker of the National Hluttaw shall call regular session of the National Hluttaw at least once a year. The interval between two regular sessions shall not exceed 12 months". We also find that Work Committee Chairman's clarification concerning the para 5, para 6, para 7 and para 8 should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

As regards the vacant seats, we would like to adopt the detailed basic principle "(a) The People's Hluttaw has the power to act despite some vacancies in the membership. Furthermore, any functions in the Hluttaw shall be valid notwithstanding that it is exposed subsequently that an entitled person attended a session, voted, or took part in the functions" and "(b) The National Hluttaw has the power to act despite some vacancies in the membership. Furthermore, any functions in the Hluttaw shall be valid notwithstanding that it is exposed subsequently that an entitled person attended a session, voted, or took part in the function".

The clarification of the Work Committee Chairman on reports of the functions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, we are in support of adopting the detailed basic principle "(a) The activities and records of the People's Hluttaw shall be released for the knowledge of the people. However, the activities and records that

shall be restricted under an act or the order of the People's Hluttaw shall not be released" and "(b) The activities and records of the National Hluttaw shall be released for the knowledge of the people. However, the activities and records that shall be restricted under an act or the order of the People's Hluttaw shall not be released".

As we have come to understand the Work Committee Chairman's clarification on the presentation of the bill, we agree that the detailed basic principle "(a) Except the matters prescribed in the constitution that must be submitted to and judged only at the Union Hluttaw, with respect to the remaining matters prescribed in the Union Legislative List, bills should be submitted initially to the People's Hluttaw" and "(b) Except the matters prescribed in the constitution that must be submitted to and judged only at the Union Hluttaw, with respect to the remaining matters prescribed in the Union Legislative List, bills should be submitted initially to the National Hluttaw" should be adopted.

We are in support of the para 12 concerning the releasing of bylaws and rules and regulations, para 13 in connection of the submission of the bills to the two hluttaws, para 14 for the rights of the two hluttaws, para 15 concerning the rights of the representatives of Union level organizations, and para 16 on the powers and functions of the Speaker that were explained by the Work Committee Chairman.

As regards the case in which a hluttaw member should be arrested, we are in support of the following detailed basic principle:

- (a) (1) If it is needed to arrest a member of the People's Hluttaw who is attending a session of the People's Hluttaw or a person who is attending that session under the permission or invitation of the Speaker, reliable evidences shall be submitted to the Speaker of the People's Hluttaw. No such arrest shall be made without prior approval of the Speaker of the People's Hluttaw.
- (2) If it is needed to arrest a member of a committee, commission, or body of the People's Hluttaw who is attending a session of the commission or body formed by the People's Hluttaw, reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Speaker of the People's Hluttaw through the head of the committee, commission, or body. Such arrest shall not be made with prior approval of the Speaker of the People's Hluttaw.
- (3) If a member of the People's Hluttaw is arrested when the People's Hluttaw or the committee of the People's Hluttaw or the commission and body formed by the People's Hluttaw are not in session, reliable evidences in support of such arrest shall be submitted to the Speaker of the People's Hluttaw.
- (b) (1) If it is needed to arrest a member of the National Hluttaw who is attending a session

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of the National Hluttaw or a person who is attending that session under the permission or invitation of the Speaker, reliable evidences shall be submitted to the Speaker of the National Hluttaw. No such arrest shall be made without prior approval of the Speaker of the National Hluttaw.

- (2) If it is needed to arrest a member of a committee, commission, or body of the National Hluttaw who is attending a session of the commission or body formed by the National Hluttaw, reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Speaker of the National Hluttaw through the head of the committee, commission, or body. Such arrest shall not be made with prior approval of the Speaker of the National Hluttaw.
- (3) If a member of the National Hluttaw is arrested when the National Hluttaw or the committee of the National Hluttaw or the commission and body formed by the National Hluttaw are not in session, reliable evidences in support of such arrest shall be submitted to the Speaker of the National Hluttaw.

Regarding the publications, we find the detailed basic principle "(a) No person shall be liable to in respect of reports, publications and records published and distributed by or under the authority of the People's Hluttaw" and "(b) No person shall be liable to in respect of reports, publications and records published and distributed by or under the authority of the National Hluttaw" appropriate to be adopted.

As the delegate group find the 19 points explained by the Work Committee Chairman complete and comprehensive, it sees them appropriate for the Constitution, and the group has no further suggestions. Now U Myint Kyaw of Pyinmana Township, Mandalay Division, will present the remaining part of the suggestions.

MNA

All the delegates of the group after making discussions have agreed all the 28 detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, 19 detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and 23 detailed basic principles for legislation of Region and State Hluttaws

YANGON, 12 Jan— *The following is a translation of suggestions of Delegate Group of Peasants submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Myint Kyaw of Mandalay Division 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 5 January at Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

I will now present our group opinion on the legislation of the Region and State Hluttaws.

We of the delegate group of peasants are in support of the clarification made by Work Committee Chairman in connection with the tenure of the Region or State Hluttaw, which says, "(a) The day the tenure of region or state Hluttaws comes into force is that of the People's Hluttaw" and "(b) The first regular meeting of region and state Hluttaws shall begin in 15 days after the commencement of the tenure of the Hluttaws".

Concerning the task of convening the hluttaw by the

State Peace and Development Council and the Speaker, we agree that the detailed basic principle "The State Peace and Development Council shall call the first regular meeting of region or state Hluttaws after the State Constitution has gone into force" and "(b) The present chairman of region or state Hluttaws shall call the first regular session for the next tenures of region or state Hluttaw in accordance with the provisions of the State Constitution" should be adopted.

As regards the taking of oath by the hluttaw members, we find the detailed basic principle "(a) Representatives of region or state Hluttaws shall take oaths in front of the chairman of region or state Hluttaws at the first regular meeting of region or state Hluttaws" and "(b) Representatives of region or state Hluttaws who failed to attend the first regular meeting for various reasons shall take oaths at the meeting they attend for the first time before the meeting chairman" suitable for adoption.

(See page 14)

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All the delegates of the group after making discussions have agreed all the 28 detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, 19 detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and 23 detailed basic principles for legislation of Region and State Hluttaws

(from page 13)

Concerning the maximum time limit between the two hluttaw session, the detailed basic principle "The Speaker of the region or state Hluttaw shall call 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" should be adopted. Moreover we find the points stated in the para 5 appropriate.

As regards the emergency sessions and special session, the detailed basic principle "(a) Speakers of respective region or state Hluttaws shall have the right to call a special or emergency meeting of region or state Hluttaws" "(b) Speakers of respective region or state Hluttaws shall call a special or emergency meeting of region or state as soon as possible in the directive of the Prime Minister for region or state" and "(c) Speakers of respective region or state Hluttaws shall call a special meeting of region or state as soon as possible if at least one-fourths of the members of region or state Hluttaws call for a meeting of region or state Hluttaw" should be adopted.

In connection with the validity of the sessions, we would like to adopt the detailed basic principle "(a) The first day meeting of the region or state Hluttaws shall be considered to be valid if more than half the number of members who have the right to attend the sessions of the region or state Hluttaws, are present. If the meeting is not valid it shall be postponed" and "(b) The postponed meetings and the valid meetings, that are extended, shall be considered to be valid if at least one-thirds of the members, who have the right to attend a meeting of region or state Hluttaws, are present."

Concerning the voting, the delegate group is in support of the detailed basic principle "(a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting in the region or state Hluttaws shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting" and "(b) The Speaker of the region or state Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker discharging duties as the Speaker or the Deputy 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."

As for the maximum days permitted for absence without leave, the detailed basic principle "The region or state Hluttaw may declare the seat of the region or state Hluttaw member vacant in accord with the rules prescribed if he is absent, without asking the region or state Hluttaw for leave, from a session of the region or state Hluttaw for at least 15 days successively. In computing the absent 15 days from a session of the region or state Hluttaw, the postponed period of the session shall not be included" is appropriate. We are also in support of the detailed basic principle "A region or state Hluttaw shall have the power to act despite some vacancies in the membership. Any functions in the Hluttaw shall be valid notwithstanding that it is exposed subsequently that an unentitled person attended a session, voted, or took part in the functions".

The delegate group agree that the detailed basic principles "The activities and records of the region and state Hluttaws shall be released for the knowledge of the people. However, the activities and records that shall be restricted under an act or the order of the region and state Hluttaws shall not be released" and "Region and state Hluttaws have the right to make laws that cover entire or part of the region or state in the matters stated in the Region or State Legislative List" should be adopted.

Concerning the matters that need approval of the Region or State Hluttaw, we are in favour of adopting the following detailed basic principle:

- (a) matters that calls for decisions and approval of region or state Hluttaw shall be:
 - (1) at the ongoing session if region or state Hluttaw is in session
 - (2) at the nearest session if region or state Hluttaw is not in session
 - (3) at a special or emergency meeting in the interests of the people if they need to be tackled urgently.

Concerning the bills the detailed basic principle "(a) Region and state level bodies formed under the Constitution shall, of the matters stated in the Region and State Legislative List, have the right to submit bills on matters solely administered by region or state government, to region or state Hluttaw in accord with the procedures

prescribed" and "(b) Regional plans, annual budget and taxation matters that region and state government shall have the right to solely submit, shall be presented to region or state Hluttaw in accord with the procedures prescribed" should be adopted. The group support the para 16 and para 17 as explained by the Work Committee Chairman.

We are in favour of adopting the detailed basic principle concerning the chief minister which states as follows:

- (a) region or state chief minister shall-
 - (1) sign and declare the bills approved by region or state Hluttaw, as a law within seven days from the date of reception.
 - (2) the bills approved by self-administered divisions or self-administered regions shall be declared as a law within 14 days from the date of reception.
- (b) even though chief minister fails to ratify the bills in a fixed period, the bills shall be a law on the date after the expiry of the period as if prime minister ratified the bills
- (c) The laws ratified by region or state prime minister and the laws that are to be assumed as if ratified by region or state prime minister shall be declared in the State Gazette. This law is attached with no separate statements, it shall be come into force commencing from the date of declaration.

We also find the paras 19, 20, 21 and 22 suitable for the Constitution. As regards the publications, we are in support of adopting the detailed basic principle "The reports, papers and hluttaw records published by the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged."

All the delegates of the group after making discussions have agreed all the 28 detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, 19 detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and 23 detailed basic principles for legislation of Region and State Hluttaws, and we have no further suggestions of the matter.—MNA



Lyon's forward Sidney Govou, left, and Jerome Bonniwell of Marseille challenge for the ball during their French League one soccer game in Lyon, central France, on 11 Jan, 2006. —INTERNET

Weary Corinthians wilt in first Paulista clash

RIO DE JANEIRO, 12 Jan — Corinthians slumped to a 1-0 defeat by Noroeste in the opening match of the Sao Paulo state championship on Wednesday barely six weeks after lifting the Brazilian title.

Corinthians' weary, wilting players were outfought in the mid-afternoon heat in the Sao Paulo hinterland town of Bauru.

Noroeste's Luciano Santos scored the only goal after 38 minutes, finding the top corner with a long-range shot. — MNA/Reuters

Roma, Milan reach Italian Cup quarterfinals

ROME, 12 Jan — AS Roma set up an Italian Cup quarterfinal against Juventus when they beat Third Division Napoli 2-1 on Wednesday to complete a 5-1 aggregate win.

They were joined in the last eight by AC Milan, who won 4-3 at Brescia for a 7-4 aggregate win, while Udinese and Sampdoria edged through against Atalanta and Cagliari respectively.

Juventus crushed Fiorentina 4-1 in the second leg of their fourth round tie for a 6-3 aggregate victory on Tuesday.

The match in Rome was played behind closed doors in an empty Olympic Stadium following trouble between rival fans during Roma's 3-0 win in the first leg in Naples in December.

Even so, a second-string Roma side had little trouble mastering twice Italian champions Napoli. Alberto Aquilani gave them the lead in the 39th minute, firing home from close range after a scuffed clearance.

Brazilian winger Mancini, who was making his first competitive appearance after a two-month injury layoff, grabbed their second just before the interval.

Nicolas Amodio got a

consolation goal for Napoli in second-half stoppage time.

In Brescia, Milan played in fits and starts, going two up in the opening half hour through Clarence Seedorf and Filippo Inzaghi before Simone Del Nero struck back for Brescia just before halftime.

Rui Costa restored Milan's two-goal cushion in the 60th minute, curling the

ball round the keeper at the end of a fine solo run.

A Luigi Di Biagio penalty, after visiting keeper Zeljko Kalac fouled Marius Stankevicius, and a Marck Hamsyk strike looked to have earned Brescia a draw on the night.

But Federico Agliardi brought down Inzaghi in the area two minutes from time allowing Rui Costa to dispatch Milan's winner

from the penalty spot.

Sampdoria's game against Cagliari was the most dramatic.

With the teams level at 1-1 after the first leg, Francesco Flachi's 33rd minute goal seemed to have set Sampdoria on their way to the quarterfinals until the fourth minute of stoppage time when Massimo Gobbi headed an equalizer.

MNA/Reuters

Pedersen keeps Blackburn's Cup final bid alive

LONDON, 12 Jan — Norwegian Morten Gamst Pedersen hit a blistering equalizer to secure Blackburn Rovers a 1-1 draw with Manchester United in a fiery League Cup semifinal, first-leg clash on Wednesday.

Pedersen, who scored twice at Old Trafford earlier in the season when Rovers won 2-1 in a surprise league victory, quickly cancelled out Louis Saha's 30th-minute opener at Ewood Park to leave the tie well-poised.

"It (the tie) is very much open, it's halftime, 1-1, and we are reasonably happy with that," Rovers coach and former United striker Mark Hughes told Sky Sports.

"It was a good cup tie,

obviously we went behind initially, but we got a great response... a fantastic strike from Morten and we could have had a couple more as well."

United manager Alex Ferguson, chastened by the inept display from his second-string side in the humiliating 0-0 FA Cup draw by minor league Burton Albion on Saturday, selected a near full-strength side.

Rovers, the 2002 winners, nearly caught the visi-

tors cold and only a fine block with his legs by Dutch keeper Edwin van der Sar prevented Savage from firing the hosts ahead after just 24 seconds.

A shaky United then almost let in Craig Bellamy but United weathered the early storm and went ahead when Ryan Giggs bisected two Rovers defenders with a short pass to find an unmarked Saha in space with time to pick his spot past Brad Friedel.

MNA/Reuters

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 (1)Pharmaceuticals (including diagnostics), especially biological products for human and animals

(2)Medical instruments, especially syringes
 Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

TIN OHNMAR TUN B.A.(LAW)LL.B, LL.M (U.K) P.O.Box. 109, Ph:723043/248108 (For-Domnom Songiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand.) Dated:13 January 2006.

TRADE MARK CAUTION
 HEINZ BABY CORPORATION, of 1F, No.28, Lane 150, Sung Chiang Rd., Taipei, the Chinese-Taipei, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

CAMERA

Reg. No. 1425/1997
 in respect of "Feeding bottle teats, feeding bottles, soothers."
 Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.
 Win Ma Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L. for HEINZ BABY CORPORATION P. O. Box 60, Yangon. Dated: 13 January 2006

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (093)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (093) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADEMARK CAUTION
 Xiamen Canney a Company incorporated in People's Republic of China, at 8, Houbin Rd., Xiamen, Fujian, P.R.C is the Owner and Sole Proprietors of the following Trade-mark:-

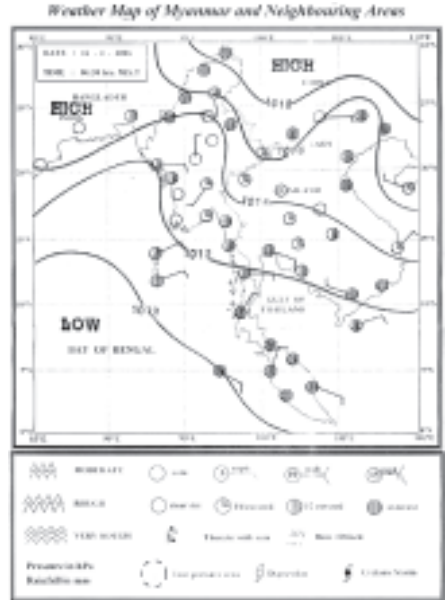


Reg.No.4 / 1845 / 2002
 In respect of : Fruit Canner, Mushroom Canner, Pea Canner; Meat Canner; Sea food Canner; Vegetable Canner. Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade-mark shall be dealt with according to law.
 U Myint Lwin, Advocate, LL.B, DBL
 Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
 Email : MYINT.Advocate@spgptmail.net.mm
 Ph : 371 990 13.January.2006



Friday, 13 January

- Tune in today**
- 8.30 am** Brief news
 - 8.35 am** Music:
-Whatever it takes...OTT
 - 8.40 am** Perspectives
 - 8.45 am** Music:
-Got me feeling...Five
 - 8.50 am** National news & Slogan
 - 9:00 am** Music:
-Say a little prayer...Diana King
 - 9:05 am** International news
 - 9:10 am** Music
-Because of you...98
 - 1:30 pm** News & Slogan
 - 1:40 pm** Lunch time music
-Tell him... Ally Mc Beal
-Bane... Styx
-Sentimental...Garath Gates
-You're still the one... Shania Twain
 - 9.00 pm** World of music
 - 9.15 pm** Article
 - 9.25 pm** Request
-Owner of my heart...Shaha
-Radio heart...Charly Mc Claim
-Lock me in your heart... Mandy Moore
 - 9.45 pm** New & Slogan
 - 10.00 pm** PEL



WEATHER

Thursday, 12 January, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (4°C) below normal in Kachin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan State and Mandalay Division, and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Puta-O (4°C), Pinlaung and Heho (5°C) each and Mindat (6°C).

Maximum temperature on 11-1-2006 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 12-1-2006 was 61°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 12-1-2006 was (87%). Total sunshine hours on 11-1-2006 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 12-1-2006 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 (9) mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 11-1-2006.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30)hrs MST today, yesterday's low pressure area over the Southwest Bay still persists. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 13-1-2006: Possibility of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division and weather will be 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: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-1-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-1-2006: Generally fair weather.

EARTHQUAKE REPORT

(Issued at 09:30 hour MST on 12-1-2006)

An earthquake of moderate (5.0) Richter Scale with its epicentre outside Myanmar, (Yunnan, China) about (530) miles Northeast of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (07) hrs (39) min (54) sec MST on 12th January 2006.

Asleep in Jesus
U Jimmy Lunn
 (Age, 90 Years)
General Manager (Rtd) MOGE
 Son of (U Lunn) and (Daw Zan Aye), beloved husband of Daw Kyu Kyu, residing at No (618), Thidayayin Road, 16/4 Ward, Thingangyun Township, brother of U Harper Lunn, Daw Flora Lunn and Daw Sharon Lunn, father of Daw Eunice, Daw Anita, U Saw Htoo Kler and Daw Patricia passed away on 9-1-2006. Funeral service will be held at the Yayway Christian Cemetery on (13-1-2006) at (12:00). Buses will leave the above-mentioned resident at 11:00 am on 13-11-2006.
Bereaved Family

Chinese experts find ways to cure adult weak sight

HEFEL, 11 Jan — Chinese experts cooperated with his US peers and developed a possible way to cure adult weak sight, with their thesis published in the latest authoritative magazine of *Vision Studies*.

The scientific outcome was jointly made by Professor Zhou Yifeng and his colleagues from University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) and Professor Lu Zhonglin from American South California University.

Zhou and Lu chose 23 patients at an average age of 19.3 and divided them into three groups.

Using specific stimulus from computers, the experts tried, through different ways, to raise the sensitivity of light contrast of the patients.

The stimulation lasted for nine days to 19 days in different groups.

Though light contrast sensitivity is merely one function of people's visual system, the researchers found the eyesight of the patients were improved by 70 per cent after the tests.

Zhou said weak sight was relevant to abnormal visual experience in early growth, such as strabismus.

The vision system has been considered having no or weak plasticity in the key growth period for a long time.

MNA/Xinhua

Despite facing many difficulties, the Government made arrangements for designating 24 special development regions, and development of transport facilities, dams and embankments, education, health and other sectors in accord with the policy on cent per cent equitable development of all parts of the Union without losing sight of the emergence of a democratic nation that the entire people long for.

Prime Minister congratulates Vice-President and Prime Minister of UAE

YANGON, 12 Jan— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, on his assumption of duties as Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates. —MNA

Tatmadaw Government making utmost efforts setp by step for drafting an enduring State Constitution through national unity

Mass meeting in support of National Convention held in Kengtung, Shan State (East)

YANGON, 12 Jan — A mass meeting in support of the National Convention organized by Shan State (East) Union Solidarity and Development Association took place at Myoma Sports Grounds in Kengtung, Shan State (East), on 10 January morning.

It was attended by members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Wel-

fare Association, War Veterans Organization and Auxiliary Fire Brigade, nurses, teachers, social organizations and local people of Kengtung, Mongphyat, Monghsat, Tachilek, Mongkhat, Mongyang, Mongyawng, Mongpyin, Mongtung and Metmang Townships, totalling over 11,600. Townselder U Sai Yi Tip Pa Won presided over the meeting together with members of the panel of chairmen Additional Shan State Educa-



Members of panel of chairmen seen at the mass meeting in support of National Convention in Shan State (East). — MNA



Meeting chairman U Sai Yi Tip Pa Won delivers a speech at the mass meeting in support of National Convention. — MNA

tion Officer U Than Nyunt, Lahu national U Kha Ba She, Akha national U Ya Htu, entrepreneur U Sai La and MPF Officer (Retd) U Tun Lwin Oo.

Kengtung District USDA Executive Daw Nan Hwam Kham and Kengtung Township USDA Executive Daw Nan Wo Kham acted as MCs.

First, all the participants saluted the State Flag. Speaking on the occasion, meeting chairman U Sai Yi Tip Pa Won said

that now, the National Convention is being convened successfully at Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township. Del-

egates representing the people of Shan State (East) are attending the National Convention. (See page 8)

Only when the first step of the seven-point Road Map as well as the first pace of the future State meets success, will all the people reach the goal called a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.



Those attending the mass meeting in support of National Convention in Shan State (East). — MNA