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Saturday, 9 December, 2006

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Italian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — Mr Giuseppe Cinti, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Italian Republic to the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the

State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Develop-

ment Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.

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Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Mr Giuseppe Cinti, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Italian Republic to the Union of Myanmar.
MNA

Senior General Than Shwe receives Mr Giuseppe Cinti, newly-accredited Ambassador of the Italian Republic to the Union of Myanmar.
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Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 9 December, 2006

Dedicate endeavours to boosting export of beans and pulses

The government is now taking all necessary steps for improving the agriculture sector of the nation such as enabling the farmers to use high-yield strains of diverse crops and advanced agricultural methods, and increasing cultivation and boosting per acre yields of crops.

The farmers, on their part, are extending multiple cropping, reclaiming vacant and virgin lands and low-lying lands, and using high-yield strains of crops. As a result, the nation's output of crops is on the increase, and marketable crops are exported.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, Asia's output of beans and pulses constitutes 45 per cent of that of the world, and Myanmar stands second in the list of world's largest beans and pulses exporting countries. Seventy per cent of Myanmar's beans and pulses are exported to India.

Up to November 2006, beans and pulses were at good prices in the world's market. So, Myanmar is striving for extensive cultivation of beans and pulses including black gram, green gram, pigeon pea, chick pea and cow pea.

Last year, the nation put more than eight million acres under beans and pulses, and the export of beans and pulses fetched over 400 million US dollars. Among the crops, the black gram produced from Maubin, Danubyu and Zalun in Ayeyawady Division, DaikU, Pyundaza and Nyaunglebin in Bago Division, the butterbean from Gangaw Township, the green gram from Kayan and Thongwa in Yangon Division, and the rice bean from Myitche in Pakokku had good reputation for their good quality.

Mostly, farmers cultivate beans and pulses in lower Myanmar, central Myanmar that is arid with a little rainfall and hilly regions in Shan State that are cold with a lot of rainfall. The output of beans and pulses will be on the rise if they all use advanced agricultural methods and suitable strains.

Therefore, farmers, traders and the departments concerned should focus on extensive export of beans and pulses for earning more foreign exchange for the nation.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

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Peoples' 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

ICRC Resident Representative calls on Minister for Home Affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo received Resident Representative of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Mr Patrick Vial at his office, here, at 12 noon.

Also present at the call were Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi of Myanmar Police Force, Director-General U Myat Ko of General Administration Department, Director-General U Aung Saw Win of Bureau of Special Investigation, Director-General U Zaw Win of Prisons



Department and Head of Office U Khin Maung Thein.

Home Affairs Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo receives Resident Representative of ICRC Mr Patrick Vial. —MNA

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Assistance provided to mother inmates at Insein Central Prison

YANGON, 8 Dec — A ceremony to present milk powder, diaper, refreshments and other necessities to 10 female mother inmates and their babies born at the hospital of Insein Central Prison of the Prisons Department was held at the meeting hall No 3 of the prison on 6 December morning.

It was attended by Director-General U Zaw Win of Prisons Department, Chairperson of Prisons Department Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Nwe Ni San, Vice-Chairperson Daw Khin Oo and members, In-charge of the jail U Thet Shay and staff officers, medical in-charge for the female inmate hall Dr Daw Myat Myat Htwe, Staff Officer of female inmate hall Daw Thin Thin Aung and female inmates. The chairperson of MCWA explained the purpose of monthly do-

nations and presented milk powder, diaper, refreshments and other necessities to 10 female

rice gruel to the children and teaches education to them daily. A total of 30 ex-

pectant female inmates are under health care services. MNA



Chairperson of Prisons Department MCWA Daw Nwe Ni San presents milk powder, clothes and food to a female inmate who delivered a baby in November. — MNA

inmates who gave birth babies in November. Doctors of the the jail provided health care services to enable 48 expectant mother inmates to give birth babies. At present, mothers and babies are in good health. There are 104 babies together with mother inmates. The MCWA of the department supplies

All this needs to be known

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

ASEAN aims to build regional community by 2015

MANILA, 6 Dec — The Philippines, the current chair of ASEAN which will host the 12th ASEAN Summit and 2nd East Asian Summit from 10 to 13 December in Cebu, the Philippines, said ASEAN countries aim to build a regional community by 2015.

In a written interview with *Xinhua* on Tuesday, Philippines Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Erlinda Basilio said the summit will issue a Cebu Declaration on Acceleration and Establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015.

She said such an ASEAN

community will have three pillars: security community, economic community and social cultural community.

“The theme of our chairmanship which is ‘Our Caring and Sharing Community’ reflects President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo’s deep commitment to the realization of an ASEAN Community by 2015,” she said.

Basilio said that ASEAN leaders will issue a Cebu Declaration Towards a Caring and Sharing Community “which puts people’s welfare at the very centre of ASEAN programmes”. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Egyptian archaeologists have discovered on 5 Dec, 2006 the funerary remains of a doctor who lived more than 4,000 years ago, including his mummy, sarcophagus and bronze surgical instruments in his tomb near Egypt’s first pyramid. — INTERNET

Central bank ready to issue more measures to curb baht speculation

BANGKOK, 7 Dec — Bank of Thailand’s Governor Tarisa Watanagase on Wednesday stated the central bank was ready to come up with additional measures if existing ones failed to prevent a speculation on baht

Speaking of the baht movement at present, she said the central bank was closely monitoring the currency and was not gravely concerned about its appreciation since it had moved by market mechanism.

On measures taken by the bank early last week to curb the baht speculation,

she said, it needed some time to see whether they would produce an effective result.

She said the measures had already been absorbed. Now, it needed to be monitored how the market would respond to them.

She believed the measures taken would help reduce pressure on the baht appreciation more or less.

“We do not expect an immediate result of the measures because we understand it takes time. How long the measures will take to produce the result cannot be expected.

We need to monitor it for a while,” she said.

Internet



The Freedom of the Seas, the world’s largest cruise ship, sails up New York’s Hudson River past lower Manhattan in New York in 12 May, 2006 file photo. —INTERNET

Gunman caught after opening fire outside US Embassy in Yemen

SANAA, 7 Dec— A gunman opened fire outside the US Embassy in the Yemeni capital with an automatic weapon early Tuesday, but was quickly wounded and arrested by security guards, police said.

The man, armed with a *Kalashnikov* assault rifle, was wounded in an exchange of fire with Yemeni security guards. He was taken to hospital for treatment, police said.

Neither identity of the man or purpose of the attack was immediately known yet, police added.

MNA/Xinhua

Ten US soldiers killed in Iraq

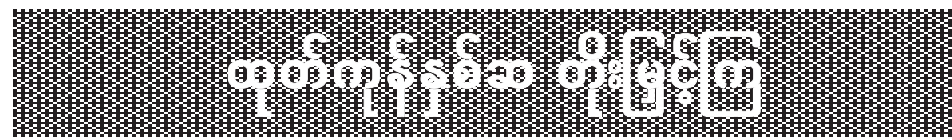
BAGHDAD, 7 Dec— Ten US soldiers were killed in four separate incidents in Iraq Wednesday, the US military confirmed.

Some of the soldiers were killed by roadside bombs and others died in combat, a US military spokesman said, without giving further details.

Earlier, CNN quoted the US military as saying that ten US troops were killed on Wednesday in Iraq in four incidents.

Since the US-led war in Iraq broke out in March 2003, more than 2,919 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq, according to latest media count.—*MNA/Xinhua*

A model displays a “movie cell phone” during the World Telecom 2006 of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Hong Kong, south China, on 4 Dec, 2006. — XINHUA



106-year-old man Guo Cairu stunts as he practises physical exercises on a community square in Nanjing, east China’s Jiangsu Province on 5 Dec, 2006. —XINHUA

Drink delicious tea, help deaf children

BEIJING, 7 Dec— The Audiology Development Foundation of China (ADFC) is collecting donations to treat deaf children.

The year-long campaign, which begins this month, will raise funds by selling 30,000 boxes of superior Pu’er tea, a

famous tea produced in southwest China’s Yunnan Province.

The money collected will be used to buy audiophones for deaf children in China and provide them with basic language training.

Liang Tao, ADFC vice-chairman, said

language training for deaf people should begin when they are two to 3.5 years old. It is difficult for deaf children older than six to begin to learn a language.

If deaf children do not get immediate treatment, many of them will become dumb as they get older and become permanently deaf-and-dumb.

“In the impoverished rural areas of China, 70 per cent of families that have deaf children cannot afford the treatment and lose a golden opportunity to help them,” Liang said.

According to statistics, there are about 20 million people in China with a hearing disability, accounting for 34 per cent of the disabled. Two million are under 14 years old and some 800,000 are under six.

MNA/Xinhua



World chess champion Vladimir Kramnik from Russia concentrates during the last of 6 matches against the world's leading chess computer programme Deep Fritz (Germany) in Bonn, Germany, on 5 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Typhoon "Durian" claims 50 lives in Vietnam

HANOI, 6 Dec— Typhoon Durian, hitting Vietnam's central region since Monday night, has killed at least 50 local people and left 19 others missing, a local official told *Xinhua* Tuesday.

The figures may continue to rise as relevant agencies are still updating information from typhoon-hit localities, said Nguyen Sy Nuoi, vice-head of the Flood and Storm Prevention Department in charge of the central region under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The southern province of Ben Tre has suffered biggest human losses with 19 deaths, followed by the southern province of Ba Ria Vung Tau with 18, he said. The typhoon, the 9th one striking Vietnam this year, has also injured over 700 others in the central and southern regions.

It has destroyed over 6,700 houses, damaged roofs of 33,000 other

houses, and disrupted electricity and communications systems in some central and southern localities, causing property

losses of hundreds of billion Vietnamese dong (VND) (16,000 VND equaling one US dollar).

MNA/Xinhua



Calligrapher Kizan Kakinuma writes a Chinese poem from an ancient script on a wall during the Design Festa at Tokyo Big Sight in Tokyo on 2 Dec, 2006. — INTERNET

Oil, Gas Industry Exhibition opens in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 6 Dec — This year's Offshore Southeast Asia (OSEA), the International Oil and Gas Industry Exhibition opened here on Tuesday.

"The hosting of this conference in Singapore underscores the key role that Singapore plays as a hub for the region's oil and gas exploration and production activities," S Iswaran, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, said at the opening ceremony. Singapore is currently the leading oil trading hub in Asia and the world's third largest oil refinery centre.

It has built up a comprehensive cluster with oil majors, drilling contractors, specialized equipment and rig manufacturers, service providers, and offshore engineering companies. Singapore has also achieved a global leadership position in the offshore sector, said Iswaran, adding that in 2005, the output of the offshore and oil field equipment manufacturing sectors grew 68 per cent to a record 4 billion Singapore dollars (about 2.58 billion US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

Sunita to become 2nd Indian woman in space

HOUSTON, 6 Dec — Sunita Williams is all set to become the second woman of Indian origin after Kalpana Chawla to blast off on a space mission and spend six months at the *International Space Station* where US shuttle *Discovery* will leave her on completion of a 12-day repair job.

Sunita, 41, the daughter of Deepak and Bonnie Pandya, arrived at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for a final stretch of training and preparations for Friday's shuttle mission *STS-116*, the first night launch since the 2003 *Columbia* disaster. The spaceflight

is scheduled to lift off at 8:05 India Standard Time on Friday (Thursday, 9:35 pm US Time) which will take along the most rookie crew since 1988 as five of the seven members have never flown in space before.

Besides Sunita, the crew includes mission com-

mander Mark Polansky, pilot William Oefelein, mission specialists Joan Higginbotham; Nicholas Patrick; lead spacewalker Bob Curbeam; and the European Space Agency's Christer Fuglesang, who will become the first Swede in space.

MNA/PTI

Extra firepower called for to rescue NATO from quagmire

KABUL, 7 Dec—News that the Iraq study group recommends a fresh injection of US combat troops for Afghanistan will come as sweet relief to embattled NATO commanders.

Once the White House's

proudest foreign policy success, Afghanistan is slowly starting to resemble the sort of quagmire the US is struggling to escape in Iraq. This year's dramatic Taliban resurgence has seen record numbers of suicide attacks and roadside bombs, a booming drugs trade and almost 4,000 deaths including 190 foreign soldiers.

While the US provides about half of the 40,000 outside troops in Afghanistan, the Iraq study group highlights a glaring fact facing soldiers on the ground — it is not enough.

It says: "The huge focus of US political, military, and economic support has necessarily diverted attention from Afghanistan. We must not lose sight of the importance of the situation inside Afghanistan and the renewed threat posed by the Taliban. If the Taliban were to control more of Afghanistan, it could provide al-Qaida the political space to conduct terrorist operations ... It is critical for the US to provide additional political, economic, and military support."

Internet

Panama canal project attracts int'l investors

PANAMA CITY, 7 Dec — The Panama Canal modernization project has attracted attention from international investors, Miguel Wiggins, the Latin

American representative of the Charles Schwab financial group said on Wednesday.

"The modernization, as shown by financial institutions' interest, represents a rainbow of opportunities, and is expected to generate economic growth," he said. "This project will catapult Panama forward, making it a leading economy in the Latin American region," he added.

One sign of this was the 5.2-billion-dollar syndicated loan signed by 40 international banking corporations including HSBC, Citibank, JP Morgan, BNP Paribas, Scotiabank and the Bank of Tokyo. The total cost of modernization is estimated at 5.25 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



A rare golden soft-shelled turtle attracts people's attention in Xiangfan, central China's Hubei Province, on 2 Dec, 2006. The golden soft-shelled turtle weighs around 750 grams. — XINHUA

Indonesian President to attend ASEAN, East Asia Summit in Philippines

JAKARTA, 7 Dec— Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono will attend the ASEAN Summit and the East Asian Summit which will be held in the Philippines next Sunday and Wednesday respectively, Foreign Affairs Minister Hasan Wirajuda said on Wednesday.

During the ASEAN Summit, leaders of the grouping would hear the report and recommendations made by a group of eminent persons on the formulation of a new ASEAN Charter for possible adoption in 2007, Hasan was quoted by Antara news agency as saying in Bandung, capital of West Java Province.

The ASEAN summit which always takes place

in early December was an important forum in the process of implementing ASEAN reforms, he said.

ASEAN, which will celebrate its 40th anniversary next year, will hopefully create a new life that can speed up the setting up of an ASEAN community targeted for 2015 instead of 2020 as expected by the ASEAN Summit that took place in Bali in 2003, the minister

said.

Wirajuda also said 16 countries consisting of ASEAN's 10 member countries, namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam, as well as Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, and New Zealand would attend the East Asian Summit. —MNA/Xinhua



China's President Hu Jintao (L) and Cyprus President Tassos Papadopoulos review a Guard of Honour during a welcome ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on 7 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Syria says US in total failure in Iraq

DAMASCUS, 7 Dec— Syrian Vice-President Farouk al-Shara said on Wednesday that the United State has totally failed in Iraq after almost four years of what he called occupation there, the official SANA news agency reported.

"Events in Iraq have proven that the US was in total failure with regard to fulfilling its objectives of occupation," Shara was

quoted as saying at a meeting of the National Progressive Front, a coalition of political parties that supports the ruling al-Baath Party.

"The American public opinion discovered at last that there was a big distortion on the Iraqi file," Shara said, referring to US President George W Bush's Republican Party's loss in both Houses in the mid-term elections.

"There is still an opportunity for the US to correct its policy in the

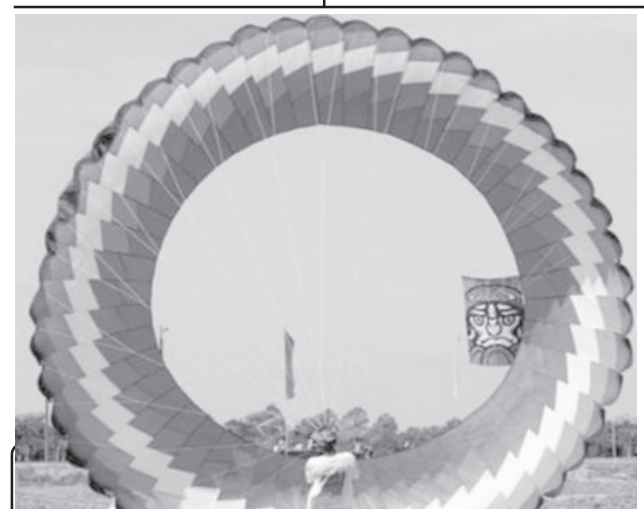
region although it is too late," Shara added.

Shara renewed Syria's support to the political process in Iraq and its territorial integrity, saying that "this process requires putting down a timetable for the occupation troops' withdrawal from Iraq".

Shara made the remarks as a US bipartisan Iraq Study Group issued on Wednesday a highly-anticipated report that recommends major changes in the Bush Administration's Iraq policy, which it says is

"not working".

MNA/Xinhua



A man prepares a kite during a kite festival near Cambodia's Angkor Temple complex in Siem Reap Province, (299 kilometers) 186 miles northwest of Phnom Penh, on 7 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

US soldier dies of wounds in bomb attack N-E of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 7 Dec— The US military said on Wednesday that one US soldier was killed and another wounded in a roadside bomb attack

while operating in Diyala Province northeast of Baghdad.

The US soldier, assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st

Cavalry Division, died of wounds Monday as a result of an explosion near his vehicle while conducting operations in Diyala province, the military said in a statement.

Another soldier was wounded by the blast and was transferred to a military medical treatment facility, it added.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese students talk with foreign visitors in English at the bilingual trade fair held in the Xugou Primary School of Lianyungang, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 1 Dec, 2006. — XINHUA



Russia's Sergey Aseev puts the finishing touch to his ice sculpture of the Little Mermaid at the fourth snow and Ice sculpture festival in Eindhoven, on 7 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Shanghai experiences hottest autumn in 55 years

SHANGHAI, 7 Dec— Shanghai this year experienced its hottest autumn in 55 years, with the average temperature reaching 20.8 degrees centigrade between September and November. The city has experienced its hottest October in 134 years, according to the local meteorological academy.

Huang Jiabin, secretary general of the academy, said that the average temperature in the month of October stood at 22.3 degrees Centigrade, 3.5 degrees higher than the average in previous years. Huang blamed global warming for the autumnal temperature surge. "Due to global warming, East China has seen increasingly warmer weather in the past ten years or so, and this is especially true in Shanghai." He acknowledged that the city was very likely to have a shorter and warmer winter this year. According to official meteorological statistics, the temperature gap between Shanghai's downtown area of Lujiazui and suburb of Chongming island had risen to 1.5 degrees, compared with 0.2 to 0.3 degrees in 1958.

MNA/Xinhua

There is no place for national traitors trying to break up the Union, and drag the people into direct or indirect alien enslavement

YANGON, 8 Dec — *The following is the proposal submitted by the delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia on the detailed basic principles for the Chapters "Election", "Political Parties" and "Provisions on State of Emergency" to be included in State constitution at the Plenary Session of the National Convention in Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, on 5-12-2006.*

Mr Chairman and members of the panel of chairmen, the chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Commission, officials of the NCC Work Committee and the NCC Management Committee, and NC delegates,

I am Daw Khin Mi Mi Tun of the Ministry of Health. For the sake of convenience and effectiveness, we divided the delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia into three small groups and each of the three groups held frank and cordial discussions about one of the three chapters namely the Chapter "Election", the Chapter "Political Parties" and the Chapter "Provisions on State of Emergency" to be included in the State constitution. In addition, in the process, members of each group made suggestions and gave advice to the remaining two groups through co-ordinators of the group concerned.

The rough draft each of the proposals was read out group-wise to seek approval. And the three drafts were combined into the proposal of the whole group and we sought the approval. We would like to present our views about the points chapter-wise.

Firstly, I would like to present our views about the points proposed for the Chapter "Election". Our discussions were based on the 1947 constitution, the 1948 Parliamentary Election Act, and 1974 constitution. And our discussion included the points about the Chapter "Election" such as designation of the kinds of citizens who are eligible and who have the right to vote, who have the right to stand for election, voting system, formation of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission, assigning duties to the commission, promulgation of necessary laws, designation of constituencies, and taking measures by respective Hluttaws to handle the matters related to the members. The Work Committee chairman made a thorough clarification to the detailed basic principles, so it was very convenient for us to hold discussions about the point. So, we are not going to present the points in a serial order, and we would like to deal with specific points.

Mr Chairman,

The Pyidaungsu Election Commission stands at a high level and its functions are very formidable. So, we would like to discuss the detailed basic principles that should be adopted to impeach the chairman or a member of the commission, if needed. We perceived that the Work Committee chairman explained that a Hluttaw member may be recalled for any of the reasons:

- (1) treason;
- (2) violation of any provision of the Constitution;
- (3) misbehaviour;
- (4) lack of qualifications prescribed in the Constitution for a Hluttaw member;
- (5) inefficient discharge of duties.

Regarding impeachment of the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission, the Work Committee chairman called for advice and suggestions to decide whether the point "If the President has to impeach the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission, he should do so in accord with the provisions prescribed in the State Constitution on impeachment of the Union Chief Justice or any of Union Supreme Court judges." should be adopted as a detailed basic principle.

The adopted detailed basic principle on impeachment of the Union Chief Justice or any of Union Supreme Court judges says:

- (a) The President of the State shall impeach the Union Chief Justice or a Union Supreme Court judge for any

Daw Khin

Mi Mi Tun

**of the
Ministry of
Health.**

MNA



of the following reasons:

- (1) breach of allegiance to the State;
- (2) violation of any of the provisions in the Constitution;
- (3) moral turpitude;
- (4) being disqualified for the post of the Chief Justice of the Union or a judge of the Supreme Court of the Union under the Constitution.

The sub-paragraphs from (b) to (k) of that paragraph enumerate the procedures to impeach such persons.

Mr Chairman,

The chairman and members of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission will have to discharge demanding and formidable tasks. So, if they are not capable of accomplishing such huge tasks, they are to be impeached and terminated from their duties, if necessary. In this regard, we consider that it is required to prescribe specific reasons and procedures to impeach such persons.

So, we would like to make a suggestion that a detailed basic principle should be adopted: "Regarding the impeachment of the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission:

- (a) The President may impeach the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission for any of the following reasons:
 - (1) treason;
 - (2) violation of any provision of the Constitution;
 - (3) misbehaviour;
 - (4) lack of qualifications prescribed for a Hluttaw member in the Constitution;
 - (5) inefficient discharge of duties.
- (b) procedures shall be taken in accordance with the

The chairman and members of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission will have to discharge demanding and formidable tasks. So, if they are not capable of accomplishing such huge tasks, they are to be impeached and terminated from their duties, if necessary. In this regard, we consider that it is required to prescribe specific reasons and procedures to impeach such persons.

provisions of the State constitution on impeachment of the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission.

Mr Chairman,

Now, we have presented our views about the detailed basic principles for the Chapter "Election". We would like to suggest that the following points should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

1. In electing members to Hluttaw—

- (a) Every citizen who has turned 18 on the date on which elections commence, who is not disqualified by law, who is eligible to vote, and who has the right to vote under the law, shall have the right to vote.
- (b) Every citizen who is eligible to vote and who has the right to vote by the law shall cast only a vote for a Hluttaw each at a constituency.
- (c) In addition, people of national races concerned who are eligible to vote in accord with the provisions of the State Constitution shall have the right to vote in electing representatives of national races to the Region of State Hluttaw concerned.
- (d) Ballot shall be exercised.

2. The following persons shall have no right to vote—

- (a) members of the Religious Order;
- (b) persons serving prison terms;
- (c) persons adjudged to be of unsound mind as provided for in the relevant law;
- (d) persons who have not yet been cleared from being declared destitute; and
- (e) persons who are banned from voting under the election law.

3. "At an election, a candidate—

- (a) shall be elected to a Hluttaw only.
- (b) shall stand for election at one constituency only.

4. (a) Electorate living in the Union territories, or the Union territories designated by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw under the law, shall elect members of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw only.

- (b) Save as otherwise prescribed by the Constitution, a Region or State Hluttaw member elected in a constituency that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has designated as a Union territory shall no longer stand as a Hluttaw member.

5. Every citizen who is not disqualified by the provisions of this Constitution and the provisions of the law regulating elections shall have the right to stand for election to a Hluttaw.

6. (a) A Hluttaw member may be recalled for any of the following reasons—

- (1) treason;
- (2) violation of any provision of the Constitution;
- (3) misbehaviour;
- (4) lack of qualifications prescribed in the Constitution for a Hluttaw member;
- (5) inefficient discharge of duties.

(b) Complaint about the Hluttaw member endorsed by at least one percent of initial number of the voters of the constituency concerned shall be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Election Commission.

(c) Pyidaungsu Election Commission shall conduct investigation into the case in accord with the law.

(d) While the case is under investigation, the Hluttaw member concerned shall have the right to rebut the accusation in person or through a representative.

(e) The Pyidaungsu Election Commission shall, finding the accusation true and considering the Hluttaw member should no longer carry out duties, take action in accord with the law.

(See page 7)

There is no place for...

(from page 6)

7. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall prescribe necessary laws on election and recall.
8. (a) The President shall form a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Election Commission. In the process, he may appoint at least five members including the chairman of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission in accord with the provisions on appointment of Union minister stated in the Constitution.
- (b) The chairman and members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Election Commission shall be the ones who—
 - (1) have turned 50 years of age.
 - (2) meet, except age limit, requirements set for Pyithu Hluttaw members.
 - (3) (aa) have served in the post of Union Chief Justice or Union Supreme Court judge; Region or State High Court judge or in a position equivalent to the post of Region or State High Court judge at least five years; (or)
 - (bb) have served in the post of judicial officer or law officer that is not lower than Region or State level for at least 10 years; (or)
 - (cc) have practised law as the advocate for at least 20 years; (or)
 - (dd) are deemed to be celebrities with prestige by the President.
- (4) are well-experienced with good characters.
- (5) comply with provisions, with which they have no right to stand for election as Pyithu Hluttaw members.
- (6) are loyal to the State and the people.
- (7) are not members of a political party.
- (8) are not Hluttaw members.
- (9) do not accept any other positions from which they can enjoy salaries and allowances.
9. Duties of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission are as follows:
 - (a) holding Hluttaw elections;
 - (b) supervising Hluttaw elections, and forming and supervising sub-commissions at all levels;
 - (c) designating and arranging constituencies;
 - (d) making and arranging lists of voters;
 - (e) putting off elections that are not in a position to be held in a free and fair way in some constituencies due to natural disasters or local security;
 - (f) issuing necessary laws on elections and political parties in accord with the provisions of this Constitution and procedures and directives in accord with the laws concerned;
 - (g) forming electoral benches to resolve electoral disputes;
 - (h) discharging duties assigned under a law.
10. If the President has to impeach the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission, he shall do so in accord with the provisions prescribed in this Constitution on impeachment of the Union Chief Justice or any of Union Supreme Court judges.
11. (a) If the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission in service wishes to resign of his own accord due to his health condition or any of other reasons, he may submit his resignation to the President.
- (b) If the seat of the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission is vacant due to resignation, termination of responsibilities, death, or any of other reasons, the President may appoint a new chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission in accord with the provisions on appointment of a Union minister enumerated in the State Constitution.
- (c) If the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission is a government employee, he shall be deemed to have resigned from civil service in accord with the existing civil service rules and regulations from the date he is appointed as the chairman or a member of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission.
12. The Pyidaungsu Election Commission's action and measures over the following matters shall be final—
 - (a) electoral procedures;
 - (b) appeals and amendments on electoral benches' decisions and orders;

U Nanda
Kyaw Swa
(Supreme
Court
Advocate).
MNA



- (c) matters taken under political party law.
 13. Responsibilities, powers and rights of the chairman and members of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission shall be prescribed by law.
 14. The role of the chairman of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission is designated to be equivalent to the position of a Vice-President, and a member, to the position of a Union minister in order to make reference to responsibilities, powers and rights of the chairman and members of the Pyidaungsu Election Commission in prescribing laws.
- Mr Chairman,
- In conclusion, we would like to made suggestion that: "The period of staying abroad with the permission of the government shall be deemed to have settled in the Union" should be adopted as proviso of the detailed basic principle:
- "Having settled in the Union of Myanmar for at least 10 consecutive years up to the time of being elected as Pyithu Hluttaw representative."**

Now, U Nanda Kyaw Swa (Supreme Court Advocate) of the delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia will read the next part of our proposal on detailed basic principles for the Chapter "Political Parties" and the Chapter "Provisions on State of Emergency".

Mr Chairman,

Every nation has its own sovereign territory, and the citizens, the rightful owners of the sovereignty. The affairs of the nation and her people are the politics. Politics is to guarantee peace and security, freedom, food, clothing and shelter and high living standard for the people.

As Myanmar is in the process of realizing a genuine and discipline-flourishing democracy, she will have to permit the formation of political parties and the people to choose and elect the public representatives. The National Convention has already adopted the basic principle "the State shall enact necessary law for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system". Hence, the systematically formed political parties that will truly serve public interest will emerge in the nation in realizing the genuine multiparty democracy system.

Mr Chairman,

In Myanmar as well as in the world, there have been parties keeping in the fore public interest and are loyal to the State. On the other hand, there are a lot of parties giving trouble to the people just to introduce their ideologies.

After Myanmar lost her independence, the national races of the hill regions and plains in the entire nation launched historic battles against the occupiers with all available weapons. The history to fight back the intruders with conviction achieved through life experiences and

Acting as a political activist, a democracy activist, or a social activist in name only is not enough. There is no place for national traitors trying to break up the Union, and drag the people into direct or indirect alien enslavement.

inherent patriotism is the history of Myanmar national forces.

In addition, organizations including YMBA, GCBA, Doh Bamar Asiayon, Pha-ta-pa-la and AFPFL were united in striving to regain independence. A national force was striving for national liberation with the conviction for the single goal that was the independence.

After the nation regained independence, she faced internal strife for nearly half a century during which people were killing one another for such reasons as political, ideological and factional prejudices inspired by the numerous imported isms. Despite her rich natural resources, the nation was far from achieving progress. Taking those events as historical lessons, we should establish only the parties that will keep in the fore the interest of the all the national races of the Union and the Union itself.

Acting as a political activist, a democracy activist, or a social activist in name only is not enough. There is no place for national traitors trying to break up the Union, and drag the people into direct or indirect alien enslavement.

We fully support the adoption of the detailed basic principle **"Political parties set the objective — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty"**.

Mr Chairman,

Throughout the past successive eras, political parties lost essence and objective as they were giving priority more to self-interest than the national interest. We agree the following detailed basic principle should be adopted.

2. A political party shall:

- (a) accept and practise discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy.
- (b) abide by the Constitution and the existing laws.
- (c) be legally registered as a political party.

In launching their public organization campaigns, the parties should lay down work programmes stating their roles in solving the nation's basic problems for the interest of the people. The following detailed basic principle should be laid down to safeguard the nation against anarchy.

3. In accordance with the law, a political party shall have the right to:

- (a) organize freely;
- (b) stand for elections.

Mr Chairman,

Political parties will have to lead the nation in accord with the practices of discipline-flourishing democracy to serve public interest. The continued existence of undisciplined parties and parties that violate the law should not be permitted. Concerning the matter of "no right to exist" explained by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, we agree that the para 4 and subparas (a), (b), (c), (d) and para five and the point "The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall enact necessary laws concerning the political parties" should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Mr Chairman,

The delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia is in favour of adopting the following six points as detailed basic principles.

1. **"Political parties set the objective — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty"**

2. A political party shall:

- (a) accept and practise discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy.
- (b) abide by the Constitution and the existing laws.
- (c) be legally registered as a political party.

3. In accordance with the law, a political party shall have the right to:

- (a) organize freely;
- (b) stand for elections.

4. The continued existence of a political party shall not be permitted if:

- (a) it has been declared as an unlawful association in accord with the existing law.
- (b) it contacts or abets the insurgent group waging the armed rebellion against the State or the association or persons determined by the State to have committed terrorist acts or the association declared to be unlawful association directly or indirectly.
- (c) it directly or indirectly receives financial, material and other assistance from the government or a religious association, or any other association or an individual person of a foreign country.
- (d) it abuses religion for political purpose.

(See page 8)

There is no place for...

(from page 7)

5. If the body having the authority to register political parties finds that a political party is connected with anyone of the points stated in the above-mentioned sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) or (d), the party's registration shall be revoked.
6. "The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall enact necessary laws concerning the political parties."

Mr Chairman,

The Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee explained the detailed basic principles to be adopted for the chapter "Provisions on State of Emergency" at the plenary session of the National Convention.

The Work Committee Chairman's clarification includes 23 points, of which seven are the provisions in connection with a Region and a State, a Union territory, and Self-Administered Area and others are concerned with the whole Union. The Work Committee Chairman explained the situation in which the President should declare a state of emergency, the powers he will have to exercise, the designation of a specific time and area, the organizations the President will have to consult with, the functions during and at the end of the term of Hluttaws, and the issuance of the termination of the ordinance to declare a state of emergency.

Mr Chairman,

First we have studied the measures that should be taken in a state of emergency in a Region or a State or a Union Territory or a Self-Administered Area. The para 1 says, "If the President learns that the administrative functions cannot be carried out in accord with the Constitution in a Region or a State or a Union territory or a Self-Administered Area, he shall, after coordinating with National Defence and Security Council, issue order having the force of law to declare a state of emergency. and the para, "when there arises or there is sufficient reason to occur a state of emergency endangering life and property of the people in a Region or a State or a Self-Administered Area or in any part of them, the President after consulting with the National Defence and Security Council may issue an order having the force of the law to declare a state of emergency".

The para 2 states, "In the matters concerning the declaration of a state of emergency in accord with the paragraph 1, the President shall have the power to: "(a) exercise the executive power of the Region or State or Self-Administered Area concerned. Moreover, he shall form a suitable organization and entrust the executive power to an organization concerned, or to a suitable person." and "(b) In doing so, out of the legislative matters of the respective Regions and States and the Self-Administered Areas, the President shall have the power to exercise the legislative power concerning the executive affairs. But the legislative power shall not be entrusted to any organization or any person." The para 3 (b) says that if no all the NDSC members can attend the meeting, the President, may after coordinating with the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services, the Minister of Defence and the Minister of Home Affairs who are the members, declare a state of emergency in time.

The points concerning the declaration of a state of emergency are in conformity with the prescriptions of the past constitutions. The paras from 1 to 3 state that the President should declare a state of emergency after making due consultation with NDSC members even if all the members cannot attend the meeting to declare the ordi-

nance in time, and the empowerment of legislative power without undermining the legislative functions of the parliaments. Hence the said three paras should be adopted.

Mr Chairman,

The para 4 (a) says that civil bodies of the area where the state of emergency order is in force if necessary can take the Tatmadaw's assistance; the subpara (b) says that necessary martial law can be issued; that the martial law order will include the administrative powers and functions and judicial powers and functions concerning community peace and the rule of law. The para 5 and its subparas (a) and (b) state that if necessary, restrict or revoke one or more provisions of the fundamental rights of the citizens residing in the area affected by a state of emergency declaration. The para 6 says that the President from the date of the promulgation should present the measures taken to the nearest Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session within 60 days for approval; that he should convene an emergency session if the Hluttaw is not in session. The subparas (a), (b) and (c) of para 7 say that if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session approves the submission of the President concerning the matters, the ordinance having the force of law should be still in force till the fixed time and date; that if the period of the ordinance is extended, the ordinance having the force of law should be still in force till the extended time and date; and that the ordinance should cease to have effect from the date on which it is disapproved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.

We agree to adopt the paras from 4 to 7.

Mr Chairman,

The para 8 states, "When there arises or there is sufficient reason to arise a state of emergency that may cause disintegration of the Union, disintegration of national solidarity and loss of national sovereignty, due to take over of sovereign State power or attempts by wrongful forcible means such as insurgency or violence, the President after consulting with the National Defence and Security Council shall proclaim an ordinance and shall declare a state of emergency. The proclamation shall stipulate that the area that the ordinance is in force is the entire nation and that its duration is one year from the date it is proclaimed"; the para 9 and subparas (a) and (b) state, "In declaring a state of emergency under paragraph 8, the President shall declare the transfer of legislative, executive and judicial powers to the Commander in-Chief of the Defence Services to enable the latter to take necessary measures in order to restore the nation to normalcy. It shall be deemed that all the Hluttaws and leading bodies beginning from the date of declaration shall cease all their legislative functions. It shall be also deemed that when the term of the respective Hluttaws ended they are automatically dissolved." and "Notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution, all the members of the organizations and members of the leading bodies of the Self-Administered Division or Self-Administered Zones, except from the President and Vice-Presidents, assigned with the approval of the Hluttaws in accord with the Constitution are terminated from their duties beginning from the date the State power is transferred to the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services"; para 10 states, "The Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services who has been transferred the State power shall have the power to exercise the legislative, executive and judicial powers. The Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services shall exercise the legislative power by himself or shall form an organization with his own participation to exercise the legislative power. He shall empower a suitable organization or a suitable person to exercise the executive and judicial powers" and para 11 says, "The Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services during the declaration of a state of emergency shall restrict or terminate a provision or more than one provision of the fundamental rights of citizens, as necessary".

We are in favour of adopting the paras from 8 to 11.

Mr Chairman,

The paras from 12 to 16 concern the measures to be taken by the President. The subpara (a) of para 12 explains submission of the matter concerning the transfer of State power to the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, and the convening of an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it is not in session to submit the matter; and the para (b) says that the President should normally extend the period to six months at a time for two terms and should call the emergency session. The para 13 says that the President should, after receiving the report of the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services concerning the completion of the duties assigned to him, annul the order empowering the State

The points concerning the declaration of a state of emergency are in conformity with the prescriptions of the past constitutions.

power to the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services on the date of his submission after convening the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if the term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not ended yet, or on the date he receives it from the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services if the term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is ended. The para 14 says that the President should revoke the suspension of legislative functions of all the Hluttaws and leading bodies if the term of the Hluttaw has not ended yet; that the President should assign duties to the new Constitutional executive and judicial bodies in accord with the Constitution; that the bodies should discharge duties only for the remaining period of the term of the Hluttaw. The para 15 says that although the term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has ended, the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall remain in their positions till their counterparts have been elected.

The detailed principles contained in the paras from 12 to 15 should be adopted.

Mr Chairman,

The paras 16 and 17 state the matter concerning the extension of the emergency period and the NDSC's issuance of the announcement to annul the order empowering the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services to exercise State power. The para 18 states, "The National Defence and Security Council shall: "(a) exercise the legislative power, executive power and judicial power before the Hluttaws are formed in accord with the Constitution" and "(b) have the right to exercise the State power till the time a new President has been elected and Union level organizations formed in accord with the provisions contained in the Constitution. In so doing, the National Defence and Security Council shall exercise the legislative power by itself. The National Defence and Security Council shall empower a suitable organization or a suitable person to exercise the executive and judicial powers at Union, Region, State, Self-Administered Division and Self-Administered Zone levels." The para 19 states the need to form the bodies mentioned in the para 18 with suitable persons. The para 20 says that the National Defence and Security Council should hold a general election in accord with the provisions of the Constitution within a period of six months beginning from the date on which the order is annulled. The para 21 says that the bodies formed according to the paragraph 19 should continue to carry out their functions till legislative, executive and judicial bodies have been formed according to the Constitution after the general election. The para 22 says that the National Defence and Security Council should exercise the State power in the name of the President.

The detailed basic principle stated in the paras from 16 to 22 should be adopted.

The para 23 states, "During the time a state of emergency has been declared, the measures taken officially by a local administrative body or a member of the body, or a civil body or a member of the body, or a military body or a member of the body, formed in order to take measures to restore security, stability, community peace and the rule of law soon on behalf of the President or during the period the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services is exercising the State power or during the period the National Defence and Security Council is exercising the State power, shall be legitimate. No legal action shall be taken against them for those legitimate measures."

As the bodies stated in the para 23 are serving the nation not in a peaceful and stable environment, they can face many difficulties. As they will have to do their duties at the risk to their lives, they should be protected by the Constitution. The measures taken by those bodies should be legitimate. Hence the para 23 should be adopted.

Hence, we support that all the 23 points explained by the Work Committee Chairman concerning the chapter "Provisions on State of Emergency" should be adopted.

MNA

Proposals to be published

YANGON, 8 Dec—Proposals of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel and Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons on detailed basic principles that should be adopted for the chapters "Election", "Political Parties" and "Provisions on State of Emergency" to be included in drafting the State Constitution made at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunhnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, will be published in dailies.

MNA

USDA SG donates cash to hospital in Kanyutkwin

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and USDA members donated cash to the station hospital in Kanyutkwin, Bago Division, on 4 December.

During his tour, the minister and party also visited the Mokaung Pagoda and presented offertories to the abbot of Ywale Monastery. They also visited Mandalay Monastery and presented offertories to the abbot of the monastery. *MNA*

CPT Minister back from Hong Kong

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw arrived back here by air this morning, after attending the ITU Telecom World 2006, which was organized by the International Telegraphic Union in Hong Kong from 4 to 8 December.

The minister was welcomed back at the airport by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing,

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and officials.

Member of the delegation Commandant of the Central Signals Workshop Lt-Col Myint Oo of the Directorate of Signals under the Ministry of Defence and Assistant Director U Tin Htay of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs also arrived back on the same flight. *MNA*



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw being welcomed back by Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. — MNA

USDA members take part in activities of World AIDS Campaign

YANGON, 8 Dec — In commemoration of the World AIDS Day, member of Mingala Taungnyunt Township Union Solidarity and Development Association under the leadership of Yangon Division USDA participated in the activities of World AIDS Campaign at Yangon Central Railway Station in Mingala Taungnyunt

Township this afternoon.

Members of the social organizations distributed educative pamphlets on prevention of HIV/AIDS and condoms to the passengers.

CEC member of USDA Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials inspected activities of the USDA members. —*MNA*



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials view distribution of condoms and educative pamphlets on HIV/AIDS to travellers at Yangon Central Railway Station. — YCDC

Minister for Industry-1 inspects progress of Myanma Pharmaceutical Factory Project



Industry-1 Minister U Aung Thaung inspects machines at Pharmaceutical Factory in PyinOoLwin. — INDUSTRY-1

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, accompanied by Managing Director U Than Shwe of the Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries and officials, inspected the raw materials store, installation of dryers and tablet press punching machines and quality control room at the Myanma Pharmaceutical Factory in Anisakhan of PyinOoLwin Township this morning.

The minister viewed machines for production of medicines.

Managing Director U Than Shwe and General Manager U Tin Maung Win conducted the minister round the units of the factory.

The factory project is being

implemented on 363.65 acres of land beside the road to Sitha Dam near Anisakhan Airport.

At the hall of the factory, Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister U Aung Thaung met with secretaries and executives of PyinOoLwin District and Township USDAs and heard reports on regional development tasks.

Next, the Secretariat Member instructed them to expedite the implementation of the five rural development tasks, nurture the youth for uplift of their efficiency and take part in the public welfare tasks. *MNA*

Tatmadaw soccer tournament continues

YANGON, 8 Dec — The second round matches of 45th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Cup Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Force) soccer tournament took place at designated places this afternoon.

Tatmadaw (Air) routed No 11

Light Infantry Division 4-0 at the sports grounds of Yangon Command Headquarters in Mingalardon.

South-West Command team blanked out Camp Commandant's Office of the Ministry of Defence 1-0 at Salin sports grounds in Kyimyindaing. —*MNA*

World AIDS Day marked in Tamway Township

YANGON, 8 Dec — With the sponsorship of Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Tamway Township), a billboard to mark the World AIDS Day was set up at a ceremony on Kyaikkasan road near the corner of Kyaikkasan and Thamein Baran roads in Tamway Township here this morning.

The ceremony was attended by officials of MANA (Central) and social organizations, the band troupe of No 2 Basic Education High School of Tamway Township and others.

The chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council and the chairman of MANA (Tamway Township) formally opened the billboard.

Next, quiz to mark the World AIDS

Day followed at No 3 Basic Education Middle School. And students from six BEHSs and four BEMSs in the township took part in the contest.

After that, talks on the World AIDS Day was held at the same venue and Chairman of the Township PDC U Sein Maung Win and Assistant Resident Representative of UNFPA Daw Khin Ma Ma Aye made speeches on the occasion.

Afterwards, Film Director Maung Myo Min (Yindwinphyit) and Township Health Officer Daw Mi Mi Tin gave talks on AIDS.

Next, officials presented prizes to students who stood first, second and third, and consolation prize winners, after which the ceremony came to an end. —*MNA*

Special sales of Industry-1 Ministry on schedule

YANGON, 8 Dec — The Ministry of Industry-1 will hold special sales in major cities to sell its products to the people at fair prices.

Schedules on the special sales of the ministry will be organized in the precinct of Htithonhsint Pagoda in Meiktila from

15 to 24 December, at the district sports ground in Kalay from 21 December 2006 to 4 January 2007, at the township sports ground in Dawei from 1 to 7 January, at Setyaungbalu Hall in Tamu from 7 to 13 January, at the district sports ground in Katha from 22 to 31 January, at

the township sports ground in Kawlin from 6 to 12 February and near the precinct of Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda in Kanbalu from 16 to 22 February.

The sales will open from 8 am to 8 pm daily at the respective places.

MNA

Work efficiency course for officers concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — The work efficiency course (Officers) No1/2006, conducted by the Information and Public Relations Department

under the Ministry of Information concluded this morning at the ministry here.

IPRD Director-General U Chit Naing attended the course

conclusion ceremony and awarded outstanding trainees. The four-week course was attended by 51 trainees from the Township IPRDs.

MNA



Members of Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee check the trucks.

MNA

Checks carried out on commercial trucks

YANGON, 8 Dec — Members of Traffic Rule Enforcement Committee carried out checks on the commercial trucks at the tonnage inspection gates

in Yangon City this morning to make sure that the trucks conform to the set rules and regulations.

Punitive measures

were taken against the trucks, which are not in conformity with rules and regulations at the inspection gates.

MNA

Storm news

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — The Meteorology and Hydrology Department today reported that the

tropical storm, which was centered in the southern Andaman Sea yesterday, weakened itself to a tropical

depression at 6.30 pm MST today. It is now in the southeastern Andaman Sea.

MNA

Mayor inspects sanitation tasks, upgrading of roads

YANGON, 8 Dec — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin together with officials inspected dredging of ditches along East Shwegondaing Street in Bahan Township and along both sides of

South Horserace Course Street in Tamway Township this morning. Next, the mayor looked into termacking of road between Thitsar Street and Yadana Street in South Okkalapa Township and upgrading of Pinlong Road between 32 ward

and 35 ward in Dagon Myothit (North).

Later, the mayor inspected digging of ditches between Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and Pyay Road in Mayangon Township to make them properly flow and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Media Training on AI concludes

YANGON, 8 Dec — Sponsored by the government of Japan and jointly organized by Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and UNICEF, Media Training on the Avian Influenza concluded here today.

At the concluding ceremony held at Sedona Hotel, Director of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Than Tun, Deputy Resident Representative of UNICEF Ms Elke Wisch and Mr Tetsuro Amano of the embassy of Japan gave concluding speech.

A total of 102 trainees from LBVD,



Deputy Resident Representative of UNICEF Ms Elke Wisch presents certificate to a trainee. — MNA

Ministry of Information, Ministry of Health and private journals and

magazines attended the course which started on 6 November. — MNA

S Korean minister supports inter-Korean tourism programme

SEOUL, 8 Dec — South Korean Unification Minister Lee Jong-seok expressed his support for the inter-Korean tourism programme in Mountain Geumgang of North Korea (DPRK) during his visit to DPRK, the South Korea's *Yonhap* news agency said on Wednesday.

"We must never take a break from trying to ease tension between the North Korea (DPRK) and South

Korea, no matter how difficult the times and conditions are," the *Yonhap* quoted Lee, who is the highest-ranking South Korean official visiting DPRK since July, as saying.

"In that sense, these projects (with DPRK) must continue to be developed and widened," Lee was quoted as saying while meeting with reporters at Mt Geumgang. Lee paid a

two-day visit to Geumgang since Tuesday and returned to South Korea on Wednesday.

During the visit, Lee had met with South Korea's businesspeople at Mt. Geumgang and said the inter-Korean tourism programme must "continue" and "be developed further", and highly commended the programme's positive effects on inter-Korean relations. — MNA/Xinhua

Number of 3G cellphone users hits 100-mln mark in HK

HONG KONG, 8 Dec — The number of 3G (the third generation) mobilephone subscribers reached 100 million in the first half of 2006, according to the Internet Report launched by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) here on Wednesday.

The report, titled

"digital life", noted that the hitting of 100-million mark was a significant milestone and illustrated that the cellphone technology is approaching maturity.

The evolution from the second to third generation mobile networks will turn out to be a jump like from analogue to digital, said the

report.

The higher speed of the 3G technologies added convenience, capacity and functionality for users, it said, adding that the 3G networks also use the spectrum more efficiently and support a number of global standards to facilitate roaming.

MNA/Xinhua



An aircraft is seen reflected in a building as it departs from Congonhas Airport in Sao Paulo, on 7 Dec, 2006. Air traffic in Brazil slowly began to return to normal Thursday after two days of near chaos at airports around the country as pressure mounted for the resignation of government aviation officials. — INTERNET

China to seek int'l cooperation on science projects

BEIJING, 7 Dec — Chinese scientific projects are to be opened to international cooperation and professional exchanges, says a government official.

The government would increase competitiveness by attracting more innovative talent and tapping advanced technologies, said Shang Yong, Vice-Minister of Science and Technology.

“Some big projects are too costly and time-consuming for one country alone,” said Chen Hesheng, director of the High Energy Physics Institute under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He mentioned the Beijing electron positron collider, which is being upgraded at a cost of 640 million yuan (82 million US dollars). The job is expected to be done by the end of 2007.

A group of Chinese

and US scientists discovered a new particle last year using the collider, causing a stir in the international physics world, said Chen.

Since 2005, China has joined a number of major international research and development projects,

MNA/Xinhua

Emergency services attend the scene where a small tornado struck in the Kensal Rise area of north London, on 7 Dec, 2006.

INTERNET



Putin calls for fighting against extremism

Moscow, 7 Dec — Russian President Vladimir Putin urged leaders of political parties to unite in countering the manifestations of extremism at a meeting here on Wednesday, saying activities of extremism should be punished.

Putin said there are still legal gaps in the existing law “on the countering of extremist activities, and our efforts cannot be regarded as effective”. “The wording of the laws should be absolutely clear, and punishment should be inevitable and in proportion to the graveness of the offense,” Putin was quoted by the ITAR-TASS news

agency as saying. Putin is also concerned over an easy availability of the materials advocating extremism, especially for the young. “It is especially alarming that the materials advocating hatred and strife are easily available today. They can be found in book stores, to say nothing of Internet,” he said. Russia has seen a significant rise in

hate crimes and ethnic tensions in recent years.

Many Russians characterize dark-skinned migrants from other former Soviet republics as criminals and as taking jobs away from Russians. In September, the Sova research centre reported that 33 people had been killed so far in 2006 in racist attacks.

MNA/Xinhua

India mulls raising FDI cap in aircargo, helicopter operations

NEW DELHI, 7 Dec — In a bid to strengthen aircargo and helicopter operations in the country, the Indian Government is considering to raise the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) cap in these areas to 74 per cent when it comes out with a policy on the matter next year.

India’s Civil Aviation Minister Praful Patel said here since India’s potential in cargo was not matching with the present operations and, therefore required a massive thrust, such a move

could be considered. “Government is deliberating on the matter ... while we have an overall FDI cap of 49 per cent in the aviation sector, we have to liberalize areas like aircargo, helicopters and sea-planes and the cap could reasonably put at 74 per cent”, he said at a cargo conference of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) here.

Asked whether the FDI cap in passenger carriers would also be hiked, Patel said, “firstly, the internal needs will have to be met. Foreign airlines will only connect the big cities. They will not be interested in the hinterland”.

Even the potential of 49 per cent FDI in the

aviation sector was not being fully met at present, he said, indicating that there was no possibility of a review of this decision at the moment.

In reply to a question whether the government would allow foreign aircargo companies to operate in India, Patel said, “We will consider it. But we will consider it in the policy”.

Earlier addressing the IATA cargo conference, the minister said, Indian carriers — Air India and the Indian — would go into the cargo business in a big way, with the latter planning to convert five ageing Boeings in the fleet of its subsidiary Alliance Air into freighters. — MNA/PTI

HK restored antiquity wins UNESCO heritage award

HONG KONG, 7 Dec — Restoration work at Liu Ying Lung Study Hall has won an honourable mention in the 2006 UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Culture Heritage Conservation, Hong Kong Government said Tuesday.

Coordinated by the Antiquities and Monuments Office and the Restoration Committee of Hin Shing Tong, the works restored the hall’s original Qing Dynasty look. A Grade II historical building, the hall was built in 1838 to commemorate Liu Ying-lung, the fourth-generation ancestor of the Liu clan in Sheung Shui Wai, Sheung Shui.

It is a traditional two-hall premises with an open courtyard amidst its symmetrical and orderly layout. It is one of the three major ancestral halls built by the Liu clan

since their settlement in the area.

Funded by the clan, the five-million-HK-dollar (641,025.64-US-dollar) restoration work started in September 2004 and was completed last March. The works revived the original green-brick facade. Artists also repainted faded and missing parts of the premises’ murals. Other features were also conserved.

Meanwhile, St Andrew’s Church also won a merit award in the UNESCO programme, which attracted 36 projects from 11 Asia-Pacific jurisdictions. — MNA/Xinhua



Men ride in a horse-driven cart on a foggy winter day near Bucharest, on 7 Dec, 2006. Romania is set to join the European Union on 1 January, 2007 along with its neighbour Bulgaria. — INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

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MV VASCO DA GAMA VOYNO (023)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VASCO DA GAMA VOY NO (023) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2006 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.

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 9 December 2006

THAI threatens to cancel airbus "A380" order

BANGKOK, 7 Dec— Thailand's national flag carrier Thai Airways (THAI) may cancel its order of new A380 superjumbos from Europe's leading aircraft manufacturer Airbus if talks on fines for 22-month delay of the first delivery remain unsettled, Thai President Apinan Sumanaseni said on Wednesday.

Apinan said the delay has caused a huge revenue loss for the airliner as the first delivery is 22 months behind schedule, now set for 2011 due to Airbus' production problems. THAI has ordered six of the 555-seat planes. It has planned to use the giant planes to service passengers on its popular routes to major European cities. "THAI has to review its financial plan after an expected revenue loss as it is unable to service the new superjumbos from Bangkok to London, Frankfurt and Paris as earlier planned," Apinan said.

Apinan made the comments a day after the world's largest plane carrying 55 passengers and a crew of five made its first arrival in the kingdom on Tuesday.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia focuses on nuclear cooperation for peaceful purposes

JAKARTA, 7 Dec— Indonesia will in the medium and long term focus on nuclear cooperation with several other countries for peaceful purposes, including the development of the national defence industry, Defence Minister Juwono Sudarsono said.

"For the time being we will not establish nuclear cooperation for defence purposes, but only for peaceful purposes in accordance with the agreement that had been signed," Juwono said after opening an Educational Communication Forum here on Tuesday.

The minister said his ministry has been preparing a matrix of strategic military cooperation between Indonesia and some other countries in accordance with their abilities and superiorities, and the national defence needs.

Citing an example, Juwono mentioned Indonesia's military cooperation with India which is still limited to communications, and the military cooperation with other countries that will cover other sectors, he said.

Juwono said that in the next 10 to 15 years, Indonesia will be focusing on the development of medium technology-based national defence industry.

"We will not yet build a national defence industry which produces high-technology striking weapons, which Indonesia still need to import in the next 10 to 15 years," Antara news agency quoted the minister as saying.

The Indonesian Government in 2006 signed nuclear cooperation agreements for peaceful purposes with Iran, Australia, Russia and South Korea. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia car sales up 61% in November

JAKARTA, 7 Dec— Monthly car sales in Indonesia surged by 61.4 percent in November from the previous month amid gloomy performance in the first 11 months of the year due to fuel price hikes and high interest rates.

According to the Indonesian automotive producers association Gaikindo, sales rose to 33,400 units from 20,694 in the preceding month.

November sales also showed a 28.5-per-cent rise when compared with the same month in 2005, when annual car sales hit the record high of above 530,000 units.

Car sales in 11 months

ending November totaled 287,790 units, making it extremely hard for the association to meet full year target of 320,000 units with only one month left.

Gaikindo Chairman Bambang Trisulo said the improving performance in auto industry was

supported by central bank's recent move to lower the benchmark interest rate.

"We hope that in 2007, Bank Indonesia interest rate will fall further to below 9 per cent," he was quoted Wednesday by leading economic daily *Bisnis Indonesia* as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

IFRC seeks funds for typhoon victims in Philippines

GENEVA, 7 Dec— The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on Tuesday appealed for 8.8 million Swiss francs (about 7.3 million US dollars) to help typhoon victims in the Philippines.

The funds will be used over the next nine months

to assist 200,000 people who have been affected by typhoon Durian, and three other recent powerful storms, said Anna Nelson of the organization.

She said the storms had wreaked havoc in the Philippines since the end of September, and the

situation now remained very serious.

The Geneva-based federation, the world's largest relief agency, aims to use the funds to provide food, health care, blankets and mosquito nets to the victims. Some 1,000 people in the Philippines are feared to have been killed in landslides and floods triggered by Typhoon Durian, which also swept into southern Vietnam on Tuesday.

An estimated 67,000 houses have collapsed in the country and another 103,000 homes have been partially damaged during the recent storms, according to IFRC. — MNA/Xinhua

China positive on working with OPEC

BEIJING, 7 Dec— China on Tuesday reaffirmed its positive attitude on working with the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC).

"China holds a positive attitude on exchanges and

cooperation with the OPEC," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told the regular briefing.

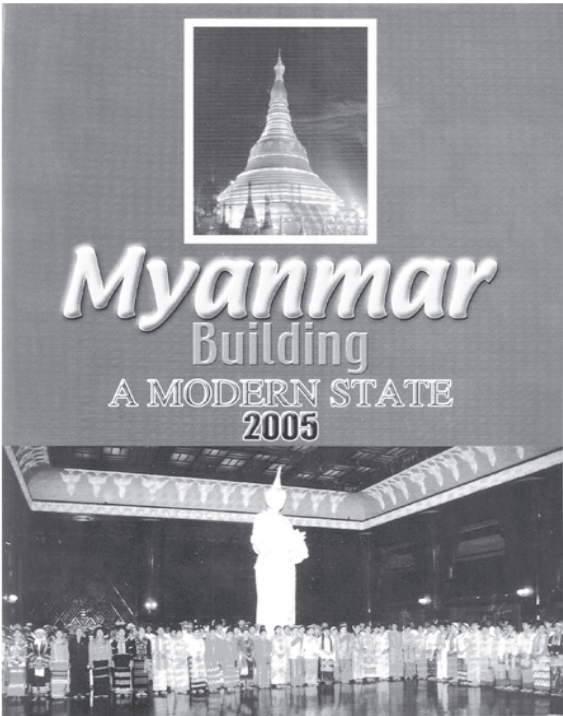
Qin made the comments when asked for information on Assistant Foreign Minister Zhai

Jun's recent visit to Dubai, capital of the United Arab Emirates. Zhai was quoted by news reports as saying that China would like to launch a consultation mechanism with the OPEC.

"China is one of the

major energy producers and consumers in the world. Closer dialogue and cooperation between China and the OPEC will help sound growth of the international energy market," Qin said.

MNA/Xinhua



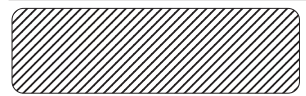
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ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Researchers discover silica particle sparks life in protein

LONDON, 7 Dec—Tiny formless particles in water solution take on a well-ordered and functional structure as soon as they come into contact with nano-particles of silica,

Swedish researchers have discovered.

Researchers at Linköping University in Sweden designed a peptide (a short protein) with a specific distribution of

positive charges and mixed it into a solution of negatively-charged spherical silica particles, about 9 nanometres (billionths of a metre) across.

The scientists found that when the peptide was free in the solution it had no structure whatsoever, but when it connected with a negatively-charged silica ball it assumed the form of a helix.

The result was a complex of a silicon particle and a functional protein, according to a report on the science

website of Alpha-Galileo on Tuesday.

When the researchers added amino acids to their peptide, the complex took on the properties of a catalyst, a function similar to that of enzymes in living cells, the report said.

Particles of clay containing silica in the "Primeval Soup" might have attracted unstructured peptides with amino acids attached and given rise to the first functional proteins, the researchers said.

MNA/Xinhua



An engineer finishes the assembly of Russia's Gonet-M communication satellite at Russia's Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk, on 7 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

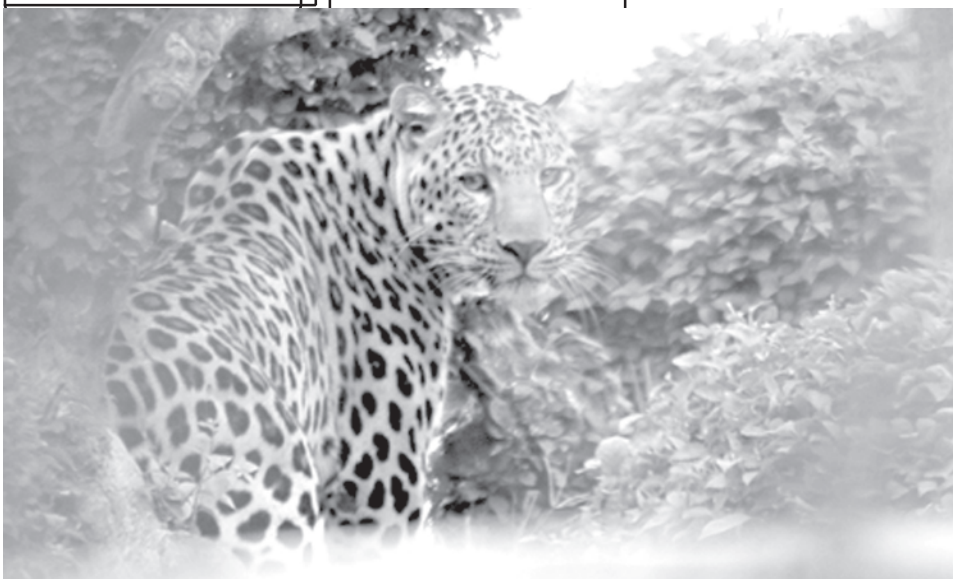


Archaeologists display a couple of clay skulls excavated from a tomb that dates back to the Eastern Han (25-220 AD) in Jintang county, Chengdu, Southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 5 Dec, 2006. Archaeologists have not identified the tomb's owner and find it to have been dug out by tomb raiders.

XINHUA

A leopard wanders at a park in Shishi, southeast China's Fujian Province, after escaping from the enclosure on 5 Dec, 2006. Police shot dead the leopard after they failed to capture it and a feeder was bitten during the trapping attempt.

XINHUA.



NASA sees 'evidence' of liquid water on Mars

WASHINGTON, 7 Dec—Images taken by NASA's Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft suggest the presence of liquid water on the Martian surface. It is a tantalising find for scientists wondering if the Red Planet ever has harboured life.

The orbiting US spacecraft allowed

scientists to detect changes in the walls of two Martian craters that may have been caused by the recent flow of water, a team of researchers say in a paper appearing in the journal *Science*.

Scientists previously had established that two forms of water — ice at the poles and water vapour — exist on Mars, but liquid water is crucial to nurture life. The scientists compared images of the Martian surface taken

seven years apart and found the existence of 20 newly formed craters caused by impact from space debris as well as the evidence suggesting liquid water trickling down crater walls. "These observations give the strongest evidence to date that water still flows occasionally on the surface of Mars," Michael Meyer, lead scientist for NASA's Mars Exploration Programme, said in a statement.

The paper says water seems to have flowed down two gullies in the past few years, even though liquid water cannot remain long on the planet's frigid, nearly airless surface because it would rapidly freeze or evaporate.

This seemed to support the notion that liquid water may exist close enough to the planet's surface in some places that it can seep out from time to time.

The scientists proposed that water could remain in liquid form long enough on the surface to transport debris before freezing.

The two bright new deposits are each several hundred metres long.

They cited a possible alternative explanation that these features were caused by movement of dry dust down a slope.

Internet

World's largest diamond trading area promotes tourism in China

BEIJING, 6 Dec — The Flanders region of Belgium opened a tourism office here Tuesday, hoping to attract more Chinese tourists and business people to the world's largest diamond trading area.

Flanders includes six unique historical cities of Belgium such as Brussels and Leuven. For Chinese visitors, they can travel from one city to another within one hour's drive. Eighty per cent of world's diamond was traded here.

Wealthy Chinese people will love the diamonds of Flanders, said Karel Ooms, chief

representative of Flanders Tourist Office in Beijing.

Hopefully China and Flanders will strengthen tourism exchanges in the near future, said Mark Andries, chief of the Cabinet of tourism.—MNA/Xinhua

Study says forest fires increase mercury in lake fish

WASHINGTON, 7 Dec—Forest fires can restructure the food webs of nearby lakes, resulting in greater mercury accumulation in trout and other top-level fish, according to a study published on Tuesday.

Writing in Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences, researchers of Canada's University of

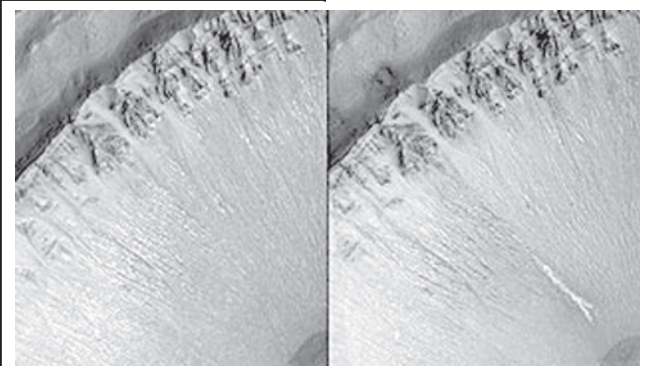
Alberta found that fish from lakes affected by forest fires are higher in mercury than unaffected lakes.

Lead author Erin Kelly and colleagues examined a mountain lake (Moab Lake, Jasper National Park, Alberta, Canada) affected by a July-August 2000 fire and found that

mercury in rainbow trout and other large fish species was up to five times higher than before the fire.

While a short-term discharge of mercury from the burned area to the lake was partially responsible, the primary contributor was a restructuring of the food web.

MNA/Xinhua



Two photos taken six years apart of a gully on the wall of an unnamed crater in the Centauri Montes region showing a material flow.—INTERNET

SPORTS



China's Qi Hui swims without goggles during the women's 200m individual medley swimming finals competition in Doha, on 7 Dec, 2006. Qi took the gold medal. —INTERNET

Chinese duo finish one-two in men's 50m rifle 3 positions

DOHA, 8 Dec — China's Zhang Fu and Zhang Lei finished one-two in the men's 50m rifle three positions at the Lusail Shooting Complex here on Thursday.

Going into the final round with an advantage of five points, Zhang achieved a comfortable win with a total of 1,268.0 points.

Zhang Lei, who collected an equal qualification score of 1,165 points with Turkmenistan's veteran Igor Pirekeev, shot the highest final round score of 101.8 points and grabbed the silver medal.

Gagan Narang from India climbed from the fifth place of the qualification to take the bronze medal with a total of 1,261.9 points.

The team title went to China for the third consecutive time with a total of 3,494 points, a new Asian record. — MNA/Xinhua

New pair knocks off top-seeded shuttlers at Asiad

DOHA, 8 Dec — Chinese pair Zheng Bo/Gao Ling knocked off the top seeded mixed doubles shuttlers here on Thursday to reach the badminton mixed doubles semifinals at the 15th Asian Games.

Zheng and Gao, only paired up three weeks before the Asian Games, faced great challenges in the quarter-finals as their opponents Nova Widianto and Liliyana from Indonesian were ranked world number one.

In the opening set, Zheng and Gao trailed 3-0 at the beginning but made an 8-7 overtake later. The Chinese pair tied several times with the Indonesian top seed, before closing the set 21-19.

Afterwards, Widianto and Liliyana seemed too depressed to concentrate on the game, losing to the new pair 21-10 in the second set. — MNA/Xinhua

New Castle beat Reading 3-2

LONDON, 8 Dec — Emre's sensational 20-yard strike awarded struggling Newcastle a crucial win in the Premiership which also snapped Reading's winning streak on Wednesday.

Newcastle took the lead when Antoine Sibierski headed in Nolberto Solano's cross in the 23rd minute, before Reading equalized thanks to James Harper's low 18-yard drive in the 37th minute. Harper scored his second five minutes later from the edge of the area after Shay Given parried Glen Little's fierce effort.

Obafemi Martins levelled from the spot after Ibrahima Sonko's foul on him in the 57th minute and Emre's stunner came in the 84th minute to raise the roof.

MNA/Xinhua

Manchester United, Arsenal qualify for last 16

LONDON, 8 Dec — Manchester United survived a scare to take top spot in their European Champions League group by beating Benfica 3-1 on Wednesday, while Arsenal also finished top in Group G after a scoreless draw in Porto.

The result in Portugal rendered CSKA Moscow's 3-2 defeat to Hamburg irrelevant, while Lille edged out AEK Athens for the runners-up spot in Group H behind Milan.

Benfica took the lead in stunning circumstances at Old Trafford on 28 minutes when Nelson thumped home a brilliant drive from 25 yards.

United drew level at the end of the first half

when Nemanja Vidic rose to head home Ryan Giggs's free-kick.

Giggs was on hand with a header to put United in front on 61 minutes and Louis Saha's header 15 minutes from time sealed his side's progress to the second round.

Celtic endured a torrid start in Denmark, falling behind after just two minutes when Atiba Hutchinson nipped in to score.

And things turned for the worse on 27 minutes when former Chelsea winger Jesper Gronkjaer steered home from close range.

To complete the set, Celtic conceded a third goal for the third away game in a row in the competition when Marcus Allback steered the ball home on 57 minutes.

Celtic did claim a consolation through Jiri Jarosik on 75 minutes, but

another meeting with a Premiership side is a live possibility after Chelsea, Liverpool and Arsenal all topped their groups.

Arsenal secured top spot in Group G after a 0-0 draw in Porto and that was enough to take both teams through in a game neither side showed any great desire to win.

CSKA Moscow forged in front on 23 minutes in Hamburg when Ivica Olic converted a penalty after Milos Krasic had been brought down.

MNA/Xinhua

Junya Koga of Japan win men's 50m backstroke title

DOHA, 8 Dec — Junya Koga of Japan won the gold medal of men's 50m backstroke at the Asian Games on Thursday.

Koga's winning time stands at 25.40 seconds, followed by Asian record holder Ouyang Kunpeng of China in the second place at 25.47. The bronze medal went to Sung Min of South Korea in 25.57.

MNA/Xinhua



A combination picture shows India's Palvinder Singh, riding the gelding Naksh, falling as he participates in the eventing individual cross country equestrian competition at the 15th Asian Games in Doha in this 7 Dec, 2006 combination picture. —INTERNET

West Ham lose to Wigan 2-0

LONDON, 8 Dec — Thanks to a David Cotterill strike and a Jonathan Spector own goal, Wigan chalked up a 2-0 win in a lively Premiership encounter at West Ham on Wednesday.

Cotterill opened the scoring in the 51st minute with a fine turn and shot into the top corner after Wigan counter-attacked following a Carlos Tevez shot which hit the post. Seven minutes later, Leighton Baines' 30-yard half-volley flew in off Jonathan Spector to put Wigan two up.

Marlon Harewood saw a good shot saved by Chris Kirkland early on and Tevez spurned several chances for West Ham. The game was barely a minute old when West Ham goalkeeper Robert Green was forced to make a save, pushing the ball on to the post from a Paul Scharner flick-on.

Green was in the thick of it again shortly afterwards when he hit Hayden Mullins' under-hit back pass against Wigan's Lee McCulloch, but the ball flew wide.

MNA/Xinhua

Hingis, Sharapova to play Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo

TOKYO, 8 Dec — Maria Sharapova and Martina Hingis will play in the 2007 Toray Pan Pacific Open early next year, organizers said on Thursday.

Sharapova is currently world No 2 and the 2005 Toray winner, and Hingis is the world No 7 and has won four Toray titles. They will appear at Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium from 30 January to 4 February with defending champion Elena Dementieva and other players.

Japanese players include Ai Sugiyama and Erika Takao, who received a wild-card entry after winning the women's national title in November, according to local Press. — MNA/Xinhua

Ma Lin, Wang Nan win China's fourth table tennis gold

DOHA, 8 Dec — Former world champions Ma Lin and Wang Nan won the mixed doubles final against newly-combined Lee Jung Woo and Lee Eun Hee on Thursday, adding a fourth table tennis gold medal to China in the Doha Asian Games.

MNA/Xinhua



Serena Williams hits a backhand during a Williams Sisters Tour charity tennis match against Venus Williams in Charlotte, NC, on 7 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Indonesia better than US in handling terror

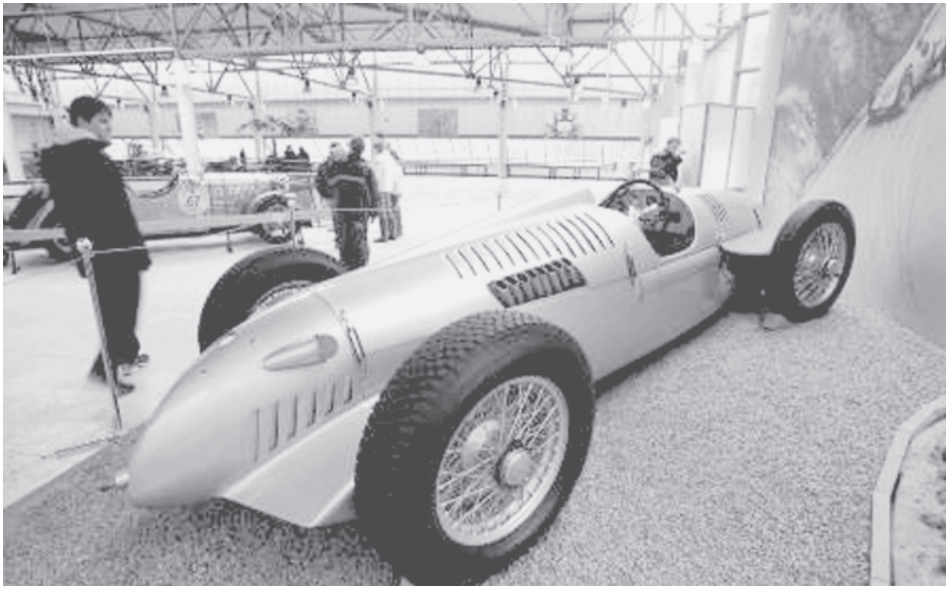
JAKARTA, 8 Dec— Indonesian Vice-President Jusuf Kalla has claimed that his government has made more effective measures in the fight against terrorism than the United States, a local newspaper reported on Thursday.

During a meeting with noted lawyer Todung Mulya Lubis Wednesday, Kalla said legal

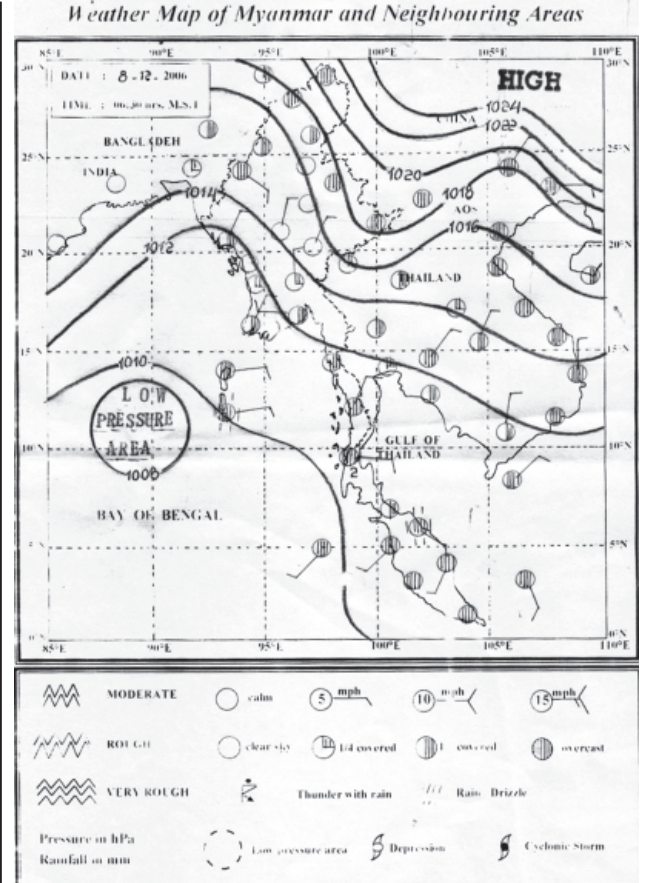
proceedings against terror suspects should comply with human rights principles. Intelligence

operations, prosecution and trials should not be in violation to human rights. "The Vice-President

told me... that in the fights against terrorism, Indonesia is better than the United States," Lubis was quoted by the economic daily *Bisnis Indonesia* as saying. — MNA/Xinhua



Visitors observe one of only two 1939 Auto Union C/D-Type race car of Germany believed to be still in existence, at the Motor Museum in Riga, Latvia on 2 Dec, 2006. A similar race car, the Auto Union D-Type, will be sold by Christie's Paris in February 2007 and auctioneers expect to fetch about 6 million pounds (\$11.9 million). — INTERNET



"Storm news" (Issued at 10:00 hours MST on 7-12-2006)

According to the observations at (06:30) MST today, yesterday's tropical depression which has moved into the South Andaman Sea is centred at about (200) miles South-west of Myeik. It has not appreciably further intensified and it is forecast to move in some Northwesterly directions slowly.

Under the influence of the tropical depression, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered to fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Taninthayi Coast and surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

WEATHER

Friday, 8 December, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Taninthayi Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Chin, and Rakhine States and upper Sagaing Division, (5°C) below normal in Magway Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (1°C) and Heho (4°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 7-12-2006 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 8-12-2006 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 8-12-2006 was 62%. Total sunshine hours on 7-12-2006 was (8.1) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 8-12-2006 were (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (98.46) inches at Mingaladon and (111.61) inches at Kaba-Aye and (116.69) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from North at 11:30 hours MST on 7-12-2006.

Bay inference: Yesterday's tropical depression over the South Andaman Sea has weakened into a low pressure area. According to the observations at (06:30) MST today, the low pressure area persists over South East Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South East Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 9-12-2006: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Mon State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Kayin States, Ayeyawady Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 9-12-2006: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 9-12-2006: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 9-12-2006: Fair weather.

Weather Outlook for Second Weekend of December 2006: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Yangon Division and weather will be generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.



Saturday, 9 December
View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မေမဟာဝရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မေမဟာဝရဋ္ဌဓမ္မဇာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am
 2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ(ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြား တော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am
 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:15 am
 7. Musical Programme
- 8:30 am
 8. International news
- 8:45 am
 9. Grammar made easy
- 11:00 am
 1. Martial song

- 11:15 am
 2. Musical programme
- 11:30 am
 3. News
- 11:40 am
 4. Games for children
- 12:05 pm
 5. Round up of the week's TV local news
- 12:45 pm
 6. ကြားမြင်သုတ ပြည့်ဝစေရာစာပဒေသာ
- 12:55 pm
 7. လောကနိတိ (၄) "လှပခြင်း၏အဓိပ္ပာယ်" (အကယ်ဒမီဇင်ပိုင်း၊ နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ စုချစ်ဇော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဦးခင်ဇော်)
- 1:35 pm
 8. အမျိုးသား ကန်တော်ကြီးဥယျာဉ်စိန်ရတုအထိမ်းအမှတ် ပန်းပွဲတော်အကြို ပြင်ဆင်မှု
- 1:50 pm
 9. Dances of national races.
- 2:10 pm
 10. မရမ်းကုန်း ရေထိန်းတံခါး
- 2:15 pm
 11. ပန်းချီ၊ ပန်းပုပြပွဲအကြောင်း သိကောင်းစရာ (၂၀၀၆ခုနှစ်- မန္တလေး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်မောင်မြင့်လွင်၊ မင်းအုပ်စိုး)
- 2:30 pm
 12. "ပေါင်ပေါ်ကျတဲ့မီး" (ရဲအောင်၊ ထွန်းထွန်းနိုင်၊ ညိုညိုမင်းထက်၊ ဘုန်းလှ၊ ဟန်နီထွန်း၊ ဝိုင်းစုခိုင်သိန်း)
- 2:45 pm
 13. International news
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

- 4:30 pm
 3. English for everyday use
- 4:40 pm
 4. နားဝင်ပီယံ သူ့လက်သံ
- 4:45 pm
 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ်(ရက္ခဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြုများ) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)
- 5:00 pm
 6. Musical programme
- 5:15 pm
 7. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 5:25 pm
 8. Musical programme
- 5:35 pm
 9. Games for children
- 5:55 pm
 10. မြန်မာမှုပန်းဆယ်မျိုး(ပန်းချီ)
- 6:00 pm
 11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 12. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 13. အလှူရှာမယ် လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 7:00 pm
 14. Discovery
- 7:15 pm
 15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်း "ကြယ်ကြွရင်ခုန်သံ" (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 8:00 pm
 16. News
- 8:15 pm
 17. International news
- 8:30 pm
 18. Weather report
- 8:45 pm
 19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "လှပသောနေ့ရက်များ" (အပိုင်း-၅)
- 9:00 pm
 20. The next day's programme



Saturday, 9 December
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -All that she wants
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -You're my sunshine
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -I can't tell you why
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -This time it is forever
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Music at your request/ Lunch time music -Love & affection - Like I love you
- 9:00pm ASEAN news review - Exchange news from ASEAN member countries
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm -Myanmar culture By Dr Khin Maung Nyunt
- 9:30 pm Take me home country road
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the State of Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Dec — Mr Abdullatif Ali Ibrahim Al-Mawwash, newly-accredited Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to Senior General Than

Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State

Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department.

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Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Mr Abdullatif Ali Ibrahim Al-Mawwash, newly-accredited Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to the Union of Myanmar.

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Senior General Than Shwe receives Mr Abdullatif Ali Ibrahim Al-Mawwash, newly-accredited Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to the Union of Myanmar.

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