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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 inspects pearl culture in Pearl Island



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects pearl culture camp of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise on Pearl Island.—MNA

YANGON, 16 Jan — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, accompanied by Prime Minister General Soe Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of

Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Maung Swe, the ministers, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, left crude oil palm mill of South Dagon Oil Palm Cultivation Project in Bokpyin Township for Pearl Island on 14 January.

They were welcomed by Brig-Gen Win Shein and officials.

They went to pearl culture camp of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise. Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint reported on history of pearl culture, kinds of pearl in the world, data of pearl, joint venture with local and foreign companies, achievements and production of pearl.

Managing Director of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise U Maung Toe reported on conditions of state-run pearl culture and production process.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions on production of quality pearl which is better than any other pearl in the world and investment in the pearl enterprise by local entrepreneurs.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected pearl culture and extraction of pearl from oysters. He also inspected pearls with silvery or golden hue produced

(See page 8)

There are four kinds of pearl in international pearl market— Akoya pearl, Tahitian pearl, South Sea pearl and fresh water pearl. Myanmar pearl, a kind of South Sea one, is large and its value is high.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye meets Tatmadaw (Navy) members and their families at Kyunsu Station hall.—MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 17 January, 2006

Grow more oil palm, rubber, pepper and physic nut plants

Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the government is working for all-round development of the nation through systematic implementation of political, economic and social objectives.

Under the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, State-level officials often go on field trips to townships in various states and divisions and give a close supervision to national and regional development work.

Prime Minister General Soe Win, who accompanied Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townselders in Bokpyin Township on 13 January. At meeting, the Prime Minister said that it was necessary for Taninthayi Division to grow more rice for self-sufficiency and to extend the cultivation of cash crops such as oil palm, rubber, pepper as well as physic nut plants for rural development.

In Taninthayi Division, there have emerged the Kawthoung-Myeik-Dawei-Mawlamyine-Yangon Union Highway and the Yangon-Mawlamyine-Ye-Dawei railroad. Moreover, airports have been built or upgraded in Kawthong, Bokpyin, Myeik and Dawei.

The government is implementing construction projects for parallel development of various regions including Tainthayi Division. Moreover, it is rendering all the necessary assistance to private entrepreneurs in order that Taninthayi Division can become the oil bowl of the nation and the whole nation can produce 1,500 million baskets of paddy.

Taninthayi Division is rich in aquatic and terrestrial resources and has favourable conditions for off-shore oil and natural gas, tourism, fish and prawn and mineral extraction industries. Therefore, it has a great potential for economic development. All the national people living in various states and divisions, capitalizing on favourable conditions of their respective regions, should strive for regional and national development.

We would like to call on all those responsible and local people to extend the cultivation of paddy, for self-sufficiency oil palm, rubber and pepper as well as physic nut plants, source of bio-fuel, to contribute to rural development.



On behalf of Benny Myo Myint Hu and Ma Moe Moe (USA), family members donated K 100,000 to the Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Photo shows wellwishers presenting the donation to member of the administrative board of the Home U Chit Myaing. — 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

Minister inspects banking services

YANGON, 16 Jan— Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, accompanied by Vice-President of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and officials, inspected Bago Division Pension Department and gave instructions on 14 January. On the same day, the minister inspected Internal Revenue Department in Bago Division.

Yesterday, the minister arrived at Myanma Economic Bank (Branch) in Pinyinmana, Mandalay Division, and inspected banking services and renovation of the bank. The minister urged officials concerned to discharge their duties in accord with rules and regulations. —MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun in his inspection tour of the Myanma Economic Bank (Branch) in Pinyinmana. — MNA



Tunnel on railroad inspected



Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min inspects building of 195-ft-long Tunnel shape bridge.—RAIL TRANSPORTATION

YANGON, 16 Jan— Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, on 14 January inspected Ponnyataung Tunnel Construction Project on Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay railroad. The minister also inspected work being carried out at the eastern and western part of the tunnel.

Yesterday, the minister arrived at the site for construction of tunnel at the approach road of Yandanon Bridge (Ayeyawady) and inspected work done. Afterwards, the minister inspected Myitnge concrete sleeper factory and gave instructions to officials. —MNA

Huawei 2005 global contract sales up

YANGON, 16 Jan— Huawei Technologies Co.Ltd, one of the world's leading networking and telecommunications equipment suppliers, today announced that its global contract sales for 2005 reached US\$ 8.2 billion, representing a year-over-year growth rate of 40%. The increase is a result of continued market growth in the product areas of wireless mobile network, next generation network (NGN), optical networks, data communications, application and software and terminals, it is learnt. —H

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

Aungsan Mogok Yeiktha Sayadaw arrives back from mission abroad

YANGON, 16 Jan— After delivering sermons in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and others in Australia, Presiding Sayadaw of Mogok Vipassana Group-77 of Tawra TatU Monastery, Aungsan, Insein Township Missionary Sayadaw Maha Kamahtanacariya Bhaddanta Saddahma Kitisara arrived back here on 12 January. —H

Myanmar youths reach finals in ITF 14 & Under Asian Championships 2006 Group (2) Tennis Tournament

YANGON, 16 Jan — The semifinals of 2nd Tournament of ITF 14 & Under Asian Championships 2006 Group (2) Tennis Tournament continued at Theinbyu Tennis Court, here, this morning.

In men's singles event, Aung Kyaw Naing and In men's doubles event, duo Aung Kyaw Naing and Aung Ko Oo reached finals respectively.

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

The final matches will be held at the same venue tomorrow morning.—MNA

Russia to cancel Zambia's remaining \$115m debt

LUSAKA, 15 Jan— The Russian Government will this year cancel the remaining 115-million-US-dollar debt owed by Zambia, *Daily Mail* reported on Saturday.

It quoted Russian Ambassador to Zambia Anvar Azimov as saying here on Friday that the decision to write off the debt is part of its contribution to the progress and prosperity of the southern African country.

He said in an interview that in 2005 Russia cut about 12-billion-dollar debt owed by African countries including the 800 million dollars owed by Zambia.

The envoy also said that his country resolves to increase Zambia's quota of free scholarships from 60 to 70 a year.

"At present, there are about 400 students studying in Russian universities and colleges. 1,000 Zambian students have graduated from these institutions and are now working in various insti-

tutions and government departments," he said.

He expressed his country's commitment to the military cooperation between the two countries, adding that "Russia is ready to supply all kinds of spares and new mili-

tary equipment that will be in the interest of strengthen the defence capacity of Zambia".

Azimov said his country will help the Zambian Government attain economic growth and self-reliance.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Roadside bomb hits police patrol in eastern Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 15 Jan— An explosive device went off near a police patrol in a station parking lot in eastern Baghdad on Saturday, wounding five people, a police source said.

"A roadside bomb detonated near a police patrol in a station parking lot where buses line up to pick up passengers in the al-Mashtel District, wounding two policemen and three civilians," Captain Ahmed Abdullah from Baghdad police told *Xinhua*. The blast also damaged a police vehicle, he said, adding that several civilian cars were punctured with shrapnel mark.

Guerrillas often attack Iraqi Government employees and security forces in an attempt to cripple the US-backed political process in the country.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Pakistan lodges protest with US over airstrike

ISLAMABAD, 15 Jan— Pakistan on Saturday lodged protest with the United States over its airstrike on Pakistan's tribal region which caused the loss of innocent civilians, Pakistani Foreign Office said.

"The Foreign Office has lodged a protest with the US Ambassador in Islamabad," the Foreign Office said in a statement.

"Pakistan will also take up this matter in the next meeting of Tripartite Commission," it said.

The Tripartite Commission groups Afghanistan, Pakistan and the

United States and the forum mainly reviews border security and cooperation among the security forces of the three countries.

"According to preliminary investigations there was foreign presence in the area and that in all probability was targeted from across the border in Afghanistan," the state-

ment said.

The statement also condemned the loss of innocent civilian lives in the incident.

The incident in Pakistan's Bajaur tribal area is being thoroughly investigated and that the investigations are still continuing.

However, the statement did not mention US media reports that Ayman al-Zawahiri, Osama bin Laden's deputy, might have been killed in the airstrike.

American TV channels have reported that a CIA airstrike on Bajaur

might have killed Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Earlier, Information Minister Sheikh Rashid also denied the killing of Ayman al-Zawahiri but admitted the presence of some foreigners in the tribal region and asked the tribesmen to rid all tribal areas of foreign intruders. He said that foreign militants had been responsible for all the misery and violence in the region.

"Pakistan wants to assure the people that the government will not allow such incident to reoccur," he added.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi man carries his belongings from his flooded home after heavy rainfalls in the southern town of Safwan, near the Kuwaiti border in Iraq, on 14 Jan, 2006. —INTERNET



Syrians play in snow outside the mountainous city of Bloudan, some 60 kilometres northwest of Damascus on 14 Jan, 2006. Syria was hit by a cold wave and snow covered the ground in some areas of Syria.

INTERNET

Cronkite says time for US to leave Iraq

PASADENA, 15 Jan— Former CBS anchor Walter Cronkite, whose 1968 conclusion that the Vietnam War was unwinnable keenly influ-

enced public opinion then, said Sunday he'd say the same thing today about Iraq.

"It's my belief that we should get out now," Cronkite said in a meeting with reporters.

Now 89, the television journalist once known as "the most trusted man in America" has been off the "CBS Evening News" for nearly a quarter-century. He's still a CBS News employee, although he does little for them.

Cronkite said one of his proudest moments came at the end of a 1968 documentary he made following a visit to Vietnam during the Tet offensive. Urged by his boss to briefly set aside his objectivity to give his view of the situation, Cronkite said the war

was unwinnable and that the US should exit.

Then-President Lyndon Johnson reportedly told a White House aide after that, "If I've lost Cronkite, I've lost Middle America."

The best time to have made a similar statement about Iraq came after Hurricane Katrina, he said. "We had an opportunity to say to the world and Iraqis after the hurricane disaster that Mother Nature has not treated us well and we find ourselves missing the amount of money it takes to help these poor people out of their homeless situation and rebuild some of our most important cities in the United States," he said. "Therefore, we are going to have to bring our troops home."—*Internet*

Three Turkish sportsmen kidnapped in Iran

ANKARA, 15 Jan— Three Turkish para-gliders were kidnapped in the Iranian city of

Zahedan, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Friday.

Serdar Durna, Yurdaer Etike and Avni Ozan, who set off for a tour called "Silk Road" on 7 December, 2005, were kidnapped in Iran on 24 December, 2005, the report said.

The three sportsmen, who planned to end their trip in Nepal by way of Iran, Pakistan and India, were kidnapped when they were passing from Zahedan to Pakistan, it added.

MNA/Xinhua

US troops death toll rises to 2,217

WASHINGTON, 15 Jan— As of Sunday, 15 Jan, 2006, at least 2,217 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 six military civilians.

The *AP* count is six higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Thursday. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 2,078 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*

German Deputy FM says sanctions against Iran very dangerous

BERLIN, 15 Jan — German Deputy Foreign Minister Gernot Erler said imposing economic sanctions against Iran for its nuclear policy would be a “very dangerous path”, according to reports here.

Erler said the sanctions would hurt both sides and will not necessarily lead Iran to abandon its nuclear programme.

He said he favoured imposing travel restrictions on Iranian politicians as a more effective way of exerting pressure on Teheran, according to a summary

released on Saturday of his interview to German radio.

The Deputy Foreign Minister said travel restrictions would have “an extraordinarily unpleasant impact”, said the summary of the interview, which is due to be broadcast on Sunday.

The remarks came after the British, French

and German foreign ministers met here on Thursday to talks on a response to Iran’s resumption of nuclear activities.

Iran broke seals on its uranium enrichment facility on Tuesday and said it was resuming nuclear research after a two-year freeze.

MNA/Xinhua

People clear snow on a roof in Katsuyama, 323 km west of Tokyo on 14 Jan, 2006.

Japan issued warnings for avalanches, flooding and landslides as weathermen forecast warmer temperatures and rain in mountainous areas hit by record snowfalls that have caused more than 80 deaths.

INTERNET



Alaska volcano spews ash; some flights cancelled

ANCHORAGE (Alaska), 15 Jan — Three explosions at Augustine Volcano, an island peak 171 miles (275 kilometres) southwest of Anchorage, sent ash clouds soaring nearly 10 miles (16 kilometres) above sea level on Friday, officials said.

The explosions, lasting 3-1/2 to 11 minutes each, followed two similar events on Wednesday and were part of an eruptive period that could last for months, said Tina Neal, a geologist with the federal-state Alaska Volcano Observatory.

“This is one big eruption period, and it’s going to have several sub-events that we might call eruptive pulses,” she said.

Alaska Airlines announced the cancellation of 28 flights between Friday afternoon and Saturday morning as a precaution, including routes from Anchorage to Los Angeles and Seattle. A pilot reported ash from the second explosion as high as 52,000 feet (15,850 metres) above sea level, Neal said. Ash clouds from the other two explosions reached 30,000 to 36,000 feet (9,145-10,970 metres), according to the

observatory. A “very light dusting” of ash was reported near Homer, a community about 75 miles (120 kilometres) northeast of Augustine, Neal said.

The ash fall was reported by a National Weather Service observer, said Dave Schneider, a US Geological Survey official at the volcano observatory. According to that report, he said, “You can almost taste it in your mouth, but you can’t perceive it any other way.” —MNA/Reuters

Snow-hit Japan warns of avalanches, landslides

TOKYO, 15 Jan — Japan issued warnings for avalanches, flooding and landslides on Saturday as weathermen forecast warmer temperatures and rains in mountainous areas hit by recent record snowfalls that have caused more than 80 deaths.

Eighty-eight people have died in snow-related incidents over the past few weeks, *Kyodo* news agency reported.

Up to 8 centimetres (3.1 inches) of rain was

forecast for northeastern Japan, the area worst-hit by the snow, in the 24 hours up to early Sunday.

“We are worried that rains, coupled with wa-

ter from melting snow, could trigger landslides,” said an official at the Meteorological Agency.

The agency said temperatures would rise this weekend to well above

freezing in affected areas, some of which had nearly four metres (13 feet) of snow piled up.

About 80 per cent of those who have died were over the age of 60, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency said, many of them after falling from their roofs while clearing snow.

In Niigata Prefecture northwest of Tokyo on Saturday, a 72-year-old man died after his two-storey house collapsed under the weight of snow, a police spokesman said.

A 64-year-old man died in Nagano Prefecture, northwest of Tokyo, later on Saturday after falling off from the snow-covered roof of his storehouse, police said.

MNA/Reuters

Suicide explosion kills one, injures another in Afghanistan

KABUL, 15 Jan — A suicide attacker was killed, another local person injured Saturday in the suicide explosion in Afghan southern province of Helmand, a local official said.

“This afternoon at about 5 p.m. a suicide attacker in a vehicle full

of explosives planned to attack the US military convoy in Grishk Dis-

trict. The attacker was killed, another civilian was injured,” Amanullah, the senior police official of Grishk told *Xinhua*.

“There is no any report about any US casualty in this explosion,” he added. —MNA/Xinhua

Abducted British reporter freed in Iraq

DUBAI, 15 Jan — A British journalist kidnapped last month in Iraq was freed during a chance raid by US forces on a farm outside Baghdad, his newspaper said on Saturday.

Emirates Today said on its website that its reporter, Phil Sands, 28, was held for five days by gunmen who ambushed a car he was travelling in with a driver and an interpreter

in Baghdad on 26 December.

“This is frankly an amazing case. We were conducting raids on ‘safe houses’ when we discovered Mr Sands,” a

US Central Command spokesman was quoted as telling the Dubai-based newspaper. “Nobody ever knew he was missing.”

Sands, originally from Dorset, said he was handcuffed and blindfolded when US troops found him.

“From the moment I was taken hostage I was certain I would be killed,” he said. “A strange calmness fell over me. I thought ‘what is the point in panicking — I am dead’.”

He said he was not treated badly by his captors, who were captured in the raid. The guerillas forced him to record a video urging the British people to remove Prime Minister Tony Blair from office, he said.

MNA/Reuters

Two quakes jolt Indonesia’s Gunung Sitoli

JAKARTA, 15 Jan — Two earthquakes measuring 5.2 and 6.7 on the Richter Scale jolted Gunung Sitoli, a town in Indonesia’s North Sumatra Province, on Friday evening, Antara news agency reported on Saturday.

The epicentre of the first quake is 1.61 North Latitude and 96.65 East Longitude, at the depth of 25 kilometres in the sea, about 132 kilometres southwest of Gunung Sitoli. The epicentre of the second quake is 0.79 North Latitude and 97.12 East Longitude, at the depth of 15 kilometres in the sea, some 68 kilometres southwest of the town, the North Sumatra Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said.

about damage caused by the quakes. Earthquakes have shaken Gunung Sitoli in the last several days, and the North Sumatra Meteorology and Geophysics Agency has continued to monitor the tremors.

Meanwhile, an earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter Scale shook the country’s tsunami-devastated Banda Aceh and its environs on Friday night but there was no immediate report of casualty. —MNA/Xinhua



Augustine Volcano about 75 miles southwest of Homer, Alaska, billows steam and ash on 12 Jan, 2006. —INTERNET

No 2 US General in Iraq sees violence continuing

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—The No 2 US commander in Iraq, preparing to wrap up his duties and return home, on Friday forecast continuing violence as guerillas try to derail Iraq's political process and target American troops.

Army Lieutenant-General John Vines said the formation of an inclusive government was critical for reducing bloodshed and that al-Qaeda's branch in Iraq was "increasingly in disarray". "The guerillas have not given up. They have not gone away. They have not gone home," said Vines, the top operational commander and second only to Army General George Casey among US officers in Iraq.

"Many have been killed or captured, but they will continue to attempt to intimidate and disrupt the political process and those who participate in it," he

told reporters at the Pentagon from Baghdad.

"So we recognize that as long as they have a presence here, that Iraqi security forces, enabled by the coalition, will have to continue to deny them sanctuary. And if they can't persuade them to lay down their arms and participate in that process, they'll have to be killed or captured."

Vines will leave in the coming days after a year-long stint as commander of Multinational Corps-Iraq, and will be replaced by Lieutenant-General Peter Chiarelli.

Iraqi leaders are to form

a permanent government based on the results of the 15 December parliamentary election. "I think the nature of the government will determine the level of violence, quite honestly," Vines said. Final election results are expected next week. The government is expected to be dominated by Shiite Islamists.

MNA/Reuters



A 16-metre (52.5-foot), 6-storey building is jolted at velocities similar to those in the 7.2-magnitude quake in an experiment in Miki, western Japan, on 13 Jan, 2006. Japanese researchers tested the world's biggest quake simulator 'E-Defence' in a project that could help improve earthquake resistant construction methods.—INTERNET

Pakistan tribal lawmaker says US plane kills civilians

ISLAMABAD, 14 Jan—A lawmaker from Pakistan Bajur tribal region said on Friday that an American spy plane fired missiles on three civilians' houses, killing 18 people, including women and children.

"A US spy plane have been flying in the Bajur region for three days. The plane did such flight early morning and bombed three houses of locals in the Damadola Village, 50 kilometres away from the Pakistan-Afghan border," member of Pakistan's National Assembly from the Bajur tribal region Sahibzada

Haroon ur Rashid told journalists on phone from Bajur.

Damadola is around 200 kilometres northwest of the capital, Islamabad.

Rashid said that the plane first threw light and then made a circle around the target and fired eight missiles on the houses of three local tribesmen.

A total of 18 people were killed in the attack which carried out at 3 am on Friday, he said. Four other people, including two children, were injured and they are said to be in critical condition.

Rashid said that no al-Qaeda member or foreign citizen among those died.

"It is inhuman act to kill

civilians under the excuse of foreign militants," he said. "The government should officially condemn US attack," said Rashid.

He said that a big protest rally would be held in Bajur on Saturday to condemn the American bombing. Announcements were made in the area through loud speakers. All those died were later buried and thousands attended the funeral, said witnesses who attended the funeral. Locals said this is the first incident of its kind of the US attack.

Pakistan's military spokesman Major-General Shaukat Sultan and Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed have said that several people have died in explosions and that investigation into the causes of the incident is being carried out.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua

Uruguay FM denies talks on free trade treaty with US

MONTEVIDEO, 14 Jan—Uruguay's Foreign Minister Reinaldo Gargano denied on Thursday that the Uruguayan Government is holding talks with the United States on a bilateral free trade treaty.

At a Press conference here, Gargano denied the statements made by US Senator Mel Martinez, who said in Buenos Aires that a free trade treaty between Uruguay and the United States had been worked out, and only needed to be ratified.

The minister reiterated that the Broad Front party which governs Uruguay will not sign free trade deals as long as the United States preserves its current agricultural subsidies.

Gargano said that Uruguay's President Tabare Vazquez had supported the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) stance against restarting talks on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) at November's 4th Organization of American States summit.

MERCOSUR, Latin America's largest trading bloc, comprises Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay with Chile and Bolivia as associate members.—MNA/Xinhua

Cleric says Iran will resist "psychological war"

TEHERAN, 14 Jan—A leading Iranian cleric said on Friday the Islamic republic would resist the "psychological war" launched against its nuclear programme, which the West fears is a front for covert bomb-making.

The United States and the European Union's three biggest powers said on Thursday that talks with Iran to curb its nuclear programme were at an impasse and Teheran should be brought before the United Nations Security Council.

Iran warned on Friday it would end voluntary cooperation with the UN over its nuclear work if it was referred, including halting snap checks of its nuclear sites.

Cleric Ahmad Khatami said Iran would never succumb to mounting international pressure to abandon its nuclear work.

"This is a psychological war. This nation is not a nation to yield to such pressures," Khatami told worshippers in a Friday prayers sermon at Teheran University.

"The Europeans should avoid the language of threat. Using this language against the great

Iranian nation is useless," he said, to chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Britain".

Iran escalated its nuclear standoff with the West on Tuesday when it began removing UN seals on equipment used to enrich uranium — a process of purifying it for use as fuel in nuclear power plants or, when very highly enriched, in bombs.

Teheran insists its nuclear programme is aimed solely at producing much-needed electricity and is not, as Washington and the European Union say, a cover for making atomic bombs.

Their suspicions are based on Iran's failure

to disclose key nuclear infrastructure and revelations it has been working on some nuclear systems primarily associated with military programmes.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua

Seven miners trapped in Ukrainian mine

KIEV, 14 Jan—Seven miners were trapped in a rock slide in a coal mine in eastern Ukraine on Thursday, emergency officials said.

All the miners, who were trapped in the Voskresenskaya mine in the town of Snezhnoye, were believed to be alive and unhurt, said Dmitry Boguslavsky, spokesman for the Emergency Situations Ministry. Emergency workers were trying to rescue the miners, the spokesman said.

Ukrainian coal mines, with frequent accidents, are considered among the world's most dangerous.

MNA/Xinhua

32 kilos of hashish seized in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 14 Jan—Nepali police have seized 32 kilos of hashish from two buses, local police office said on Friday.

During a security check, police found the narcotic in bags hidden in the buses' luggage boxes, the police said in a statement.

The buses were heading from Baglung to Kathmandu, the statement noted.

Police have taken the buses, their drivers and conductors under control for further investigation, the statement added. — MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman checks a man's bag in Najaf, about 160 km (100 miles) south of Baghdad, on 13 Jan, 2006.—INTERNET

Let's grow physic nut (*Jatropha curcas*) most extensively

Maung Wa (Agriculture)

Nature has created everything for human beings. Man just needs to explore and exploit the resources. In exploring natural resources, people need to lay emphasis on their basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter. In doing so, commodities are also required to be transported from

many years. It is usually seen cultivated at the fences of the houses.

In Myanmar there can be found another species of similar type called castor (*ricinus communis*). But it does not grow well in the country in comparison with physic nut. Fruits of *Jatropha curcas* are smooth and their cores are

bear fruit well from 6 to 30 years.

Physic nut can grow well in dry and temperate regions where rainfall is between 18 and 93 inches. Most suitable temperature is between 18° and 25° C. The physic nut plants blooms and bears fruit the whole year round in areas

ies. The plant can be reproduced through tissue culture method.

Physic nut plant does not like wet soil. During dry season, water it once or twice a month. Irrigation makes the plant bear fruits all year round. It may die if it gets too much water. When it is three or four months old, some of its branches are to be cut. If so, it grows eight or twelve branches. The height of the plant should be six feet only.

Some plants such as ginger, turmeric, pineapple, beans and pulses, mulberry and others can be cultivated as mixed cropping. But tapioca should not be grown as a mixed crop.

The plant bears fruits when it is six to eight months old if it is grown through grafting method and eight to ten months through direct seedling. The fruits become ripe three months after blooming. Two to five years old plants produce 93 baskets (1.5 tons) per acre. A six-year-old plant can produce two tons of seeds per acre.

The seed of *Jatropha curcas* contains 38 per cent of oil. A basket of seeds harvested in summer produce about 1.5 viss while that harvested in monsoon produce two viss of oil. The younger plant can produce 178 viss of oil (74 gallons) and 465 viss of cakes per acre and six-year old plant produces 248 viss of oil (100 gallons) and 655 viss of cakes per acre.

where rainfall is sufficient but in other regions it can bear fruits twice a year. The plants can be grown in regions of over 5000 feet above sea level. It can grow on any kind of soil but it thrives well on sandy soil which retains moisture.

Physic nut plants can be cultivated during late May and early June and during early November and early December when moisture is in the soil.

Two pyis of seeds are needed for one acre of the plant. There are grafting method and seeding method. In grafting method, a branch 1 to 1.5 inches in girth with the length of 9 to 12 inches is to be used. In seeding method, the seeds are soaked in water for one night. The seeds are placed in the holes which are six feet apart. The seeds sprout after ten days. After eight months, the plants bloom and after two or three more months the fruits of the plant begin to ripen. The plant can also be cultivated through the establishment of nurser-

If a basket of *Jatropha curcas* is milled, it produces five viss of cakes. Therefore 131 baskets produce 655 viss of cakes which can be used as natural fertilizer. The cakes consist of 4.4 % nitrogen, 2.1 % of phosphorus and 1.7 % of potash. These elements are necessary for plants.

Oil of *Jatropha curcas* can be extracted by manually operated machines in the villages. The oil can be used as fuel after the sediment is removed. The

If farmers grow 50 plants, they can get four gallons of bio-diesel a year. So it saves K 8,000. The cost of cultivation of *Jatropha curcas* for one acre is about K 40,000. In the third year, *Jatropha curcas* plant produces 70 gallons and the income is K 140,000 and it is a beneficial crop for the farmers.

Cultivation of *Jatropha curcas* provides bio-fuel and natural fertilizer. It can also be used as fences and firewood

Oil of physic nut can be extracted by manually operated machines in the villages. The oil can be used as fuel after the sediment is removed. The Agricultural Mechanization Department makes experiments on use of the oil in operating Leya-16 power tiller and tractors. Villages will be electrified with the use of bio-fuel as diesel substitute in generators.

Agricultural Mechanization Department makes experiments on use of the oil in operating Leya-16 power tiller and tractors. Villages will be electrified with the use of bio-fuel as diesel substitute in generators.

Power tillers can be run with the use of bio-fuel which can be used directly without any processing.

During his inspection tour of NyaungU, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on wide use of bio-fuel in farm equipment.

in summer after unnecessary branches are cut. The *Jatropha curcas* is a medicinal plant. Its oil can be used as laxative and applied on skin and it cures muscle pain, tooth ache and scabies and dysentery. Soft stem can be used as a brush. Liquid from the root can also be used as anti-venom. The plant is useful to man in numerous ways. Therefore let's grow physic nut (*Jatropha curcas*) most extensively.

(Translations: ST+NY)
Kyemon: 14-1-2006



Ripe physic nut and its seeds.

one place to another for the convenience of the people. Man has relied on fuel oil, a natural resource of the earth, in transporting their goods. However, oil deposits have been on the decline with the passage of time. Therefore, many countries of the world are in search of alternative sources of fuel oil. They are conducting research on production of fuel oil from some crops.

In Myanmar, since 2004, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in cooperation with its branches such as Myanma Agriculture Service, Myanma Farm Enterprise, Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise and Agricultural Mechanization Department has innovated ways and finally succeeded in producing bio-diesel from physic nut (*Jatropha curcas*).

People have been growing physic nut plants in dry regions of Myanmar such as Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway divisions for

black. The origin of *Jatropha curcas* is Central American countries such as Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. Then it spread to the Caribbean, the West Indies and South American countries. Then Portuguese merchants carried it to Africa and Asian countries including Myanmar about 17th century. Physic nut is a perennial tree with a height of 6 to 18 feet. Its stem and branches are hollow. Its leaves look like cotton leaves. It comes into bloom and bears fruits twice a year. For the first time, the flowers bloom during January and February and fruits can be harvested in May. For the second time, the flowers bloom during August and September and fruits can be harvested during November and December. Blooming and bearing of fruits of a physic nut tree depend on moisture. Its fruit is round and 2.54 centimetres in size. A bunch of the tree bears five to ten fruits. The plant's lifespan is up to 50 years and it can



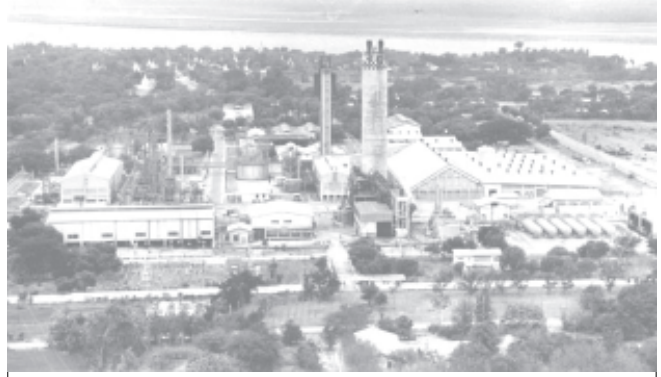
A farmer plucks physic nut.

Energy sector witnesses sustained progress

Increased production of oil and gas in the time of the Tatmadaw Government

Emerging oil refineries and petroleum product factories

In striving for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, emphasis is being placed on development of every sector. The energy sector plays an important role in nation-building endeavours. To be able to distribute oil and fuel to



An aerial view of No-1 Fertilizer plant (Sale) of Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy in Chauk.

Oil refineries and petroleum product factories

Sr	Subject	1988	2005	Progress
1	Oil refinery	3	3	Upgrading machine power
2	Gas plant	1	3	2
3	Fertilizer factory	3	4	1
4	Methanol factory	1	1	Upgrading machine power
5	Tar factory	-	1	1
6	Carbon dioxide factory	-	1	1

projects being implemented throughout the country, border areas, departments and workshops and factories and respective townships in time, more oil refineries and petroleum product factories have been built. The table shows increase in the number of oil refineries and petroleum product factories in the time of the Tatmadaw government. *****



SPED Deputy Director-General U Thein Aung, Dr Khin Shwe (President of Ze Gabar Co), and Mrs Achara Artipanu open the sale centre. — MNA

Sports gear sale centre opened

YANGON, 16 Jan—The new sale centre for sports gear of Winner & Sport Land Co. Ltd was opened in a ceremony on 14 January at No 352/366, Upper Maha Bandoola Park Street in Kyauktada Township. The ceremony was attended by Deputy Director-General U Thein Aung of Sports and Physical Education Department, President of Myanmar Swimming Federation and also the president of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe (President of Ze Gabar Co), Vice-President U Tint Hsan (President of ACE Construction) and executives, Managing Director Mrs Achara Artipanu of Landco Sport and Musical Co. Ltd, Managing Director U Tauk Tun of Winner & Sport Land Co. Ltd and guests. Director-General U Thein Aung, Dr Khin Shwe and Mrs Achara Artipanu cut the ribbon to open the centre. Next, Managing Director U Tauk Tun pressed the button to open the centre. The guests viewed round the centre. MNA

Workshop on HRD & Vocational Training for Person with Disabilities held

Yangon, 16 Jan—National Workshop on HRD & Vocational Training for Person with Disabilities organized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Welfare of Japan took place this morning at Traders Hotel. Director-General U Sit Myaing of Social Welfare Department and Minister Chancellor of the Japan to Myanmar Mr Kawa Mura Hiroshi delivered addresses. Resource Persons from Japan, Thailand and Myanmar will submit papers on Vocational Rehabilitation Programme for PWD to the two-day workshop and panel discussion will be held. MNA



Director-General U Sit Myaing speaks at National Workshop on HRD & Vocational Training for Person with Disabilities. — SOCIAL WELFARE

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

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...

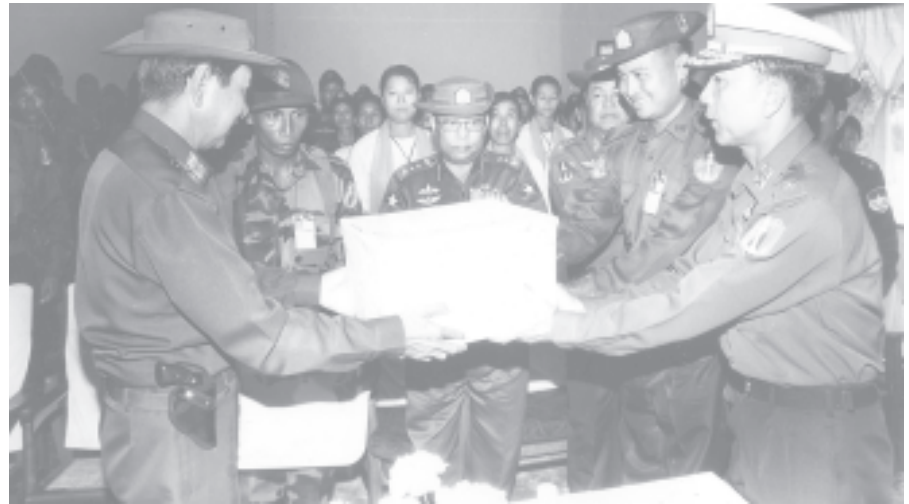
(from page 1)

in pearl culture camp and 45 days old oysters and 60 days and above. One and half years old and two and half years old oysters.

There are four kinds of pearl in international pearl market— Akoya

physic nut, ring road of Katan Island. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye then gave instructions and met Tatmadaw (Navy) members and families.

They toured Kyunzu and inspected ring road of Katan Island. They



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents gift to Tatmadaw (Navy) members and families.—MNA

went to Myeik by helicopter. They were welcomed by Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hon Ngaing and senior military officers.

Prime Minister General Soe Win and party met departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders.

Chairman of Kyunzu Township Peace and Development Council U Than Nyunt reported on area and population, rice cultivation, oil palm, rub-

ber and pepper and sufficiency, fish and meat sector, construction of ring road, education, health and communication matters.

Officials concerned reported on education and health matters of Kyunzu. Prime Minister General Soe Win fulfilled the requirements. He spoke at length the government's tasks for peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order, implementation of short-term plans, sufficiency of

rice and cultivation of cash perennial crops in the region, implementation of regional and national development of Taninthayi Division which possesses land and marine resources.

Secretary-General of USDA Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and CEC members Ministers Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Dr Chan Nyein met secretaries, executives and organizers at the Myeik District USDA office on 14 Janu-

ary.

On 12 January, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa met service personnel of Social Welfare Department and Immigration Department and National Registration Department and Fire Brigade members at Kawthoung District INRD.

On 15 January, the minister met trainees of vocational training course for women in Kasket Village and presented cash and clothes for them.

MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye hears reports on pearl culture presented by Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye meets Tatmadaw (Navy) members.—MNA

pearl, Tahitian pearl, South Sea pearl and fresh water pearl. Myanmar pearl, a kind of South Sea one, is large and its value is high.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met Tatmadaw (Navy) members and families and presented gifts to them. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party observed beauty of Pearl Island and beaches.

In the afternoon, they went to Kyunzu by helicopter.

At the Station Hall, Brig-Gen Win Shein reported on cooperation for development of Kyunzu, cultivation of rubber and pepper, plantation of

Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia holds meeting

YANGON, 16 Jan — Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia held their group meeting at Hall No-6 of Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township today.

Movie Director U Khin Zaw presided over the meeting together with members of the panel of chairmen President of Myanmar Technicians Association Dr U Thein Oo Po Saw and Surgeon Dr Thein Nyunt {Nyunt Wai (Katha)}.

Deputy Director U Than Win and Assistant Director U Nyein Myint of Work Group-8 of the

National Convention Convening Work Committee acted as Masters of Ceremonies.

The MC announced the validity of the meeting as 54 delegates out of 56 attended the meeting accounting 96.43 percent. First, meeting chairman Movie Director U Khin Zaw delivered a speech.

Next, those present discussed proposal (draft) 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.

Rector U San Tint of

Mawlamyine University presented 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.

Those present took

part in the discussions. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman.— MNA



Chairman A movie director U Khin Zaw speaking at the group meeting.—MNA



The panel of chairmen at the mass meeting in support of the National Convention seen. —MNA

Government realizing people's wishes...

(from page 16)

Speaking on the occasion, the meeting chairman said that in all seriousness the government has been realizing the people's wishes. It abolished the single party system and centralized economic system and has laid down the foundation



U Tin Tun of Mandalay Division USDA.—MNA

for a democratic state in accord with the wish of the people. It has been holding the National Convention to draft a constitution essential for the democracy transition. Every independent nation has a constitution. Constitution is the lifeblood of the people and the nation. Thus, all should play their own role in drafting the constitution.

The new constitution is being drafted at the Convention based on the studies of the past constitutions and constitutions of the world nations. The holding of the Convention is the only means to build a discipline-flourishing democratic state in the interest of the nation and the

people. Making of the collective discussions and suggestions at the National Convention, with the participation of various nationalities, is the best way for building a democratic state in the future.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his guidance said, "People will be able to observe discipline and differentiate between right and wrong in practising democracy only if they are highly educated. They can make wrong choices, that are not free from corruption, because of the lack of education to differentiate between right and wrong. If so, the democracy system will be an undisciplined one like that of the parliamentary democracy era and cease to exist. In this regard, the government has been developing the human resources region-wise."

The Myanmar people at present are able to differentiate what is right and what is wrong. Thus, the people never accept any scheme to break up the Union and put the nation back under subjugation. The people are now witnessing the all-round developments in every part of the nation. The seven-point Road Map will be implemented step by step to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. All the peo-

ple will play their own part for the success of the National Convention.

Mandalay District USDA Executive U Tin Tun tabled a motion in support of the National Convention, saying that looking back to political history of the past, internal armed emergency was rooted in the nation due to discord sown by colonialists among national brethren and narrow-minded attitudes, and the people suffered a variety of hardships.

Splits among political parties also spawned underground



Daw Khin May Myint of Mandalay Division MAO.—MNA

armed insurrection. In consequence, the national people did not fully enjoy the taste of independence. In 1988 also, internal uprising occurred in the nation, and the Tatmadaw had to take over the State responsibilities when it came to the duty of safeguarding the public interest.

To fulfil the wishes of the people, the Tatmadaw government abolished the single party system and has taken steps to build infrastruc-

tures so as to shape a democratic nation. To develop a democracy is to ensure peace and stability of the State, community peace and tranquility and rule of law. Owing to the efforts of the State, armed national race groups returned to the legal fold. The government built facilities across the nation such as dams, reservoirs, roads and bridges, hospitals, schools, universities and colleges and industrial zones. With development fruits, it is trying to shape a democracy in accord with the four political objectives by convening the National Convention that represents all national people.

So, it can be witnessed that the State is giving priority to the emergence of a genuine democratic nation. There



Cpt Myint Swe (Retd) of Mandalay Division WVO.—MNA

are 76 delegates from every township of Mandalay Division and 56 national race delegates attending the National Convention. The government has taken measures to enable the delegates of all national races to discuss their own issues and make propos-

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urges...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that timber production should be conducted systematically. He also explained the need to conserve forests. In Bawdigon Yuzana prawn farm, he observed physic nut cultivation. An official of Yuzana Co Ltd reported to him on salient points of the farm.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than made arrangements for work facilitation.

In Ngwehsaung town, Patheingyi District, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with officials local authorities, and so-

cial organizations.

He said that physic nut cultivation should be increased annually to help fulfill the nation's fuel needs. Coastal and deep-sea fishing the main business of the region should be further developed.

Regional economic progress will lead to regional development, he said. Persons concerned should work for the rule of law and the prevalence of peace and tranquillity in Ngwehsaung crowded with foreign and local visitors.

MNA

Seek your own fairness Build your own nation

- * Fairness is not far
Seek true fairness, and you'll find
It yourself.
- * Fairness only, if you'll seek
Will point clearly to peace
A haven for your own life
Also transport you to heaven.
- * If you seek fairness for you in others
Then you'll find of odds
What you seek to do, and what you find
With wrong thought to and knowledge
You might cross into wrong path.
- * Buddha has preached that
The way to finding fairness
Is for humans, and for community interest
Which, when properly done
Will be for goodness of humankind
And goodness will radiate.

Nwai Cho (Trs.)

als at the NC. All Myanmar citizens have freedom of religion and are living in unity and amity. He went on to say that thanks to the existing dams and reser-

voirs built by ancestors, the people of today are able to enjoy a comfortable life. Now, the government is also taking measures to develop the

(See page 10)



Daw Hnin Shwe Zin and Daw Khin Lapyi of Mandalay Division USDA act as MCs. —MNA

Government realizing people's wishes...

(from page 9)

country in all aspects. The Tatmadaw is born of the people and is a patriotic and not mercenary one. The Tatmadaw is well-disciplined and loyal to the State. The Tatmadaw government did not convene the National Convention of its own accord. Prior to the convening of the NC, it held a coordination meeting together with delegates of legitimate political parties, independent



Dr Moe Thu Win of Mandalay Division MCWAC.—MNA

representatives-elect and delegates who were elected in 1990 elections. The meeting passed the resolutions to convene the National Convention with the six objectives. All the people believe that the ongoing National Convention will serve the interest of the people and shape a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation. In conclusion, he said all the people are fully in support of the National Convention that is working to draw an enduring State constitution.

Next, Daw Khin May Myint of Mandalay Division Women's Affairs Committee seconded the motion to support the National Convention. She said that in building a modern and developed nation, women are to participate in the process as a main force since over half the population of Myanmar are women. In the course of Myanmar history, women played a crucial role in nation-building endeavours as men did. At present also, the Women's Affairs Organizations are at the service of the mass of women.

Women delegates such as intellectuals and intelligentsia and national race women are participating in the National Convention. The entire

national people including women will have equal rights and opportunities with the emergence of an enduring State constitution.

In the Union of Myanmar, women have been fully enjoying women's rights. Women play an important role in national development tasks and the government acknowledged the importance of women in the process of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. All the Myanmar women have the rights to work, to pursue education, to vote and to

were engaged in nation-building endeavours in addition to Tatmadaw duties in time of emergency. In the time of Myanmar kings, the heads of State including ministers were fully equipped with knowledge and prowess and they took part in the internal affairs together with the people.

Looking back to a time after which independence was regained, the Tatmadaw had to assume the State responsibilities when there occurred political and economic deprivation. At present also, the

government is trying its utmost for prevalence of peace and tranquillity while engaging in national development tasks. As a result, peace and stability has been restored all over the nation.

The Tatmadaw government has been making all-out efforts for the nation to keep abreast of the world community and for all-round development of the State. In the process, it is holding the National Convention for the emergence of a new democratic nation the entire national people long for.

In conclusion, he said that he seconded the

motion to fully support the National Convention. Dr Moe Thu Win of Mandalay Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee seconded the motion. She said that the National Convention, in which various national races, people of all walks of life and representatives of the political parties are taking part, is the political turning point of the nation. The people are glad to see the persons who love and cherish the nation and

nation also has 1964 health centres and many advanced hospitals. Myanmar is now free from smallpox, leprosy and polio. The government has been launching the anti-HIV/AIDS campaign with the help of social organizations. The people are witnessing the development of all sectors including the health sector of the nation. The people support the National Convention and are playing an active role for its success. Industrialist U Win Tun of Mandalay Industrial Zone seconded the motion saying that the government's endeavours are for emergence of a developed nation. It is overcoming all difficulties to realize the goal. In its drive for national all-round development, the government has been giving priority to the industrial sector. It formed the Myanmar Industrial Development Committee. Now the nation has 18 industrial zones. Its has now 792 State-owned industries, up from 624 in 1988; and 80,000 private industries, up from 35,000. The steel mills at the industrial zones can smelt up to 1,000 tons of iron per year. The industrial sector is now producing more farm machinery for agricultural development.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his guidance said that design, quality of raw materials, precision and innovation are required in manufacturing industrial goods. The government has been developing the industrial sector in accord with the guidance. The Head of State and high level officials are visiting the industrial zones and making arrangements for their progress. A large number of industries have emerged in the surrounding areas of Mandalay, Kyaukse and Pyin Oo Lwin.

The government is also developing the education sector to produce highly qualified human resources. It has been holding the National Convention at Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, to hand over the State power back to the people. Because of the developments they are witnessing in every part and sector of the nation, the people are happy as they are sure to reach a developed and modern discipline-flour-

ishing democratic nation. Thus they all support the National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map.

Deputy Division Law Officer Daw Mie Mie Thet seconded the motion in support of the National Convention. She said 104 basic principles were laid down at the meetings of the National Convention held from 1993 to 1996. The government also announced the seven-point Road Map without losing sight of restoration of democracy. The essence of democracy is the respect for the desire of the majority. The desire of the people is to establish a peaceful modern developed nation. The National Convention paves the way for a modern developed discipline-flourishing nation.

Next, Dr Soe Lin of Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay Division seconded the motion in support of the National Convention. He said the government made ceasefire with armed groups and was able to build national reconsolidation and peace. Efforts for development of political, economic, education and health sectors mean for the interest of the people. The seven-point Road Map was announced and its first step is being implemented in Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township.

In making efforts for interest of the people and the nation, accurate plans and objectives are very important. The National Convention in session is the one that brings about human rights and prosperity of the people. It is also a convention that the people who want democracy



Dr Soe Lin of Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay Division.—MNA

should take part in it.

Next, the meeting chairman sought the approval of the participants who unanimously supported the National Convention. The mass meeting ended with chanting of the slogans.

MNA

National Convention, in which various national races, people of all walks of life and representatives of the political parties are taking part, is the political turning point of the nation.

take part in every organization like the men do. Women from big nations which are advocating democracy enjoyed the rights to vote like the men only in middle of the 20th Century.

In Myanmar, 3 July is designated as Myanmar Women's Day and ceremonies to mark the MWD are held all over the nation. Nowadays, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation that represents over 27 million of Myanmar women has been formed. The MWAFF has been participating in the UN's women activities.

The entire mass of Myanmar women have made a resolution to do their bit in building a new, modern and developed nation. The ongoing National Convention is to ensure security and development of Myanmar women, flourishing of women's rights and to enable the entire national races to fully enjoy human rights.

In conclusion, she said that she seconded the motion to support the National Convention that will satisfy the wishes of the entire national people.

Afterwards, Captain Myint Swe (Retd) of Mandalay Division War Veterans Organization seconded the motion to support the National Convention, saying that the Tatmadaw was formed with offspring of various national races for defending and safeguarding the nation. In the course of history, the Tatmadaw

Tatmadaw has to continue assuming the national duties with ardent national-



Industrialist U Win Tun of Mandalay Industrial Zone.—MNA

istic spirit.

Owing to endeavours and goodwill of the Tatmadaw government, national race armed groups had returned to the legal fold and they are now taking part in national development tasks together with the people. In the time of Tatmadaw government unprecedented progress has been made in national reconsolidation. Now, the government has laid down and is implementing the seven-point Road Map, and progress has been made in this regard. The National Convention is a mass meeting where various national forces meet and shape the future of the State. Including the basic principle which calls for Tatmadaw's participation in national political leadership role amounts to acknowledging efforts of the Tatmadaw in the course of history.

Nowadays, the entire national people are enjoying the fruits of development accrued from efforts of the Tatmadawmen who are in constant service of the State. The Tatmadaw gov-

ernment is trying its utmost for prevalence of peace and tranquillity while engaging in national development tasks. As a result, peace and stability has been restored all over the nation.

The Tatmadaw government has been making all-out efforts for the nation to keep abreast of the world community and for all-round development of the State. In the process, it is holding the National Convention for the emergence of a new democratic nation the entire national people long for.



Deputy Division Law Officer Daw Mie Mie Thet.—MNA

races, implementing the national task dutifully. The entire national people are rendering assistance to the National Convention with national outlook and patriotism. The government has been striving for the success of the Convention relying on the strength of the nation.

The government formed the Myanmar National Health Committee. The nation now has 824 hospitals, up from 631 in 1988; 15 medical universities, up from three in the past; 251 traditional medicine clinics, up from 91; and 43 health training schools, up from 26. The

People urged to take part in growing physic nut

YANGON, 16 Jan — To hail the National Convention, a ceremony to put 100 acres of land under physic nut was held at No 3 high land farm in North-East Command on 15 January. It was attended by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Defence, senior military officers, local authorities and social organizations.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan urged the officials and the people to actively take part in the tasks for growing physic nut as a national duty.

The commander explained measures for

growing physic nut being carried out in the state.

Those present observed physic nut plants, its seeds and oil, physic nut oil-used stoves and lamps.

The commander and the minister replied to the queries raised by those present who accepted physic nut plants.

The commander and party encouraged growing of physic nut being carried out by the people.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Minister Col Zaw Min attended a ceremony to unveil the signboard to hail the National Convention.

They also inspected thriving 300 acres of Hsinshweli orange plantation as poppy-substitute crop in Naung Mon village in Lashio Township.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspect production process of physic nut oil. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspect stoves and lamps with use of physic nut oil. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan present saplings of physic nut to local farmers. — MNA

Energy Minister inspects research works

YANGON, 16 Jan — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay and officials inspected research works for using physic nut oil as diesel-substitute fuel being carried out at Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, No 1 Refinery (Thanlyin) in Thanlyin Township, Yangon Division this afternoon.

Acting Managing Director U Thuang Myint explained research findings on physic nut to the minister who left instructions.

The minister and party viewed findings,

test-running of bio-diesel and test-running of bio-diesel-used power tillers

and TE 21 vehicles. They also inspected PP bag for chemical fertilizer factory

at the Refinery compound and attended to the needs.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspect test-run of tractors with the use of physic nut oil. — (ENERGY)

Dhammazedì

Sayadaw to deliver sermons

YANGON, 16 Jan — Dhammazedì Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kosalla, Maha Dhammacariya MA (Buddhism) will deliver sermons at Thaton on 15 to 21 January, at Myaungmya monastery in Patheingyi on 23 January, at U Po Htu street in Kyimyindine on 24 January, at Thida street in Kyaukmyaung and Shwebonepyint Pagoda in Puzundaung on 25 January, in Thonze on 26 January, in Thongwa on 27 January, at Pan Hlaing Housing Estate in Kyimyindine and 11 Ward in Hline Township on 28 January, in Patheingyi on 29 and 30 January and at Myatthitsa Dhammayon in Dagon Myothit (South) Township on 31 January.

MNA

Gems and jade sales commence

YANGON, 16 Jan — The 20th Gems and Jade Sales of the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited commenced at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning.

A total of 286 lots of gem and 986 lots of jade will be sold through tender system and competitive bidding.

Gem merchants will inspect the gem and jade lots until 18 January. On 19 January, the gem and jade lots will be sold through bargain and auction system.

A total of 1,126 gem merchants— 715 from abroad and 411 at home have arrived at the sales.

MNA



Lots of jade to be sold at the 20th gems and jade sale. — MNA

State service personnel getting in touch with the people, see that all the detailed basic principles are in conformity with the nation's objective conditions

YANGON, 16 Jan — *The following is a translation of suggestions of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Thein Lwin of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue 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 9 January at Nyaungnmapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

Members of the group took time to thoroughly study the clarification made by Work Committee Chairman concerning the matter. We of the delegate group find the detailed basic principles suitable for the objective conditions of the nation.

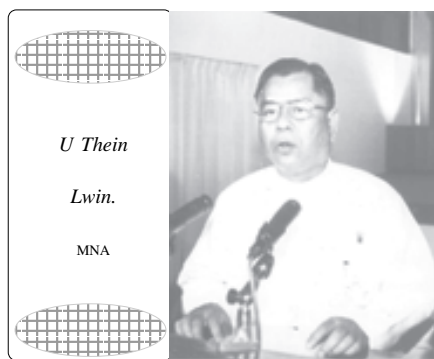
The Work Committee Chairman's clarification includes the tenure of the hluttaws, the first session of the hluttaws, the taking of the oath of the members, the number of hluttaw meetings in a year, the functions of the hluttaws, the validity of the meetings, the making of approvals, leave, vacancies, the publication of the records, distribution of the legislative power, releasing of the laws, bylaws and rules and regulations, the submission and approval of bills, the powers and functions of the Speaker, and the publications.

As the following 23 points explained by the Work Committee Chairman are comprehensive, they should be adopted as detailed basic principles for the Constitution.

1. (a) The day the tenure of region or state Hluttaws comes into force is that of the Pyithu 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 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
- (h) Raising queries and replying them
- (i) 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 the 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
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 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.

As State service personnel are always getting in touch with the people, we see that all the detailed basic principles are in conformity with the nation's objective conditions. Thus, they are appropriate for the future nation.— MNA

The 28 detailed basic principles for legislative functions explained by the Work Committee Chairman are based on liberty, justice and equality for the people

YANGON, 16 Jan — *The following is a translation of suggestions of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons submitted to the plenary session of the National Convention by U Sai Khun Mein of Shwe Pyi Aye (MTA) Group 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 9 January at Nyaungnnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

On behalf of the delegate group of other invited persons, we three will present the detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw in formulating the State Constitution.

We members of the delegate group of other invited persons held discussions at the coordination meeting of the delegate group of other invited persons on 16 December 2005 and elected a 23-member paper compilation team led by the panel of chairmen. To obtain the unanimous consent of the whole team comprising 89 members and to complete this paper correctly, we had to hold knee-to-knee discussions twice. In the process, we made efforts to be part of the drive for the emergence of the Constitution of the future nation.

Regarding the detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw in formulating the State Constitution, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee U Aung Toe explained 28 detailed basic principles for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at the National Convention held on 13 December, 19 detailed basic principles for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw at the National Convention held on 14 December, and 23 detailed basic principles for the Region or State Hluttaw at the plenary session of the National Convention held on 15 December 2005.

In observing the clarification of the Work Committee Chairman on the detailed basic principles for the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, we found the points. They are: —

He suggested the Hluttaw Speaker be vested with the power to fix time for the session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and to convene the sessions.

And such basic principle for members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to convene sessions as—

- nine work programmes for the sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the basic principle to convene a special or emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the right of the Patron of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to convene such a session,
- to convene such a session with instruction of the President,
- the basic principle to convene a special or emergency session with the requisition of one-fourth of the membership of the Hluttaw concerned. Moreover,
- the detailed basic principle on the quorum necessary for validity of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the detailed basic principle on making a decision through voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the detailed basic principle on taking action against a member of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw who is absent from a session,
- the detailed basic principle on ensuring validity of the decisions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw notwithstanding the activities of a person who is not entitled to attend a Hluttaw, are laid down in accordance with the procedures on convening of sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to be able avert possible future disputes. So, they should be adopted. Besides that, he discussed—
- matters on issuing the activities of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the power of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to enact laws,

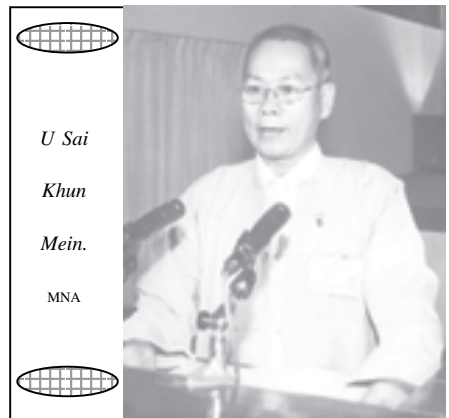
- the basic principle on vesting power in the body concerned to issue orders in enacting a law,
- the basic principle to vest power to decide international, regional or bilateral treaties submitted by the President,
- the basic principle to seek approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and to decide to enact an ordinance or not, reflect the sharing or power between the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the President, and prevent carrying out tasks solely by an individual or body. So, they should be adopted. In addition,
- the detailed basic principle on the matters administered by the Union level bodies, and submission of bills to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the principle to initiate the bills at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw that are submitted in accordance with the Constitution by Union level bodies,
- the basic principle on the right of the bill scrutinizing committees of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw to scrutinize the bills, and submit them along with their findings and comments regarding the bills to be discussed and decided at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw before tackling the bills at the Hluttaw concerned,
- the basic principle on making a decision at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw do not reach an agreement regarding a bill,
- the basic principle on the right of the President to approve, promulgate and issue a bill that is sent by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the basic principle on the right of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to approve, enact and issue a bill that is sent back by the President,
- the basic principle to issue in the Union gazette the laws under the signature of the President and laws deemed to have been signed by the President, and to make them come into force,
- the basic principle on the right of members of a Union level body to discuss the bills of the body concerned at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. We have notice that these eight detailed basic principles have been laid down to ensure coordination and harmony between the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw. So, they should be adopted.

When we further studied the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in detail, we found duties and rights of the Patron of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. They are:

- In the legislative functions to elect the Patron of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw who will have to convene the first session, the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw will have to serve as the Patron of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in the first 30 months of the term of the Pyithu Hluttaw. Apart from that,
- the duties and rights of the Patron of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw,
- the right to submit the situations of the Union level bodies to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the approval of the Patron,
- the power to be vested in members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to vote, along with the power to take action against a member who commit a physical assault,
- the power to be vested in the Patron when need arises to arrest a member of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and a person entitled to a session,
- legal privileges regarding publications and reports of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The points we have found are the ones that should be adopted for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the Constitution.

The 28 detailed basic principles for legislative functions explained by the Work Committee Chairman are based on liberty, justice and equality for the people. So, we members of the delegate group of other invited persons would like to make a suggestion the detailed basic principles be adopted. They are:



(1) The first session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be held within 15 days after the beginning of the first session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.”

(2) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at least once a year. The maximum time limit between one meeting and another should not exceed 12 months

(3) The following tasks shall be carried out at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meetings:

- (a) Recording the address delivered by the President
- (b) Reading out and the recording the message sent by the President and other messages permitted by the President
- (c) Submitting and discussing and making decision on a bill
- (d) Discussing and deciding the opinion and remarks of the President concerning a bill approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
- (e) Discussing and deciding the matter the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has to implement in accord with the provisions contained in the Constitution
- (f) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
- (g) Submitting proposals, and making discussions and decisions
- (h) Asking questions and replying answers
- (i) Implementing the matters permitted by the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(4) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as necessary”

(5) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw soonest when the President informs the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker to convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw”

(6) The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw when at least one fourth of the total membership of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw ask to convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw”

(7) (a) The first day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be valid if more than half the number of members, who have the right to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting, are present. The meeting, if invalid, shall be adjourned.

(b) The meetings that are adjourned due to invalidity in accord with the sub para (a) as well as the valid meetings that are extended will be valid if at least one third of the Hluttaw members are present.

(8) (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting, shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.

(See page 14)

The 28 detailed basic principles for legislative functions explained by the Work Committee Chairman are based on liberty, justice and equality for the people

(from page 13)

- (b) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker acting as such, shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.
- (9) If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is, without permission of the Speaker absent from all meetings of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Speaker shall inform the Hluttaw concerned to take action against the member according to the prescribed rules. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days no account shall be taken of any period during which the Chamber is prorogued, or is adjourned.
- (10) Although there are vacant seats, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or vote or took part in the proceedings are discovered later
- (11) The functions and records of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall not be published."
- (12) (a) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to make laws for the whole or any part of the Union concerning the matters stated in the Union Legislative List.
- (b) If a bill initiated in the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw is approved by both Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, it shall be presumed that the bill is approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (13) (a) When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —
- (i) entrust the right to issue rules, regulation and bylaws concerning the law to the Union level organizations formed according to the Constitution.
- (ii) authorize the respective organizations or authority to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.
- (b) The rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by an Act shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.
- (c) If both the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw decide to annul or amend any one the rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be presumed that the rules, regulations or bylaws are annulled or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (d) If there is any disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning the said rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be decided by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (e) If a decision is made to annul or amend any of the rules, regulations or bylaws according to the para (c) or para (d), the decision shall be without prejudice, however, to the validity of any action previously taken under the rules, regulations or bylaws.
- (14) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw —
- (a) shall give the decision on matters in connection with ratifying, cancelling and withdrawing from international agreements, regional treaties or bilateral agreements submitted by the President.
- (b) may fix the international, regional or bilateral agreements that do not need Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's approval and delegate the President to ratify, cancel and withdraw from them.
- (15) (a) Matters that requires decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, agreement and approval should be implemented as follows:
- (i) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the matter shall be decided at that session.
- (ii) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the discussion and decisions on the matter shall be made at the nearest Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.
- (iii) A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.
- (b) When the President after issuing an ordinance having the force of law submits it to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for approval, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall
- (i) pass a resolution to approve it or not.
- (ii) fix the further period to which the ordinance shall continue to be in force if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves the ordinance.
- (iii) The ordinance shall cease to have effect from the date on which it is disapproved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (16) (a) Of the matters included in the Union legislative list, the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, shall have the right to submit bills on matters under their management, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed procedures.
- (b) Bills on national plans, annual budgets and taxation, which are to be submitted exclusively by the Union government shall be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions for decision.
- (17) Except the bills that are prescribed by the Constitution to be initiated exclusively in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the bills initiated by the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be discussed initially at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw according to the prescribed provisions.
- (18) If a need arises to scrutinize the bills, that are to be discussed and approved exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, they are to be scrutinized jointly by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw bill committee and the Amyotha Hluttaw bill committee, and the bills together with the findings and comments of the joint committee can be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with prescribed provisions.
- (19) If there arises disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning a bill, the bill shall be discussed and approved in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (20) (a) Within 14 days after the date the President receives the bills sent to him by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after approving them and the bills in like manner as if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have approved them, he shall sign the bills and shall promulgate them into law.
- (b) The President shall send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time to sign and promulgate it into an Act.
- (c) Although the President does not send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, if the Bill is not signed by the President within 14 days after the date of presentation, the same shall be become an Act in like manner as if he had signed it on the last of the said 14 days.
- (21) (a) If the President sends back the bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after studying the President's comments, can accept his comments or can decide to amend the bill, or shall make a decision to approve the bill in its original state if it does not agree the President's comments.
- (b) The President shall sign the bill and enact it into an Act on the last of the said seven days if the bill so amended according to his comments or his comments are not accepted and the bill approved in its original state is sent back to him with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's decision.
- (c) If the bill sent back to the President by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not signed by the President within the fixed time, the same shall be become an Act in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the said time limit.
- (22) The Acts signed by the President and the Acts deemed to have been signed by the President shall be promulgated in the gazette. The Act shall come into force on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention is expressed.
- (23) Members of the organizations representing the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution while attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker have right to explain the bills and other matters in connection with their respective organizations.
- (24) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker shall —
- (a) supervise the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sessions
- (b) invite the President, if the President informs him of his desire to address the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
- (c) have the power to invite organization and persons representing any Union level organizations formed under the Constitution to attend and give clarifications on one of the matters of the ongoing discussions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session if necessary
- (d) implement his other duties and functions designated by the constitution or any law
- (25) The Union level organizations formed under the Constitution shall submit their general condition, necessary to be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with the permission of the Speaker.
- (26) (a) Subject to the provisions contained in the constitution, and the provisions stipulated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Committee. Concerning the discussions and functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Joint Committee, a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member shall be absolutely privileged, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (b) Subject to the provisions contained in the constitution, and the provisions stipulated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of organizations or persons representing any one of the Union level organizations invited to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have the freedom of speech. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of s of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (c) However, if the persons mentioned in the above para (a) and para (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing law.
- (27) If there arises a need to arrest a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member attending a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at the invitation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without the prior permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.
- (28) The reports, documents and Hluttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.

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Thein Aung B.Sc.L.D.S.L Advocate MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM E-mail: mtpp@ngpmail.net.mm Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:695 Yangon. 17 January 2006

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SANG THAI XEBEC VOYNO(16/2005)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SANG THAI XEBEC VOY NO (16/2005) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.1.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMAR INDUSTRIAL PORT 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 SANG THAI SHIPPING LTD, BANGKOK

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEA MERCHANT VOYNO (635)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (635) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.1.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

8:00 am	7. အတီပြိုင်ပွဲ	၁၂နာရီ-စောစောလှိုင်
8:10 am	8. Song of yesteryears	5:15 pm
8:20 am	9. အတီပြိုင်ပွဲ	8. The mirror images of the musical oldies
8:25 am	10. အခါချောင်းတံတား	5:25 pm
8:30 am	11. International news	9. Sing and Enjoy
8:45 am	12. Let's Go	6:00 pm
4:00 pm	1. Martial song	10. Evening news
4:15 pm	2. Songs to uphold National Spirit	6:30 pm
4:30 pm	3. အတီပြိုင်ပွဲ	11. Weather report
4:45 pm	2. အစေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ၃ တီ ဝ နှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြုများ)(ဓာတုဗေဒ)	6:35 pm
4:50 pm	5. Dance of national races	12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်ချင်အားဖြင့်ပစ္စုပ္ပန်ဆိတ်ဆေး" (အပိုင်း-၅၆)
5:00 pm	6. သားငါးဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြည့်အကျိုး	6:55 pm
5:10 pm	7. "အာဆေး"	13. ကြက်ဆူရိုင်းမှ အိုင်အိုဒီဇယ်
	မိုးဒီး၊ ဓာတ်သက်အောင်၊ ဘောင်း အိမ်ပြန်ထွန်း	7:05 pm
		14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အရစ်ဆွေကားတစ်လေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၃၁)
		7:50 pm
		15. လောဝီဇာနစ်: အင်အသုံးဝင် ဖြစ်စဉ်: ရိုးကြက်ဆူပင် (ကြက်ဆူရိုင်းမှ အိုင်အိုဒီဇယ်)
		8:00 pm
		16. News
		17. International news
		18. Weather report
		19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပျော်စရာပွဲစဉ်နေ့လေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၂)
		20. The next day's programme

Cold wave claims 17 lives in central Nepal

KATHMANDU, 15 Jan— The cold wave, which has been continuing in the Terai belt of central Nepal since the beginning of January, has claimed 17 lives, state-run Radio Nepal reported on Saturday.

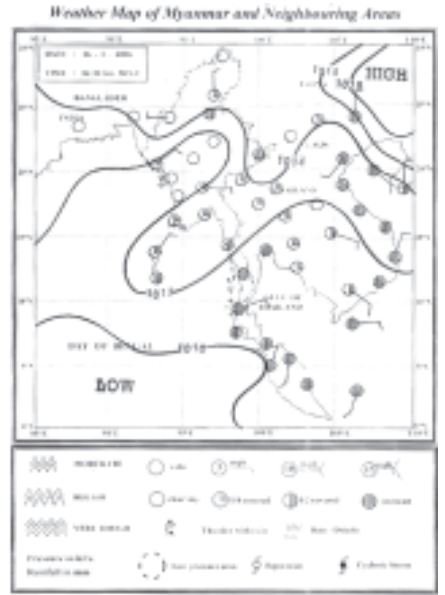
A pneumonia epidemic has gripped the Terai belt as a result of the cold wave.

There is a surge of pneumonia patients at local hospitals, health posts and sub health posts, the radio said.

The cold spell has affected senior citizens and children the most, the radio quoted chief of the Gaur Hospital, Sham Shankar Thakur, as saying.

The cold wave and fog also affected air flights in the Terai belt. "Even the birds were hit hard by the cold wave," the radio added.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Monday, 16 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) above normal in Kachin and Taninthayi Division, (3°C) below normal in Yangon and upper Sagaing Divisions, (6°C) below normal in Chin State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Pinlaung (3°C), Namsam, Mindat and Mogok (4°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 15-1-2006 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 16-1-2006 was 56°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 16-1-2006 was (87%). Total sunshine hours on 15-1-2006 was (6.0) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 16-1-2006 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 (4) mph from Southwest at (11:20) hours MST on 15-1-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17-1-2006: Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State and weather will be partly cloudy in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and fair in the remaining States and Divisions. 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 extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-1-2006: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-1-2006: Fair weather.



Tuesday, 17 January Tune in today

8.30 am	Brief news
8.35 am	Music: -Winning
8.40 am	Perspectives
8.45 am	Music: -Lying eyes
8.50 am	National news & Slogan
9:00 am	Music: - Wonderful land
9:05 am	International news
9:10 am	Music: - Get back
1:30 pm	News & Slogan
1:40 pm	Lunch time music: - Have you ever been in love? -Scarborough hair -Funny -This I promise you -Written in the star
9.00 pm	English Speaking Course
9.10 pm	Article
9.20 pm	Weekly Sports
9.30 pm	Listening pleasure
9.45 pm	New & Slogan
10.00 pm	PEL



Tuesday, 17 January View on today

7:00 am	1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
7:15 am	2. တိမ်ငှက်ရေ ဓမ္မာနာဂါရီက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာယဏ္ဍိတာ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာ အိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပြိုင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပွဲတော်
7:25 am	3. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am	4. Morning news
7:40 am	5. Nice and sweet song
7:50 am	6. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urges to increase physic nut cultivation to help fulfil nation's fuel needs

YANGON, 16 Jan — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence visited the station hospital on Haingyi Island on 14 January.

Accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected betel nut, pepper and rubber plantations of the regional station. He also made arrangements to increase the cultivation of physic nut.

The station has 12,038 acres of rubber and 50,000 rubber saplings, 53 acres of pepper plantations, 109,600 physic nut plants and 66,699 betel nut plants.

At Pawphaw village, Khayinwachaung village-tract, in Ngapudaw Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with locals, saying that the government will render assistance for the village's development. He also observed the development of the village.

On arrival at Wakalaw raft jetty in Ngapudaw, he heard a report on production of timber, area of reserve forests, target production and other matters.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects rubber nursery in Haingyi Station. —MNA

Government realizing people's wishes in all seriousness

Mass meeting in Mandalay supports National Convention



YANGON, 16 Jan — Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association sponsored a mass meeting in support of the National Convention in Bahtoo Sports Ground in Mandalay on 14 January.

Present were Secretary of Division USDA U Tin Maung Oo and executives, secretaries and executives of Mandalay District, PyinOoLwin District, Kyaukse District, Meiktila District, Myingyan District, Yamethin District and NyaungU District, secretaries, executives and members of 31 districts in Mandalay Division, members of War Veterans Organization, Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Writers and Journalists Association, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Nurses Association, Music Asiayon, Thabin Asiayon, Myanmar Traditional Arts and Crafts Asiayon, fire brigades, Red

Cross and social organizations, entrepreneurs, industrialists, local people and departmental personnel totalling over 27,200.

Professor of Myanmarsar Department of Mandalay University U Maung Maung Lay presided over the meeting together with Vice-President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Mandalay Division) U Ko Ko Gyi, Chairman of Mandalay Industrial Zone Development Committee U Aung Win Khaing, entrepreneur U Mya Maung, Rector (Retd) of Mandalay Institute of Medicine Dr U Soe Tun, Division Judge (Retd) U Han Nyunt and Principal (Retd) of Magway Degree College.

Executive of Amarapura Township USDA Daw Hnin Shwe Zin, and Executive of Aungmyethazan Township USDA Daw Khin Lapyi acted as MCs.

(See page 9)



Professor of Myanmarsar Department of Mandalay University U Maung Maung Lay speaking at the mass meeting in Mandalay Division in support of the National Convention. —MNA