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Thursday, 14 December, 2006

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

National Convention in progress according to procedures

National Convention Convening Commission holds 18/2006 meeting

YANGON, 13 Dec — The National Convention Convening Commission held its 18/2006 meeting at the meeting room of the NCCC at Anawrahta Yeiktha in Nyaungnnapin Camp, Hmawby Township this morning, with an address by Chairman of the NCCC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Present were Vice-Chairmen of the NCCC Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Secretary of the commission Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and members.

Joint Secretary-2 of the commission Director-General of the Pyithu Hlutaw Office U Myint Thein acted as master of ceremonies and read out the agenda.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said the National Convention, which resumed on 10 October, has been in session for over two months. In retrospect, detailed basic principles on three chapters to

be included in the constitution were adopted.

He said in the three chapters detailed basic principles on the legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, Region or State Hluttaw, Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Tatmadaw were adopted.

The clarifications of the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee for laying down the detailed basic principles regarding the seven remaining chapters were reported. The chapters are Election, Political Parties, Provisions on State of Emergency, Amendment of the Constitution, State Flag, State Emblem, National Anthem and the Capital, Transitory Provisions and General Provisions.

He said the eight delegate groups read out the proposals regarding Election, Political Parties and Provisions on State of Emergency at the National Convention Plenary Session.

(See page 8)



Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at Meeting No 18/2006 of NCCC. — MNA



Weather Forecast for (14-12-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas
Fair weather.

Yangon and neighbouring areas
Partly cloudy.

Mandalay and neighbouring areas
Fair weather.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 14 December, 2006

Strive for mass production of bio-fuel

Nowadays, the nations in the world are constantly striving for industrial development. The more developed the industries, the greater the consumption of fuel. And the greater the global consumption of fuel, the scarcer the natural resources. This being the case, many nations are doing research and making technological innovations in search of alternative fuel.

We are now on the threshold of the post-petrochemical era when we will inevitably have to reduce petrochemical consumption. Therefore, measures are being taken to mass-produce bio-fuel.

In Myanmar, efforts are being made to substitute oil with bio-fuel. Since 2004, Myanma Agriculture Service, Myanma Farms Enterprise, Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise and Agricultural Mechanization Department have been working on extraction of bio-diesel from physic nuts.

Physic nut plants are being grown all over the nation by laying down a systematic plan and they are now thriving in various regions. The oil of physic nuts can be used as fuel. Moreover, physic nut cakes, because of their high percentage of nitrogen content, can be used as fertilizer.

Bio-diesel produces less carbon dioxide, the main factor for global climate change, than other fuels. Moreover, production of bio-diesel is quite easy and poses little or no harm to humans and the environment. And production cost of bio-diesel is much less than that of oil. Therefore, it is cost-effective.

Agriculture is the main pillar of the national economy. If bio-diesel can be mass-produced and used widely in farm machinery and equipment, we believe, it will contribute a lot to the development of the nation's agriculture sector.

Experts discuss ways of foot & mouth disease control

YANGON, 13 Dec — Organized by Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and OIE, the 4th workshop on foot and mouth disease control in Myanmar was held in Mandalay.

U Maung Maung Nyunt, Director-General of LBVD, and Dr Ronello Abila of OIE Southeast Asia Foot and Mouth Regional Coordination Unit delivered opening addresses at the workshop.

Officials of LBVD, Federation of Myanmar Livestock Breeding (Central) and Federation of Mandalay Division Livestock Breeding and Dr Ian Robertson of Murdoch University, Australia, attended the workshop and discussed ways to designate zones for control of the foot and mouth disease.

The two-day workshop is sponsored by OIE and SEAFMD.

MNA

Republics' Pledge

- * 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

Contract on machine tool factory project signed

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec — Myanma Machine Tool and Electrical Industries of the Ministry of Industry-2 and Sinotech International Corporation Ltd signed a contract on machine and machine tool factory project at Royal Kumudra Hotel here on 7 December evening.

The contract signing ceremony was attended by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister for Science and Technology and Labour U Thuang, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, departmental

heads, Chairman of Sinotech International Corporation Ltd Ms Li Pi Hui and officials. Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin delivered a speech and Director-General U Khin Maung of Directorate of Myanma Industrial Planning and Ms Li Pi Hui explained facts about the project.

Next, Managing Director of MMTEI U Kyaw Win and Ms Li Pi Hui signed the contract and exchanged the documents. The factory will be built in Pakokku Region, and on completion, 300 units of 10 new items will be produced per year.

MNA

Myanmar to participate in ACC's U-15 tournament

YANGON, 13 Dec — Myanmar cricket team left here for Bangkok, Thailand, to participate in Asian Cricket Council's U-15 tournament from 12 to 24 December.

Myanmar youth cricket team comprises 14 athletes and two coaches.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Director of Sports and Physical Education Department U Win Htut, President of Myanmar Cricket Federation U Nyunt Win and officials concerned. — MNA

Myanmar youth cricket team poses for documentary photo at Yangon International Airport prior to departure for Bangkok. — MCF



Minister inspects upgrading work of Pyay-Toungoo Road

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspected roadworks on Pyay-Paukhkaung-Toungoo Road in Toungoo yesterday.

At the briefing hall of Road Construction Special Group-7 at milepost No 119/3 on the road, an official reported to the minister on the extended construction, paving of asphalt on the road and storage of gravel for the upgrading project.

Afterwards, the minister and party went to the area between the milepost No 103 miles and 2 furlongs and 103 miles and 3 furlongs and inspected roadworks and construction of drains.

On his tour of inspection, the minister assisted in the upgrading tasks of the Pyay-Paukhkaung-Toungoo Road and called for timely completion of the project.

MNA

*Sixth Respect
Paying Ceremony of
old students of
Mawlamyine
Technical High
School in progress
at Mawlamyine
Dhammayon in
Yangon on
9 December 2006.*

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A Christmas tree and a statue of Father Frost, the Russian equivalent to Santa Claus, are pictured in central St Petersburg, on 12 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

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Peace activist convicted of trespassing by New York court

NEW YORK, 12 Dec— A Manhattan Criminal Court convicted on Monday peace activist Cindy Sheehan and three other women of trespassing when they tried to deliver an anti-Iraq war petition to the US Mission to the United Nations and

refused to leave.

A judge at the court sentenced them to immediate conditional discharge, which means they could face some form of penalty if they are arrested in the next six months, and ordered them to pay 95 dollars in court surcharges.

Sheehan and about 100 other members of a group called Global Exchange were rebuffed last March when they attempted to take a petition with some 72,000 signatures to the US Mission's headquarters across a street from the United Nations. Prosecutors said they

were arrested after ignoring police orders to disperse.

The four were acquitted of disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and obstructing government administration. They had faced up to a year in jail if convicted of all counts.

"We should never have been on trial in the first place," Sheehan said in a statement following the verdict, pledging that the verdict will not stop them from continuing to work tirelessly to bring the troops home.

MNA/Xinhua

Annan criticizes US foreign policy



Outgoing Secretary-General of the UN, Kofi Annan criticizes US foreign policy in a speech at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri, on 11 Dec, 2006. —XINHUA

WASHINGTON, 12 Dec—UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan criticized on Monday US foreign policy, noting "Human rights and the rule of law are vital to global security and prosperity".

"When it appears to abandon its own ideals and objectives, its friends abroad are naturally troubled and confused," Annan said in his speech at the Truman

library in Missouri.

"The US has given the world an example of a democracy in which everyone, including the most powerful, is subject to legal restraint."

"Its current moment of world supremacy gives it a priceless opportunity to entrench the same principles at the global level," he said. Annan did not mention Iraq and the Bush Administration by name, but his remarks sound to be a criticism of the American drive to Iraq war to overthrow Saddam Hussein in 2003, and the Bush doctrine of preemptive action against looming threats.

The UN Chief argued that no nation could make its actions legitimate to others if they could not convince the world the use of military force was legitimate and for "broadly shared aims—in accordance with broadly accepted norms".

In an age of threats like weapons of mass destruction in the hands of rogue states, terrorism, and health threats like SARS, "no nation can make itself secure by seeking supremacy over all others. We share the responsibility for each other's security", Annan said.

Annan will step down by the end of this month after 10 years as the UN Chief and be replaced by South Korea's Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon.

MNA/Xinhua

Serbian police seize 125 kilos of heroin

BELGRADE, 12 Dec— Serbian police have seized some 125 kilogrammes of heroin, one of the biggest drug seizures in the Balkan country, local media reported on Monday.

The heroin, which was wrapped in 240 taped packages and stashed in spare tires, was hidden in a Montenegrin truck that was stopped at a police checkpoint during the weekend at the south-western town of Novi Pazar, 280 kilometres south of Belgrade and not far from Serbia's border with Montenegro.

The "pure heroin" shipment is said to have a market value of some 8 million US dollars, the Serbian news agency Beta

reported, adding that a 45-year-old Montenegrin national who was the driver of the truck was detained for questioning.

MNA/Xinhua

Boys and girls tend to use different parts of their brain to learn some fundamental parts of grammar, according to a new US study on 12 Dec, 2006. —XINHUA



Beijing to enlarge National Museum to world's largest

BEIJING, 12 Dec— China will expand its Beijing-based National Museum into the world's largest within the next four years, according to curator Lu Zhangshen.

The National Museum,

beside the downtown Tian'anmen Square in the east, will go through renovation and enlargement from next April to 2010. Lu was quoted as saying by the *Beijing News* on Sunday.

"The museum will expand 100 metres eastwards and its floor space will reach 192,000 square metres — the largest in the world," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam sends more employees abroad in 11 months

HANOI, 12 Dec—Vietnam sent nearly 74,000 local people to work abroad in the first 11 months of 2006, up from 70,600 in the whole 2005, local newspaper *Saigon Liberation* reported on Monday.

The country's biggest labour markets include Malaysia, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and the Middle East, the paper quoted the Overseas Labour Management Department under Vietnamese Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, as reporting.

Vietnam is expanding its labour export market to the United States, Italy and Australia, while further tapping traditional ones, in a move to realize its target of annually sending 100,000 people to work abroad in the 2006-2010 period. The country has targeted to send 80,000 workers abroad in 2007. — MNA/Xinhua



Members of a Christmas band (L-R) Carmelo, Ciccio, and Cosimo take a coffee break in a bar in Rome on 12 Dec, 2006. — INTERNET

US extradites terror suspects to Thailand

LOS ANGELES, 12 Dec — The US Attorney's Office confirmed on Monday that a California man has been extradited to Thailand to face terror charges for allegedly trying to blow up the Vietnamese Embassy in Bangkok in 2001.

Van Duc Vo, 46, was charged with a failed bomb attempt, which he contends was part of a political uprising against

the government of Vietnam.

Vo confessed that he disarmed the two bombs in backpacks placed near the embassy gates.

"It was a political message coordinated to occur on the day celebrating the Army of South Vietnam," Vo wrote.

"As a Buddhist, I hold life sacred and would personally do nothing that

would cause the loss of life."

Vo, a native who became a naturalized US citizen, had been jailed at the Metropolitan Detention Centre in downtown Los Angeles since his arrest five years ago after arriving in Los Angeles.

He had recently sought the help of US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in blocking his extradition.

MNA/Xinhua

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United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan addresses the UN Security Council during a meeting about the Middle East, in New York, on 12 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Only 25% Chinese cancer patients live for five years

BEIJING, 12 Dec — Only 25 per cent of Chinese cancer patients can survive for five years, compared with European and American countries' 68 per cent, as a result of failure in timely diagnosis and treatment, said a health expert here Sunday.

Zhang Zongwei, secretary-general of the China anti-cancer association, said China lags far behind developed countries on the key health indicator, adding that 90 per cent of different types of cancer can be cured given that they are spotted and treated at an early stage.

But lack of knowledge on cancer slows the public reaction to the disease. Over 80 per cent of cancer patients know they have contracted the disease only after it evolves into the middle or later stage. According to a report released by the Ministry of Health in May, cancer is the leading cause of mortality in China, accounting for 24 per cent of deaths. China has about 3.1 million cancer patients and the number keeps rising by two million each year. — MNA/Xinhua



1957 nuclear test
A small-scale, regional nuclear war could disrupt the global climate for a decade or more, with environmental effects that could be devastating for everyone on the Earth, US scientists said on 11 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET

Darkness halts search for climbers

COOPER SPUR, 12 Dec — Rescue teams equipped with ice axes, ropes and other high-altitude gear came up empty again Tuesday in their efforts to find three climbers on Oregon's highest mountain.

After battling high winds and blowing snow, search teams broke for the day without success.

An Oregon National Guard helicopter was able to survey the lower half of the mountain, but bad weather kept the crew from getting much higher than the 6,000-foot level on the 11,239-foot peak. Crews began coming off the mountain in the afternoon to conclude their search by dark.

Rescue teams planned to debrief and map out a strategy for Wednesday, said Deputy Gary Tiffany, spokesman for the Hood River sheriff's office, which has been coordinating the search.

More snow and high winds were expected Wednesday, according to the National Weather Service. "Right now, they're dealing with 50 to 60-mph winds in the area they're searching, and blowing snow. It really cuts down their visibility," Joseph Wampler, sheriff for Hood River County, said earlier Tuesday

Internet

First direct flight from Shanghai to New York returns

SHANGHAI, 12 Dec — The first direct flight from Shanghai to New York returned to the Chinese financial centre early Sunday morning after about 14 hours' journey.

The return flight, MU588, operated by China's Eastern Airlines, took off at about 1 am on Saturday of local time from New York's John F Kennedy Airport and landed at about 5:38 am on Sunday at Shanghai's Pudong International Airport, carrying 234 passengers.

The direct flights between the two terminals have followed a polar air route — flights that overfly the Arctic or Antarctic region, which can save about six hours and 100,000 yuan (12,500 US dollars) of fuel costs compared with previous route that needs to travel via the cities of Tokyo, Seoul or Beijing, a spokesman with China's Eastern said.

The maiden direct flight, MU587, took off at 6:30 pm on Friday from Pudong Airport and arrived at about 7:45 pm on Friday of local time in New York.

The airline operates four direct flights from Shanghai to New York weekly — Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, and flights will be served by an Airbus 340-600 with a capacity of 400 passengers.

Shanghai is the second Chinese city after Beijing to launch direct flights to New York, and the new route to New York is the third direct flights service offered by China Eastern to a north American city after Los Angeles and Vancouver.

MNA/Xinhua



Thousands of runners crowd the Las Vegas Strip during the New Las Vegas Marathon in Las Vegas on 10 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET



China (Taipei) singer-actress Vivian Hsu holds a panda cub she supports at Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province on 10 Dec, 2006. —INTERNET



An engineer tests a newly developed machine to spot liquid explosives during a news conference in Beijing on 12 Dec, 2006.

INTERNET

Mines, chemical factories shut down for polluting E China river

HEFEI, 12 Dec—More than 50 mines and chemical plants in the city of Ma'anshan, in east China's Anhui Province, have been shut down by the provincial government for polluting the Cihu River, a small tributary of Yangtze River.

The factories will not be allowed to operate again until they meet environmental protection standards, said Ding Haizhong, Communist Party of China secretary of the city.

The public informed

officials earlier that the Cihu River was being seriously polluted. The river is located to the north of Ma'anshan and is an important water source of the city. The city government investigated the complaints and found the pollution primarily came from the mines and chemical plants on the upper reach of the Cihu.

The pollution discharged by the factories has affected the safety of portable water and water used for irrigation, Ding said. The pollution in

China's longest river, the Yangtze, has worsened over the last ten years as billions of tons of waste continue to be dumped into China's "mother river". — MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi Embassy in Syria reopens

DAMASCUS, 12 Dec—Iraq reopened its embassy in the Syrian capital of Damascus on Monday after a quarter century's rupture with its neighbour.

Syrian and Iraqi officials attended the flag-raising ceremony in the Iraqi Embassy in downtown Damascus. "We are pleased with the event, and it is an important step in political relations between the two countries," an Iraqi living in Damascus told Xinhua, who declined to be named.

Iraq and Syria severed diplomatic ties in the 1980s when Damascus sided with Teheran in the 1980-1988 Iraq-Iran War.

The two neighbours agreed to restore full diplomatic ties in November during a visit by Syrian

Foreign Minister Walid al-Mualllem to Iraq, who pledged to help restore security in the war-torn country. — MNA/Xinhua

Helicopter crashes in California, killing three

LOS ANGELES, 12 Dec—A medevac helicopter crashed on foggy Sunday night, killing three crew members on board, authorities said Monday.

The helicopter from Mercy Air Service Inc was returning to its base at the Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville from Loma Linda University Medical Centre when it went down in fog, said the authorities. Investigators were probing the cause of the crash and there were reports that the helicopter might strike power lines before it crashed.

Captain Bret Raney of the San Bernardino County Fire Department said the reports could not be confirmed. Investigators from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and National Transportation Safety Board were dispatched to the scene Sunday night. — MNA/Xinhua

Afghan, Pakistan health ministers to jointly launch polio eradication days

KABUL, 12 Dec—Afghan Health Minister Amin Fatimie and his Pakistani counterpart Nasir Khan would jointly launch polio eradication days on Tuesday to tackle the severe disease, said the World Health Organization (WHO) branch in Afghanistan on Monday.

Fatimie will cross the border at Torkham in eastern Afghanistan, and provide polio vaccine to a child in Pakistan, said the office in a statement.

Then the minister will

be joined by Khan in recrossing the border to provide polio vaccine to a child in Afghanistan, it added.

"The exchange of visits in the field on the event of polio eradication activities is to indicate the two ministers place importance on the next campaign rounds and their determination to succeed," the statement said.

Mainly passed through person-to-person contact, polio is a highly infectious disease infecting children,

which is caused by a virus that invades the nervous system and can cause paralysis in a matter of hours.

Afghanistan has reported about 30 polio cases this year, a seven-fold rise compared to last year, official statistics show.

Afghanistan and Pakistan are among the only four countries in the world with endemic polio virus. The other two are India and Nigeria.

MNA/Xinhua

US-China trade deficit sets record

WASHINGTON, 12 Dec—The politically sensitive trade deficit with China swelled to a record \$24.4 billion in October, as imports from there surged to \$29.3 billion, also a record.

The trade gap with China for the first 10 months of the year totalled \$190.6 billion, keeping it on track to easily surpass last year's record of \$202 billion. "It looks as if our deficit with China will be

about \$240 billion this year, about a 15 percent increase," said Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors.

The galloping trade deficit with China is one of the main reasons for top-level meetings on Thursday and Friday in Beijing. US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson is leading a team of Bush administration cabinet officials and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke for talks with senior Chinese officials on trade and economic concerns. Paulson has warned against expecting quick results from the meeting, but many manufacturers who feel harmed by China's currency and trade policies are growing impatient. — Internet



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, people work on a snow sculpture on the Taiyang Island in Harbin, the capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 10 Dec, 2006. — XINHUA



A farmer rides a tricycle on the outskirts of Shijiazhuang, north China's Hebei Province on 12 Dec, 2006. Heavy fog blanketed Beijing, Shanghai and other parts of north and east-central China for a second day on Tuesday, worsening air pollution in the capital and disrupting air and highway travel across the region. — INTERNET

Sino-Japanese military exchanges beneficial to bilateral ties

BEIJING, 12 Dec — Increased military exchanges between China and Japan will help ensure the stable development of bilateral relations, said Yang Yi, director of the Institute of Strategy of China's National University of Defence.

The Sino-Japanese relationship is very important and is of regional or even global significance, the Beijing-based China News Service quoted Yang as saying on Sunday.

Yang, who recently led a delegation of Chinese Army officers, scholars and officials on a visit to Japan, urged Japan to face

up to the war crimes it committed during World War II. The development of bilateral ties must be promoted by the leaders of the two countries but must also be supported by the two peoples, he noted.

Yang said China will maintain a defensive military strategy, stressing that the development of China's military force will never threaten other countries, including Japan.

MNA/Xinhua



Space shuttle Discovery is shown after docking with the International Space Station in this image from television, on 11 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET



Members of Hollywood stunt team Filmka perform car stunts during a show in Wuhan, in central China's Hubei Province, on 9 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

1,300-year-old boat-shaped tombs excavated in N-W China

XI'AN, 12 Dec — Chinese archaeologists discovered 28 boat-shaped tombs dating back more than 1,300 years in Shangluo City, Northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

Meanwhile, the experts unearthed large number of pottery figures and utensils as well as bronze mirrors and coins recently.

Located in the Shangzhou District, the 28 tombs line side to side from the top to the bottom of a five-metre highland. The tombs are about two

to 2.4 metres long, one to 1.5 metre wide and 0.7 to 1.1 metre high.

The bricks of the tomb chamber formed elliptic vaulting on the top, making the tombs look like headstand boats, which were rare in shape among the tombs in the period.

The archaeologists

found that the earth around these tombs was pounded and were surprised to see that tomb bricks were carved with fine patterns of strings of beads and rhombus.

The experts said the tombs belonged to a noble family in the Tang Dynasty (618-907),

judging from the size of the tombs, building materials and funeral objects.

The discovery is of great significance in studying funeral rituals cherished by officials and nobilities in the area during the Tang Dynasty, they said.—MNA/Xinhua

Beijing scraps 13,000 outdated taxis to reduce pollution

BEIJING, 12 Dec — Beijing has shunted 13,000 outdated, polluting taxis onto the scrapheap since the beginning of 2006 to try and reduce air pollution, said the local legislature.

The taxis are cheap models with high emission levels, said Liu Xiaochen, secretary general of the municipal government at the 33rd session of the Standing Committee of the 12th Beijing Municipal People's Congress.

They will be replaced by new taxis that meet the Euro-III emission norm, said Liu.

Some 2,000 outdated buses will also go to the wreckers this year and 2,760 clean gas-driven buses will go into service. The city renovated 330

coal-fuelled boilers and replaced 28,000 old taxis and 3,900 diesel-engine buses in 2005.

Automobile emissions containing sulfur dioxide have become a major

factor in urban pollution. Sulfur dioxide emissions increased by 4.2 per cent in the first half of the year over the same period in 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Surfer survives great white shark attack in N California

LOS ANGELES, 12 Dec — A surfer survived a white shark attack with minor bite marks after he was dragged almost 5 metres underwater near a beach in Northern California, a report said Monday.

Royce Frailey, 43, was

resting face down on his surfboard around noon Sunday waiting for a wave when he felt a surge of water beneath him, and then a 4-metre-long shark clamped onto his surfboard, according to a website report of the *San Francisco Chronicle* newspaper.

The shark took him and dove down with him nearly 5 metres before he popped up and rocketed

out of the water, rescue officials said, adding that there were at least 10 surfers out at the time of the attack.

The attack in Dillion Beach near San Francisco, if confirmed by teeth prints, will have been the first unprovoked attack on a human by a great white shark in California this year, shark experts said.

MNA/Xinhua



A woman stands beside Christmas trees adorning Union Station in Washington DC on 12 Dec, 2006. Union Station, the Capital's ornate main rail station, attracts many shoppers as well as travellers during the holiday season.—INTERNET

9% of Chinese school-age migrant children out of school

BEIJING, 12 Dec — More than 9 per cent of Chinese migrant children under the age of 14 are out of school contravening China's law requiring nine-years of compulsory education, according to a latest report issued by the China National Children Centre.

The report says 9.3 per cent of China's school-age migrant children are out of school, with 46.9 per cent of six-year-olds yet to start school. China's Compulsory Education Law requires children over the age of six, regardless of gender or ethnicity to attend school. In some areas where conditions are poor the children can start school at age seven.—MNA/Xinhua

Nay Pyi Taw, Uppa Tasanti Ceti Taw and Shwepyitaw

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

Nay Pyi Taw

A central region of a nation where its monarch sets up the seat of the administration is called Nay Pyi Taw or the capital. In its history, Myanmar saw many Nay Pyi Taws from Bagan Nay Pyi Taw up to Mandalay Nay Pyi Taw.

However, it fell under the colonial yoke, and since then it has not seen any significant Nay Pyi Taw for nearly 60 years after it regained independence.

Now, the place known as Nay Pyi Taw has emerged in the centre of Myanmar. The statues of King Anawrahta, King Bayintnaung and King Alaungphaya set up there are the symbols of the 21st Century Nay Pyi Taw, established by the Tatmadaw Government.

It has become a royal or auspicious region where Armed Forces Day (2006) Parade was held on a grand scale and the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions were held in a well-organized way, as well as a region that wins respect of heads of state and government of many other countries and heads of many international organizations.

Ceti Taw

In Myanmar, a structure erected in higher ground such as hillocks, hills and mountains and in accessible sites where Lord Buddha's relics are

enshrined is called a Ceti Taw or pagoda. The Shwedagon Pagoda, the first-ever pagoda in the world, is one of the wonders of the world as well as the greatest showcase of the nation.

The initial height of the Shwedagon Pagoda (Yangon) was 66 feet. The kings of successive eras renovated and upgraded the religious monument and now its height has reached 326 feet.

A replica of the Shwedagon Pagoda will emerge soon in Nay Pyi Taw. It will be entitled the "Uppa Tasanti" with 325 feet in height.

Recently, I paid a visit to Nay Pyi Taw and the Ceti Taw, and I was inspired to write this article.

Taking Hsinyadana feeder road in Pynmana to the west, one will see a magnificent roundabout, which is higher with a larger area than the Bahan roundabout and U Vicara roundabout in Yangon. That roundabout is decorated in an artistic way.

On both sides of the roads leading to the roundabout are systematically-demarcated wards of those from the ministers down to other ranks ministry-wise.

The office buildings of the ministries are the same in design and in appearance and they reflect the smooth and swift dealings and relations between superiors and subordinates for the convenience of the public.

When I saw Nay Pyi Taw, I felt pleased with the

magnificent place and realized that it will shape a brighter future of the nation.

The government has taken responsibilities for basic needs of local people and established Nay Pyi Taw New Market and a 300-bed hospital there.

Nay Pyi Taw is helping expedite the implementation of noble goals such as enabling service personnel to discharge their duties in peace and serving the interests of the people.

In addition, the government is building the Ceti Taw entitled "Uppa Tasanti" to enable the people to perform meritorious deeds.

Uppa Tasanti Ceti Taw

Here, the word "Uppa" means possible dangers, and the word "Tasanti", cessation followed by peace.

The stake-driving ceremony to launch the building of the pagoda took place in Nay Pyi Taw on the morning of 12 November 2006, and it was graced by the presence of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing. The religious rites received a wide media coverage, thereby arousing the admiration of the Buddhists.

Upon completion, the pagoda will be 325 feet high together with the 170' x 144' Sasana Beikman building, four 90' x 36' Sangha Rama buildings, a monastery, a 45' x 45' ordination hall, a 400' x 400' lake, a 150' x 150' Ashin Upagutta lake, and a 300' x 150' Bodhi garden.

The hill on which the Ceti Taw is being built is the auspicious site in Nay Pyi Taw. Therefore, on completion of the building of the Ceti Taw, the object the one travelling to Nay Pyi Taw will notice first from a distance is the glittering religious structure.

The existence of Nay Pyi Taw and the Ceti Taw reflects the sign of the emergence of Shwepyitaw or a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 13-12-2006

The stake-driving ceremony to launch the building of the pagoda took place in Nay Pyi Taw on the morning of 12 November 2006, and it was graced by the presence of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing. The religious rites received a wide media coverage, thereby arousing the admiration of the Buddhists.



A dive instructor carries air tanks on the beach of the Philippine resort island of Boracay, a few days after Typhoon Utor swept through the region, on 12 Dec, 2006. — INTERNET

PM hints Israel has nuclear weapons

BERLIN, 13 Dec — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert implied that Israel has nuclear weapons, a departure from Israel's longtime nuclear policy of ambiguity, although other Israeli officials immediately denied it.

During an interview to a German television, Olmert, who was kicking off a three-day visit to Germany and Italy, hinted that Israel has nuclear arms.

"Iran, openly, explicitly and publicly threatens to wipe Israel off the map. Can you say that this is the same level, when they are aspiring to have nuclear weapons, as America, France, Israel, Russia?" Olmert said.

Olmert's remarks came in response to questions that in case Israel possesses nuclear arms, whether its argument against Iran's nuclear programme would be weakened.

This was the first time Israel said it has nuclear arms, a break from its traditional policy of opacity, namely, neither confirming nor denying it has nuclear weapons. Foreign experts suspected Israel has some 50-200 warheads.

Immediately after the interview, Israeli officials dismissed the Premier's remark as mis-interpreted saying it was taken out of context. — MNA/Xinhua



**Chairman of NCCMC Auditor General
Maj-Gen Lun Maung.** — MNA



**Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice
U Aung Toe.** — MNA



**Secretary of NCCC Minister
Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.** — MNA

National Convention in progress...

(from page 1)

He said the eight National Convention delegate groups are holding discussions for compilation of proposals on Amendment of the Constitution, State Flag, State Emblem, National Anthem and the Capital, Transitory Provisions and General Provisions. The proposals of the eight groups will be submitted to the National Convention Plenary Session to be held, he said.

He said the National Convention is in progress

in accord with the procedures and achievements have been made. Concerted efforts are to be made for more progress with greater momentum, he added. He called on officials concerned to make arrangements for the convenience of the delegates. Secretary of the commission Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported on compilation of personal data of the delegates, records of the National Convention, presentation of the reports and arrangements for entertainment programmes and welfare. Next, Chairman of the Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe reported on compilation of pro-

posals regarding Amendment of the Constitution, State Flag, State Emblem, National Anthem and the Capital, Transitory Provisions and General Provisions. Chairman of the National Convention Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung reported on arrangements for accommodation, transport, health, welfare of the delegates and entertainment and tasks to be undertaken. Next, members of the commission discussed proposals presented by the NCCC and members of the commission took part in the discussions. The Secretary-1 fulfilled the requirements and the meeting came to a close at 11.30 am.—MNA

Information Minister receives Chinese guests



Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives Chinese broadcasting delegation. — MNA

YANGON, 13 Dec— Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Mr An Xiao Yu, Deputy Director-General of Asian

Languages of Beijing International Broadcasting Service, of People's Republic of China, at Myanmar Radio and Television here today.

Also present at the call were directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the ministry and

officials of Chinese Embassy to Myanmar.— MNA

Pearl lots sold to local gem merchants

YANGON, 13 Dec—The 22nd pearl lots sale of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise is being held at Thiri Yadana hall of

MPE on Kanbe Road in Yankin Township. The pearl lots will be sold to local gem merchants through tender

system till 15 December. Altogether 36 local gem merchants observed 220 pearl lots this morning.—MNA

**Gem merchants observe pearl lots at 22th Pearl Sales of
Ministry of Mines.**

MNA

Cash and kind donated to monasteries and nunneries

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo visited Mogaung Pariyatti monastery in Hinthada, Ayeyawady Division, on 10 December. He offered alms to presiding abbot Bhaddanta Sudhammacara. He also visited Mahitayon monastery and presented offertories to Sabba Siddhi Sukhavati nunnery. The secretary-general visited St Mary Catholic Church in Hinthada and donated rice and cash to it through Chairman of the church board of trustees U Steven and members. Then, he made cash donation to the funds of Kayin New Year Festival. The Catholic mission presented gifts to the secretary-general. The secretary-general also presented bags of rice and cash donations to Yedagun nunnery.—MNA



Delegate Groups' meetings...

(from page 16)

Delegate Group of State Service Personnel

Similarly, the Delegate Group of State Service Personnel held its group meeting at the meeting hall-7 in Nyaungnabin Camp, Hmawby Township at 9 am today.

At the meeting, Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin of the Ministry of Health presided over the meeting together with Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence and U Arnt Maung of the Ministry of Religious Affairs. Deputy Director U Htay Win of NCC Work Committee Office acted as master of ceremonies and Assistant Director U Htein Min, co-MC.



Alternate Chairperson Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin addresses group meeting of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel. — MNA



First, the master of ceremonies declared the meeting valid as the attendance accounted for 92.59 per cent. Next, the meeting chairperson made a speech on the occasion.

Next, delegates U Soe Myint Thein of Civil Service Selection

and Training Board, U Sein Lwin of the Ministry of Mines and U Zaw Myint of the Ministry of Cooperatives read out the proposal to be submitted to the Plenary Session of the National Convention to lay down the detailed basic principles of the chapters on Amendment

of Constitution, State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem, the Capital, Transitory Provisions and General Provisions to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

Afterwards, the meeting chairperson made conclusion remarks. — MNA

Officials urged to step up efforts...

(from page 16)

Director of Yangon Division Development Affairs Department U Kyi Myint also reported on water supply tasks, construction of roads and bridges in rural areas and tasks being carried out with the assistance of the State.

Officials of township Development Affairs Departments in the division reported on tasks carried out in the respective townships.

The meeting concluded with remarks by Lt-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present at the meeting were senior military officers, officials of YCDC, chairmen of four district peace and development councils in Yangon division, senior engineers of Public Works, officials of Yangon Division Development Affairs Department and township DADs in the division. — MNA

Chinese delegation visits MRTV



Chinese broadcasting delegation observes shooting of entertainment programme at MRTV. — MNA

YANGON, 13 Dec — A Chinese delegation comprising Mr An Xiao Yu, Deputy Director-General of Asian Languages Department of Beijing Intentional Broadcasting Service of the People's Republic of China, Director of Myanmar Programme Mr You Yuan Lai and Miss Dong Lie of Myanmar Programme went on a study tour of Myanmar Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information on Pyay Road this morning.

The Chinese delegation was welcomed by Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay, directors and responsible personnel.

At the meeting hall of MRTV, Director-General of MRTV U Khin Maung Htay extended greetings and clarified on salient points of MRTV and its functions by means of projector.

Next, Mr An Xiao Yu of Deputy Director-General of Asian Languages Department signed in the visitors' book. Afterwards, the Chinese delegation studied functions of MRTV.

MNA

Yangon Division Fisheries Association meets

YANGON, 12 Dec — The 8th annual meeting of Yangon Division Fisheries Association of Myanmar Fisheries Federation was held at the Thiri Annawar hall of the association today.

Chairman U Aung Lwin, Deputy Director-General U Khin Ko Lay of Fisheries Department and Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Fisheries Federation spoke on the occasion.

Next, Secretary U Myo Aung of Yangon Division Fisheries Association submitted the report of CEC and financial statement for approval. The meeting ended with the conclusion remarks by the chairman.

MNA

Minister visits youths rehabilitation centre in Muse

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, accompanied by Deputy Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Hla Myint, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Win Soe of Myanmar Police Force, Police Col Khan Aung and departmental officials, inspected Tima Shwepyithit Youths Rehabilitation Centre in Muse, Shan State (North) on 11 December.

Deputy commander of Shan State (North) Police Force Police Col Kan Hlaing reported on progress of construction the centre. The minister and party inspected work progress and agricultural farms.

In meeting with departmental personnel, members of NGOs, local people at the town hall of Muse, the minister dealt with matters on stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order, economic development of the State and entire people, raising public awareness.

He addressed the ceremony to scatter Sinshweli strain summer paddy seeds for 2006-2007 organized by North-East Command at the field in Humon yesterday. He also inspected the cold season crop plantations of the General Administration Department. — MNA

Foodstuff, medical treatments given to inmates

YANGON, 13 Dec—A group of 35 members from social organizations visited Kawthoung jail on 25 November.

There, they presented medicines and foodstuff to the inmates, consoled them and helped them send their letters to their families. They also donated personal goods and medicines worth

K 400,000 to the prisoners.

Likewise, a group led by Dr Mya Kyemon of Monywa General Hospital gave health education talks to and consoled 20 female prisoners in Monywa prison on 30 November. Traditional Medicine health officer U Aung Soe of Monywa District Traditional

Medicine Department and party gave medical check-ups and educative talks on health to 63 prisoners.

A similar group led by Ophthalmologist Daw Tin Myo Thant of Shwebo District People's Hospital and party gave medical treatments to those prisoners with eye problems in Shwebo jail on 6 December.—MNA



Dr Mya Kyemon of Monywa General Hospital gives educative talks on health at Monywa Prison. — PRISON DEPARTMENT

Human traffickers get prison terms

YANGON, 13 Dec—Yangon South District Court on 27 November handed down a 15-year prison term each to two women for their scheme to traffic in two girls.

Ma Soe Soe Kyi (a) Ma Zar, daughter of U Tin Aung, of Pale Myothit in Mingaladon Township, and Ma Marlar Win (a) Marlar, daughter of U Pe Than, of Dagon Housing Estate in Hlaingthaya were arrested by members

of the Myanmar Police Force in North Okkalapa Township on 3 November. At that time, the two female traffickers were in Swelmet Restaurant in the township together with two girls from Hline Township, whom they had enticed to send them to the other country and then for trafficking in them there.

The two confessed that their intention was to traffic in the girls to Ma Beda

Win (a) Ma Win, daughter of U Win Naing, in the neighbouring country.

The court sentenced the two human traffickers to 15 years' prison terms each under Section (24) of Anti-Human Trafficking in Persons Law.

Now, absconder Ma Beda Win (a) Ma Win has been arrested, and plans are under way to send her to Yangon South District Court for a lawsuit against her.—MNA

Dutch FM says Syria can play key role in M-E region

DAMASCUS, 13 Dec—Visiting Dutch Foreign Minister Ben Bot said here on Tuesday that Syria could play an important role in achieving peace in the Middle East.

"Given the many positive signals I have received today, I am convinced that Syria can also play an important role in the region," Bot told reporters after meeting with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and Foreign Minister Walid al-Mualem.

"Syria is a key role

player in the Middle East. Syria is part and should be part of a solution," said Bot, who arrived here earlier in the day for a brief visit here.

Bot also said that Europe expected Damascus to play a constructive role in solving conflicts in the Palestinian territories, Lebanon and Iraq, which could be helpful in closer relations between the European Union (EU) and Syria.

Meanwhile, the Dutch top diplomat vowed to report back his talks in Syria to his European allies

and the US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, hoping this would improve its ties with the West.

According to Syrian official *SANA* news agency, President Assad said, for his part, that the region could only achieve security and stability after the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace while Foreign Minister Walid al-Mualem called on the EU to play a greater role in the region during their meetings with Bot.

MNA/Xinhua

Commander inspects construction tasks in Myitkyina



Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint inspects construction of stadium in Myitkyina. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec — Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint together with Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun and officials inspected construction site

of Myitkyina Gymnasium and heard reports on construction tasks presented by an official on 30 November.

Next, the commander and party visited Aungzay Yanaung Tat U Pagoda and Aung Thabyay Thahtaung Buddha Image

near Myothitkyi Ward in Myitkyina and presented K 400,000 for offering gold foil to the Pagoda.

In the evening, the commander inspected building of village to village road in Pammatee village-tract and gave necessary instructions.—MNA

Two thieves arrested within two weeks after stealing gold, cash worth K 5 million

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec — Two men in their early twenties were arrested on 4 December two weeks after they had stolen gold and cash with a total value of over K five million.

In police custody, the two men confessed that they stole K 130,000 and 33 pairs of gold earrings, three gold bracelets, seven gold necklaces and 24 gold rings valued at about K 4 million at the house of Daw Khin Than at Hsishon village in Pyay Township, Bago Division, on 19 November morning.

When Daw Khin Than came back home from her monhinkha noodle cottage factory, located in her compound, the same morning, she noticed that her cash and gold were missing. She reported the case to Wethitikan Police Station.

The two thieves, Zaw Lin (a) Kyaw Min Naing, 22, and Than Zaw, 23, of Kyauksaung village, Aunglan Township, Magway Division, told the police that while they were at the cottage factory to buy monhinkha (Myanmar noodle soup) at about 5 am, they found the bag which contained gold and cash. They stole the bag and pawned the gold in Taungdwingyi.

Thanks to the public cooperation, members of Myanmar Police Force were able to catch the two within two weeks after they had committed the crime.

Severe action would be taken against them according to the law, police said.—MNA

Only real activities can help develop human rights

PHNOM PENH, 13 Dec — Cambodia should carry out "real activities" rather than empty talks and parades to develop its human rights, Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Tuesday while inaugurating a school in Svay Rieng Province.

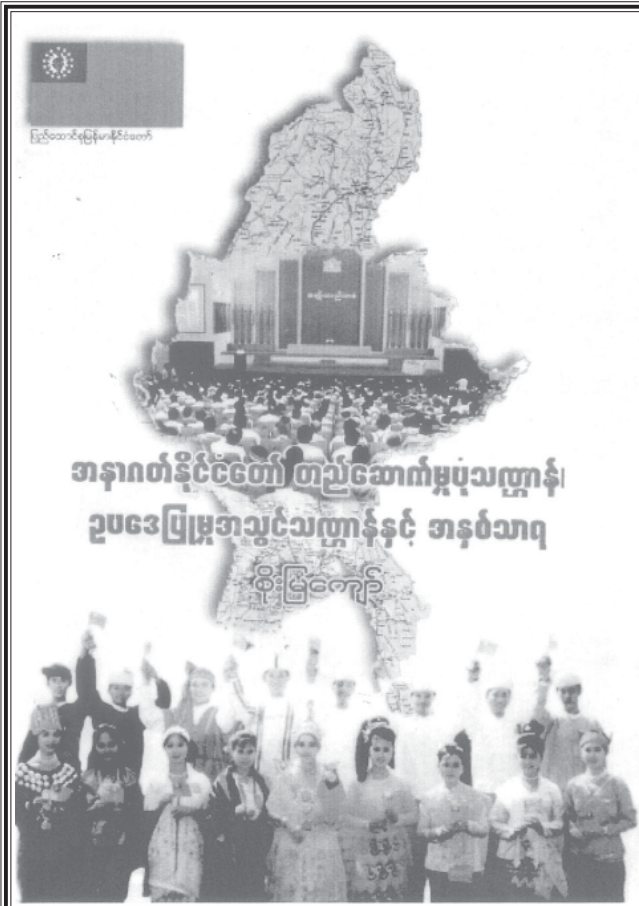
"Human rights are not only to speak loudly and demand democracy and freedom of expression... but we need to do actual activities" like building

schools, canals, hospitals and pagodas, radio reports quoted him as saying.

"We can not beg for human rights from the sky and mythical spirits," he said.

"Can we protest to demand something when we have no rice to place in pots? Speaking about human rights everyday without doing something, is this real rights?" he asked.

MNA/Xinhua



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
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ဖိုးမြကျော် ၏

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ထွက်ပြီ

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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ဖုန်း - ၂၉၄၃၀၆

Toyota Indonesia exports SUV Fortuner to Mid-East

JAKARTA, 12 Dec — Japanese auto giant Toyota Motor Corp on Monday marked the first delivery of sport utility vehicle Fortuner to Middle East countries from its Indonesian plant.

The initial shipment from its local assembly

Kenya seeks to expand trade with China

BEIJING, 13 Dec — Kenya is seeking greater cooperation with China in trade and telecommunications, according to visiting Kenyan Information and Communications Minister Mutahi Kagwe.

Trade between the two countries was valued at 500 million US dollars last year, he said at a reception in Beijing Monday to mark the 43rd anniversary of Kenya's independence.

MNA/Xinhua

plant PT Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indonesia (TMMIN) covers only 700 units, but the company plans to increase the figure to some 10,000 units a year.

The Indonesian branch is taking over production and delivery of Fortuner from Thailand, said TMMIN president Hidematsu Ibaragi.

Apart from Fortuner,

TMMIN also announced the plan to expand the export of multi-purpose vehicle Avanza, a collaborated product by Toyota and Daihatsu first introduced here in 2003.

With greater market for Avanza, Toyota seeks to increase the export of the seven-seater car to 22,000 units a year from the current 2,000, Ibaragi said. — MNA/Xinhua

Egypt vows to rank first in investment attraction in Africa

CAIRO, 12 Dec — Egypt vowed here on Sunday to rank the first in Africa this year to have attracted the most foreign direct investment (FDI), the official news agency MENA reported.

Investment Minister Mahmoud Mohieddin made the pledge at the opening session of a two-day Cairo Investment Forum, which brings together more than 1,000 high-level official representatives and corporate leaders from

various countries to discuss Egypt's economic reform.

In 2005, Egypt ranked the second in terms of FDI, just after South Africa, according to a report released by UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in October.

Highlighting the importance to redress any shortcomings in steps taken by the government

to attract investments, Mohieddin noted that a number of points will be reconsidered with the aim of increasing foreign investments in the coming stage.

A number of investors voiced keenness on investing in Upper Egypt, the minister said, adding Egypt would attract more Gulf and Arab investments soon.

MNA/Xinhua



Director Mel Gibson (C) is shown with cast members on the set of his new film "Apocalypto". Oscar winning actor-turned-director Mel Gibson's new film, topped the box office in North America with an estimated 14.2 million dollars in its debuting weekend, toppling three-week winner, "Happy Feet," according to studio estimates released on Sunday, 11 Dec, 2006 by the Los Angeles-based box office tracker Exhibitor Relations Co Inc.—INTERNET

Nigerian Govt urged to revamp textile industry

LAGOS, 12 Dec — The Nigerian Government has been urged to revamp local textile industry by investing heavily in it, local newspaper *This Day* reported on Sunday.

Reginald Agulanna, president of National Union of Textile and Garment Workers of Nigeria, said the industry was in shambles and "if urgent steps were not taken to revive it", the country would have to rely on imported textiles.

The union, registered in 1978, had lost many members due to the closure of many textile companies, he said.—MNA/Xinhua

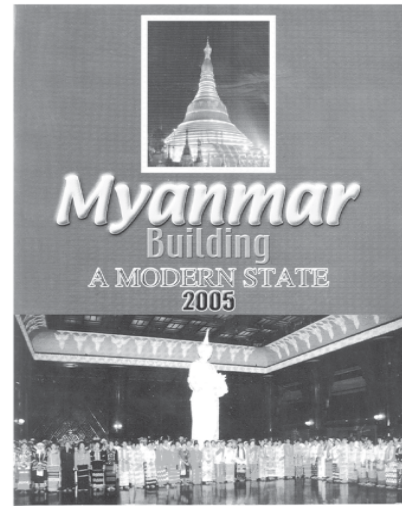
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INVITATION TO TENDER

(TENDER NO. 12(T) MPE/HSD (10)/ 2006-2007)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel Oil (12,000±10%) Metric Tons (Gas Oil Regular 0.5%).
2. Tender closing Date: (21-12-2006) at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Documents and detail information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing (13-12-2006) on payment of one hundred (100) FEC per set.
4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise



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ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရောင်းချရေးအဖွဲ့

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| ၁။ | Tyre With Tube & Flat | 1Lot | ၂၀.၁၂.၂၀၀၆ |
| ၂။ | Dump Truck(15) Tons | 1Unit | ၂၀.၁၂.၂၀၀၆ |
| ၃။ | Hydraulic Main Pump | 1Set | ၂၀.၁၂.၂၀၀၆ |
| ၄။ | M.S Plate 8'x4'x8mmT | 35 Sht | ၂၀.၁၂.၂၀၀၆ |
- အမှတ်(၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာ့ကြေထည်မြေထည်လုပ်ငန်း၊ ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ အမှတ်(၁၉၂)၊ ကမ္ဘာအေးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်တွင် ရုံးချိန် အတွင်းဆက်သွယ် စုံစမ်းပြီးတင်ဒါပုံစံများကို လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။
 တင်ဒါပုံစံတရားဝင်ဝယ်ယူမှုများထံမှ တင်ဒါကိုသာ လက်ခံပါမည်။
 (အသေးစိတ်သိလိုပါက စုံစမ်းရန်တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်၊ ၅၆၂၀၃၈)

မြန်မာ့ကြေထည်မြေထည်လုပ်ငန်း

Chinese WTO ex-negotiator says opening up will not hurt eco safety

BEIJING, 12 Dec— Opening up will not hurt

China's economic safety as long as it is guided by the government and regulated by laws, said China's ex-chief representative in its World Trade Organization (WTO) talks on Sunday. Joining the WTO is not an end to China's opening up but a new opportunity, which calls for continuous updating of ideas, said Long Yongtu, secretary-general of the Boao Forum for Asia and former top negotiator who led China into the WTO in 2001 after 15 years of talks. As China gradually opens up, concerns about the country's economic and industrial safety are very necessary, said Long. However, "As long as we have all necessary laws and strong government regulation, we should not be afraid of opening up," said Long. "The more the country opens up, the safer and more advanced we will be."

MNA/Xinhua

Commonwealth Education Ministers meet in Cape Town

JOHANNESBURG, 12 Dec—More than 900 delegates from 53 Commonwealth member states attended the 16th Commonwealth Education Ministers (CEEM) conference in Cape Town, South Africa, beginning from Monday.

"The theme of the conference is access to quality education: for the good of all," the 16th CEEM said in a statement.

"This conference provides an opportunity for Commonwealth Ministers of Education to reaffirm their commitment to getting every child into school and to share and discuss strategies for achieving progress towards this common goal," said Henry Kaluba, the head of Education Section at Commonwealth Secretariat.

The Commonwealth comprises 53 countries, most of which are former British colonies, and has a combined population of 1.7 billion people, about a quarter of the world population. While some Commonwealth members are rich industrialized countries, some members remain among the world's poorest countries.

Ministers were expected to consider the role of the teaching profession in relation to the quality of education, what constitutes a quality of education in a globalized world, and the role of the non-state sector in education: the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

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MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
 E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
 Tel: 254037 G.P.O Box: 666
 Yangon, 14 December 2006

DRIVE WITH CARE

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Win Mu Tin M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L for UNILEVER PLC. P. O. Box 60, Yangon Dated: 14 December 2006

ပန်းမန်သစ်ပင်
လေသန့်စင်၍
ဥယျာဉ်တောတန်း
စိတ်ရွှင်လန်း၏။

မညာရေး ပြင်ဆင်မှု ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဆုံး



Two Russian Sukhoi-30 jets perform during a military parade to celebrate the anniversary of the Venezuelan Air Force in Macarary, on 10 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

Mubarak calls for boosting inter-Arab investment cooperation

CAIRO, 12 Dec— At the inaugural session of Cairo Investment Forum on Sunday, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak called for boosting inter-Arab cooperation in the investment domain.

On behalf of Mubarak, Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmed Nazef read the inaugural speech, in which the investment cooperation among the Arab nations was highlighted. Current developments

worldwide require more economic cooperation among the world's countries and regions, Mubarak said in the speech, noting that the Arab region was rich with its manpower that is capable of creating a better future.

He urged the participants of the gathering to come out with a comprehensive vision on means of boosting inter-Arab trade and attracting more investments into the region.

Such cooperation is no longer a luxury but a necessity required by joint

Arab interests, added Mubarak.

He also introduced Egypt's reform progress in the economic, social and political domains to the conference, saying that Egyptian Government is undertaking reforms in line with a clear vision to balance between the targets of economic liberalization and social solidarity.

Thanks to the economic reforms, the foreign direct investment to Egypt tripled to six billion US dollars compared with the figure of 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

Nigerian Govt promises steady power supply by 2010

LAGOS, 12 Dec— The Nigerian Government has said the country will have uninterrupted power supply by 2010, local newspaper *The Guardian* reported on Sunday.

Nasir El-Rufai, Minister of Nigeria's Federal Capital Territory, said 40 billion US dollars have been invested for this goal.

The Nigerian Government had embarked on a "massive power plant" project in various parts of the country to meet the 2010 target.

MNA/Xinhua



Soldiers and rescue teams work amidst the wreckage of a residential building in the southeastern Turkish city of Diyarbakir on 11 Dec, 2006. A large blast on Monday largely destroyed the building in Diyarbakir, the largest city of Turkey's mainly Kurdish southeast, witnesses said.

—INTERNET

US helicopter makes emergency landing in W Baghdad, 18 injured

BAGHDAD, 12 Dec— A US Marine helicopter carrying 21 people made an emergency landing in Iraq's western al-Anbar Province on Monday, injuring 18, the military said in a statement.

A Marine Corps CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter made a hard landing while conducting a routine passenger and cargo flight in the volatile province, the statement said.

A total of 21 people were aboard the helicopter, including four crew members.

Eighteen people were injured in the incident with mine treated for minor injuries and returned to duty, the statement said.

The incident does not appear to be a result of enemy action and is currently under investigation.

On 3 December, a US Marine Corps CH-46 helicopter carrying 16 people went down in a lake in al-Anbar, killing four.

The military said the helicopter had experienced mechanical problems and was not hit by gunfire.

MNA/Xinhua



All the 550,323 registered dogs in Beijing have received anti-rabies inoculations, the municipal agriculture bureau said on 11 Dec, 2006.—XINHUA

Austrian researchers develop computer-based CCTV system

VIENNA, 12 Dec— Austrian researchers have developed a computer based close-circuit television (CCTV) system which can identify and track suspicious behaviour and alert automatically to banks, the local media reported on Sunday.

After being observed whether it is moving and what it is, the object will be tracked by the video cameras of the computer-based surveillance sys-

tem, developed by Vienna University of Technology.

With the help of mathematical algorithm, the recorded scenes will be automatically interpreted to identify the untypical personal behaviours, the report said.

According to the report, 95 per cent of the customers stay in the same place of the bank when waiting, and if they only wait and observe surroundings for an exces-

sively long time or without any purpose to make a transaction, they would be tracked by the system because of their atypical and suspicious behaviours.

However, researchers still need to resolve some difficult problems, such as how to reduce the improper alarms caused by children. It is said that the whole programme is expected to be completed in 2008. — MNA/Xinhua



Japanese monkeys bathe in a hot spring in Yamanouchi town, central Japan on 11 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Qatari rider wins individual jumping gold

DOHA, 13 Dec— Ali Yousuf Ahmad Al Rumaihi of Qatar won the individual jumping gold at the 15th Asian Games here on Tuesday.

The Qatari rider cleared all the hurdles in the final to clinch the victory, which is Qatar's first Asiad gold medal in equestrian jumping.

For the final round B, German course designer Olaf Petersen raised the hurdles to the highest level ever for the Asian Games jumping event, which presented problems for horses who lacked stamina, including the favourite Clinton H with Song Sang Wuk of South Korea, who took down four hurdles.

Rumaihi's horse Nagano, a former Belgian jumping champion, did not knock down a single hurdle during all the competitions through the final.—MNA/Xinhua



Kazakhstan's Dmitriy Karpov is seen in silhouette as he competes in the pole vault event of the men's decathlon at the 15th Asian Games in Doha on 11 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

Iraq passes S Korea, enters Asiad men's soccer final

DOHA, 13 Dec— Iraq defeat South Korea 1-0 and entered the men's soccer final at the Doha Asian Games on Tuesday.

The South Koreans gained upper hand after the match opened at Al-Gharrafa Football Stadium, and forward Jung Jo Gook almost scored in the 15th minute with a powerful shoot inside the box.

But Iraqi side demonstrated high efficiency in counter-attack and scored first. Iraq's midfielder Mujbel Samer headed the ball home in the 24th minute with a timely follow-up after captain Khalef Younes' shoot was denied on the line by a South Korean defender.

It turned out to be the sole goal of the match. South Korea launched attacks one after another but failed to score before well-organized Iraqi defence.

MNA/Xinhua

Jamal doubles gold collection by winning women's 1,500m race

DOHA, 13 Dec— Bahrain's Maryam Yusuf Jamal made it double of the Asian Games gold medals as she won the women's 1,500 metres here on Tuesday.

The Ethiopia-born runner led the race all the way, made herself 100m clear of the main group

with a whole lap to go, and finished it undisputed first in 4 minutes and 8.63 seconds, beating Japan's Yuriko Kobayashi by a distant 6.33 seconds.

India's Sinimole Puaulose came out the bronze winner after clocking 4:15.09, while China's Liu Qing, who took part

in both 800m and 1,500m at the Asiad, finished the sixth out of the 14-athlete field on 4:23.80.

Jamal, 22, had won the women's 800m title three days ago with a time of 2:01.79.

MNA/Xinhua

China's Gao wins women's pole vault title

DOHA, 13 Dec — Chinese Gao Shuying excelled to bag the women's pole vault crown at the Asian Games athletics finals here on Tuesday.

The Asian record holder, 27, beat the first two heights of 3.80 and 4.00 metres and then cleared 4.30 metres on her first attempt of the height for the title, while the eventual silver medalist Samsu Roslinda of Malaysia followed to fail the 4.40 height.

Japan's Ikuko Nishikori and Chinese Zhao Yingying shared the bronze medal in 4.15 metres.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese women sprinters win 4x100m relay

DOHA, 13 Dec— Women's 4x100m relay team of China has won the Asian Games title in 44.33 seconds here on Tuesday.

The Chinese quartet, having taken a clear lead from Chen Jue's second leg, beat the second finishing Japan by 0.54 seconds, with its last sprinter Qin Wangping crossing the finish line with 10 metres clear.

Japan settled for the silver with a time of 44.87, and Thailand was the third on 45.45.—MNA/Xinhua

China's Li crowned at men's triple jump

DOHA, 13 Dec— China's National Games champion Li Yanxi successfully carried himself ahead as he won the Asian Games title with a 17.06-metre per-

sonal best at the men's triple jump here on Tuesday.

The 23-year-old, who won the same event of last year's National Games of China in Nanjing representing Hebei Province, did not seal his victory Tuesday night until his fifth attempt, beating KazakRoman Valiyev to the second on 16.98m.

South Korea's Kim Deok-Hyeon was the third with a result of 16.87, as all top four finishers out of the 15 competitors came out with personal best results at the final with few big names.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand edges Japan for men's 4x100m relay title

DOHA, 13 Dec— Thai sprinters took an indiscernible lead in the final dash ahead of Japan to win the Asian Games men's 4x100m relay here on Tuesday.

The Thai sprinters tied Japan on 39.21 seconds, but Seksan Wongsala, the last baton runner of Thailand, edged the later's Naoki Tsukahara slimly ahead in touching the finish line for the Asiad title.

MNA/Xinhua



Japan's Kotaro Miyamoto and Kazuki Murakami (R) compete during the men's 10m synchronised platform diving competition final at the 15th Asian Games in Doha on 11 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

Liu Xiang caps impressive season with Asian Games title

DOHA, 13 Dec— Olympic champion and world record holder Liu Xiang of China rounded off his sizzling season in style with a runaway victory in the men's 110m hurdles at the Asian Games on Tuesday.

The 23-year-old Liu, who shattered the world record when he clocked 12.88 seconds at an IAAF meet in Lausanne in July this year, finished in a Games record of 13.15 to retain his Asiad title. Four years ago, he won the 110m hurdles in 13.27.

His teammate Shi Dongpeng took silver with a personal best time of 13.28, and Japan's Masato Naito had bronze in 13.60.

"I didn't expect myself to run so fast, the time of 13.15 was a pretty good result," said Liu. "The standard of the men's 110m hurdles at this Games was much higher than that in Busan," he added.

Although Liu was one of the few world class athletes in track and field events after Japan's Olympic hammer throw champion Koji Murobushi and two-time world 3,000m steeplechase champion Saif Saeed Shaheen of Qatar pulled out due to injuries, only a few hundred spectators turned out at the Khalifa Stadium to watch the 23-year-old Shanghai native demolish his rivals in the final.—MNA/Xinhua

Kurui, Zaman win gold, bronze for Qatar at men's 5,000m

DOHA, 13 Dec— James Kwalia C Kurui clocked 13 minutes and 38.90 seconds to win the men's 5,000m race here on Tuesday, while his fellow Qatari Sultan Khamis Zaman took the bronze.

Bahrain's Mucheru Salem Jawher, who twice took the lead at the mark of 2,000m and 4,000m respectively, was the second on 13:41.10, while the fourth-placed Kazuhiro Maeda of Japan came out the fastest runner from the East Asia at the race with a time of 13:56.16.—MNA/Xinhua



Rugaya Al Ghasara of Bahrain sprints during the women's 200m final of athletics at Doha Asiad, Qatar, on 11 Dec, 2006. She timed 23.19 seconds to win the gold medal in the event.—XINHUA

China's Que beats world No.1 to lift trampoline gold

DOHA, 13 Dec— China's Que Zhicheng beat world number one Yasuhiro Ueyama from Japan to win the men's individual trampoline gold medal at the Doha Asian Games on Tuesday.

Que Zhicheng earned the highest score of 39.50 to capture the title. Que performed an impressive height from the trampoline, maintaining amplitude and showing powerful twists.

Que qualified as the second finisher a day earlier after his teammate Lu Chenglong, who pocketed the silver on 39.10 points.

Shunsuke Nagasaki of Japan was third on 38.80, grabbing the bronze.

MNA/Xinhua

UNICEF urges promotion of women's autonomy in Latin America

MANAGUA, 13 Dec— UNICEF, the UN children's fund, proposes to eradicate gender discrimination and promote women and girls' autonomy in order to guarantee a better future for children in an annual report on Latin America and the Caribbean.

The report, entitled "Women and Childhood: The Double Dividend of Gender Equality" was released by the United Nations Children's Fund on Monday. It states in Latin America and the Caribbean, children under five years of age has lower mortality rates and

moderate emaciation rates at birth.

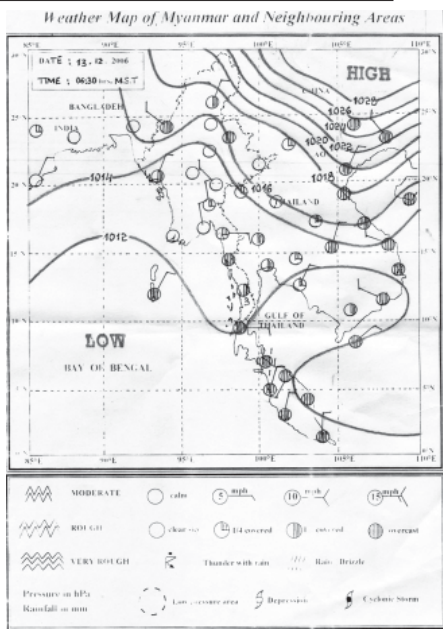
The report, submitted by UNICEF representative in Nicaragua, Debora Comini, revealed that only 51 per cent of girls and 44 per cent of boys attend high school in the region's countries. Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala,

Honduras and Nicaragua have the highest primary school drop-out rates of 44 per cent for girls and 36 per cent for boys, according to the report. Regarding sexual and reproductive health, the report points out that one in every three women in the region becomes pregnant before

20 years of age and one in every 160 dies as a result of pregnancy and childbirth.

Regarding HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) and AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), the report said one third of the infected adults in Latin America and the Caribbean are women. Comini said the 2007 report on childhood calls on Nicaragua and other countries to reach for equality for women in the home, at work and in the political field.

MNA/Xinhua



Navy soldiers take part in a parade to mark the 43rd Jamhuri Day celebrations, the day on which Kenya gained independence, in Nairobi on 12 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET



Thursday, 14 December
View on today

7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာတိဝိသင်္ဃီပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5. Dance of national races

8:10 am
6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am
7. Dance variety

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. Let's Go

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm
3. English for Everyday Use

4:45 pm
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာတတ်ယူစီ (စီးပွားရေးပညာအထူးပြု)(စီးပွားရေးပညာ)

5:00 pm
5. Cute little dancers

5:10 pm
6. "ဟွန်းသံ"(ဧရာဝတီယာဉ်ထိန်းရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့ဝင်များ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)

5:15 pm
7. သွေးသွေးပြိုင်ပွဲများနေ့တေးများ

5:35 pm
8. "ကြည့်လျှက်ပါ" (မင်းထက်ကျော်စင်၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ နေလင်း၊ နေယံ၊ ဇင်စင်စော်မြင့်၊ နန်းဆုရတီ၊ သင်ဇာဝင့်ကျော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်စိုး(ဝရစီ))

5:45 pm
9. ကြယ်ပွင့် များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:10 pm
10. Evening news

6:30 pm
11. Weather report

6:35 pm
12. သီရိဗဟာ

7:00 pm
13. မဟာနိသွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

7:15 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်ဆိုသည်မှာ" (အပိုင်း-၅)

8:00 pm
15. News

16. International news.

17. Weather report.

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေညှစ်မလေးပထမချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၂၅)

19. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Thursday, 14 December
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:
-Rose Garden... Lynn Anderson

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:
-Bring me to life... Evanscene

8:50 am National news/Slogan

9:00 am Music:
-World of our own... Westlife

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:
-My oh my ... Aqua

1:30 pm News /Slogan

1:40pm Lunch time music
-From this moment on... Ayon White + Shania Twain
-Sailing ... Lionel Richie
-Up where we belong... Joe Cocker + Jennifer Warner

9:00pm Aspects of Myanmar

9:10 pm Article

9:20 pm Pourri

9:30pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
-Good things ... Gareth Gates
Happy together... Tracy Haug

9:45 pm News /Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

WEATHER

Wednesday, 13 December, 2006
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain have been isolated in Kachin State and 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 Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (3°C) above normal in Bago and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above normal in Mon State and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka, Pinlaung and Heho (4°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.12) inch.

Maximum temperature on 12-12-2006 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 13-12-2006 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 13-12-2006 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 12-12-2006 was (8.5) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 13-12-2006 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 (8) mph from North at 14:30 hours MST on 12-12-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 14-12-2006: Rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Mon, Kayin and Rakhine States, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the Sea: 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 14-12-2006: Fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 14-12-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 14-12-2006: Fair weather.

EARTHQUAKE REPORT
(Issued at 01:30 hours M.S.T Today)
A slight earthquake of intensity (4.8) Richter Scale with its epicentre outside Myanmar about (235) miles Northeast of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (23) hrs (32) min (31) sec M.S.T on 12th December 2006.

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Delegate Groups' meetings held at Nyaungnnapin Camp

YANGON, 12 Dec — The group meetings of Delegate Group of Political Parties and Delegate Group of State Service Personnel were held at the designated places in Nyaungnnapin Camp, Hmawby Township this morning.

It was attended by members of panel of chairmen and NC delegates. Before the group meetings, members of panel of chairmen and NC delegates signed in attendance books.

Delegate Group of Political Parties

The Delegate Group of Political Parties held its group meeting at the meeting hall-1 in Nyaungnnapin Camp, Hmawby Township at 9 am today.

At the meeting, U Tun Yin Law of National Unity Party presided over the meeting together with U Saw



U Tun Yin Law of National Unity Party addresses group meeting of Delegate Group of Political Parties. — MNA



Philip (a) Philip Hsam of Wa National Development Party and U Le Kwe Shin of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party. Deputy Director U Khin Maung Phyu of NCC Work Committee Office acted as master of ceremonies and Assistant Director Daw Htay Htay Win, co-MC.

First, the master of ceremonies declared

the meeting valid as the attendance accounted for 96.67 per cent. Next, the meeting chairman made a speech on the occasion.

Next, delegates U Tun Yi of National Unity Party and U Khun Sein Win of Union Pa-O National Organization read out the proposal to be submitted to NCC Work Committee to lay

down the detailed basic principles of the chapters on Amendment of Constitution, State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem, the Capital, Transitory Provisions and General Provisions to be included in drafting the State Constitution.

Afterwards, the meeting chairman made conclusion remarks. (See page 9)

INSIDE

The stake-driving ceremony to launch the building of the pagoda took place in Nay Pyi Taw on the morning of 12 November 2006, and it was graced by the presence of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing. The religious rites received a wide media coverage, thereby arousing the admiration of the Buddhists.

PAGE 7

YADANASI SAYADAW (LOILEM)

Officials urged to step up efforts for development of Yangon Division

YANGON, 13 Dec — Coordination meeting on development tasks in Yangon Division was opened here today with an address by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Myint Swe called on Yangon City Development Committee, Public Works and Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs to step up their collective efforts for the

sustainable development of Yangon Division.

In his address, he also said that YCDC has carried out development tasks in 33 townships while Ministry of PBANRDA has carried out development tasks in 12 townships outside Yangon Division joining hands with Development Affairs Department. Public Works has carried out construction of roads and bridges in the division,

he said.

At the meeting, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win reported on development tasks carried out in the division in the 2005-2006 fiscal year including water supply tasks and construction of roads and future plans for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

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Lt-Gen Myint Swe addresses coordination meeting on development tasks in Yangon Division. — MNA