

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVIII, Number 339

7th Waning of Tabaung 1372 ME

Saturday, 26 March, 2011

Improper practice of democracy often leads to anarchic phenomena

The improper practice of democracy often leads to anarchic phenomena. Thus, democracy requires stability and peace in the country, knowledgeable and mature citizens and a reasonable degree of wealth and prosperity on the part of the nation and the people. So, the Armed Forces has laid down the 12 objectives and the government, the people and the Armed Forces are building sound foundations in unity, while the Seven-step Roadmap has been laid down and the transition to a new order and a new system is being undertaken.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From speech delivered at the parade of 65th Anniversary Armed Forces Day)



Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Bangladeshi President

NAY PYI TAW, 26 March—On the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence and National Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26th March 2011, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Zillur Rahman, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.—MNA

Prime Minister U Thein Sein sends felicitations to Bangladeshi counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 26 March—On the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence and National Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26th March 2011, U Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.—MNA

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

First regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues for 15th day

Queries raised and replied, proposal submitted, approval sought

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw expresses condolence to earthquake victims of Tahlay Region in Tachilek



NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—First regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for 15th day at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today. It was attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.

After taking position, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint announced the validity and start of 15th-day first regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as 653 out of 656 representatives attended the session, accounting for 99.54 per cent of attendance.

Members of union level organization Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and Minister for

(See page 6)

First regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for 15th day in progress.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 26 March, 2011

Cultivate reading habit to improve knowledge

In this age of technology, young people need to be familiar with modern technology in order to serve the national interests.

Literature serves as torchlight for promoting knowledge and wisdom. So, today's youths should learn modern science and technology as well as other subjects worth reading.

The majority of Myanmar's population lives in rural areas. With the rural people having the habit of reading, it will contribute a lot to national progress. Self-reliant libraries are being established so that the rural people including youths can broaden their horizons.

Now, Rural Library Foundation has been set up for durability of the libraries and development of human resources. The aim of the foundation is to make the rural people cultivate the constant reading habit.

Young people must work hard for improving their abilities. With this end in view, they need to read and study.

In this world of advancing technology, the youth are required to study constantly at libraries that serve as a knowledge bank so as to serve the national interests and keep up with the international community.

MWJA central committee meeting (3/2011) held

YANGON, 25 March — The meeting of central executive committee of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association (3/2011) was held at the meeting hall of Serpay Beikman here this afternoon, with an opening address by MWJA Chairman U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit).

MWJA Secretary U Ko Ko (Ko Ko -Sethmu Tetkatho) reported realization of resolutions of previous meeting.

Heads of each work committees submitted reports related to ongoing tasks.

The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the chairman at 3 pm.—MNA

Sinma Furnishings Co Ltd participates in Yangon Lifestyle Furniture Fair 2011

YANGON, 24 March—Sinma Furnishings Co Ltd is staging its pavilion at Yangon Lifestyle Furniture Fair 2011 that runs at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road here from 24 to 27 March.

The company displays a large variety of furniture of classic design, modern design and neo-classic design, offering 10 to 35 percent discounts. It also sells various designs of oil paintings and clocks and watches at affordable prices.

Its showrooms are open at 71, Phoneygi Street, Lanmadaw Township (Ph: 227026) and at 55/61 on Seikkantha Street in Kyauktada Township, Yangon (249082, 243779). For more information, dial 01-73025923 or 09-5057070.—MNA

People's Defence

- * 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

Myanmar Agricultural Foodstuff Producers Association meets

YANGON, 25 March—Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe of the Ministry of Defence attended the 2nd Annual Meeting of the Myanmar Agricultural Foodstuff Producers Association at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in Lanmadaw Township, here, this afternoon.



Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe observing laboratory for development of food products.—MNA

The chairman of the association extended greetings.

Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe in his speech called for greater development of agricultural foodstuff industries that play an important role in the nation's economic growth, boosting production and exporting of high quality foodstuff, and keeping balance between the interest of the nation and consumers and their own.

FM felicitates Bangladeshi counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 26 March—On the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence and National Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26th March 2011, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Dr Dipu Moni, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.—MNA

The vice president of UMFCCI delivered an address.

Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and Chairman of Yangon Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than inspected items of agricultural foodstuff on display and the laboratory.

Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe gave concluding remarks. MNA

New sports gear introduced

YANGON, 25 March—Dong Luc Group (Vietnam) and Cherry Xeno Trading Co Ltd (Myanmar) jointly introduced sports gear-items at the Park Royal Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road in Dagon Township, here, on 23 March.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chu Cong Phung made an opening speech.

Chairman of Dong Luc Group (Vietnam) Mr Thanh and Managing Director of Cherry Xeno Trading Co Ltd (Myanmar) U Kyaw Thein delivered speeches.

Mr Thanh donated sports gear to the Sports and Physical Education Department and the Myanmar Football



Vietnamese Ambassador Mr. Chu Cong Phung delivering an address in sports-products-introducing ceremony, organized by Dong Luc Group (Vietnam) and Cherry Xeno Trading Co Ltd (Myanmar).—MNA

Federation.

A large range of Vietnamese-made sports gear items are available at D Olympic Showroom at Room No. 4023 (Level-3) of Tawwin Centre on Pyay Road, Yangon.

A 10% discount is offered during the one-month period from the opening.—MNA

Talk on infection control in dental practice on 26 March

YANGON, 25 March—Myanmar Dental Association will organize an educative talk at the hall of the association on Thanthuma Street in Thingangyun Township at 9 am on 26 March.

Professor U Ko Ko Maung will give talk on Infection Control in Dental Practice with the sponsorship of Biosyo Co.

Members of the association and interested persons may attend the talk.—MNA

At least eight killed in firing in NW Pakistan



Pakistani villagers collect belongings from the debris of their houses damaged by a suicide bombing in Doaba town near Hangu, Pakistan on 24 March, 2011. A suicide bomber rammed a car loaded with explosives into a police station, killing many people and wounding more than two dozen people, police said.—INTERNET

ISLAMABAD, 25 March—At least eight people were killed and five others were injured in firing on two passenger buses in Began area of Hangu, a city close to Pakistan's lawless tribal belt, near the Afghan border, where security forces have been battling al-Qaeda and Taliban militants.

According to Urdu TV channel Dunya, some

Eight people lost their lives in the firing and five others sustained injuries. The injured were shifted to the nearby government-run hospital for treatment.

The two buses were completely destroyed as they caught fire due to firing. Security forces rushed to the site, however, the militants succeeded to flee.

Hangu remains under militants attack due to the presence of a large number of Taliban in the area. Just a week ago, at least eight people lost their lives in firing on a passenger bus.

On Thursday, a suicide car blast claimed five lives and injured 25 others at an attack on a police station in the city.

Xinhua

NATO helicopter kills two civilians in Kabul

KABUL, 25 March—A NATO helicopter gunship inadvertently killed two civilians while attacking suspected insurgents in the northern Afghanistan Province of Khost, NATO announced Thursday.

The attack targeted a Haqqani network leader in Tere Zayi District on Wednesday, according to NATO. "At the time of the strike, two civilians were walking near the moving targeted vehicle," NATO said Thursday. "They were previously unseen by coalition forces prior to the initiation of the airstrike. Unfortunately both were killed as an unintended result of the strike."

NATO said a "precision airstrike" killed the Haqqani leader and

two other militants while they were driving in a vehicle. The announcement also described how NATO troops nearly missed other civilians near the site of the attack.

"Just prior to the weapon impact, an unassociated civilian vehicle and two pedestrians walking in a wadi [gully] appeared, next to the target vehicle," NATO said.—Internet

Afghan officials investigate the scene of a suicide attack in Kunduz, north of Kabul, Afghanistan on 14 March, 2011. A suicide bomber posing as an army volunteer struck an Afghan army recruitment centre in the northern Kunduz Province on Monday afternoon, killing at least 33 people, Afghan officials said.

INTERNET



An Iraqi man cleans up broken glass at the site of a roadside bomb attack targeting a police patrol in central Baghdad, Iraq recently.

INTERNET

Roadside bombs kill Afghan policeman, two children

KABUL, 25 March—A roadside bomb killed two children Friday in eastern Afghanistan while a similar attack killed a police officer in the north, officials said.

One more child was injured in the attack in the east, which took place in the Behsood District of Nangarhar Province, said Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, spokesman for the provincial governor.

The explosives were hidden in garbage near a main road frequented by Afghan and foreign troops, he said, adding that an investigation was under way.

Also on Friday, a joint Afghan and German military patrol was hit by a roadside bomb in the Chardarah District of Kunduz Province, said Gholam Muha'yuddin, the district police chief.

"One policeman was killed and a police vehicle was destroyed in the attack, but there were no other casualties among the Afghan or foreign forces," he said. No group immediately took responsibility for Friday's bombings, but the attacks bore the hallmark of Taliban militants. The militants have relied heavily on roadside bombs as part of their nine-year war.

Internet

Pak-Afghan-Turkish forces begin joint anti-terror exercises

ISLAMABAD, 25 March—Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey have launched a week-long trilateral joint military exercise at Tuzla, Turkey, Pakistan's army said Friday.

The three countries decided to hold joint exercises at the conclusion of the 5th Trilateral Summit in Dec 2010, a statement from the Pakistan army's Inter-Services Public Relations said.

The joint exercise involves military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) against terrorists, it said.

The events include basic and battle order training, MOUT

demonstration by the Turkish army, combat order, training controls, fighting in built-up and handmade explosives training sessions.

Specialist teams of three countries comprising sniper and anti-tank detachments are undergoing this exercise.

"The purpose of this training is to share military knowledge, to reinforce and maintain coordination among the three countries," the statement said.

This is the first time that a trilateral exercise among the three countries is being conducted on the Turkish soil, it added.

"It will play a pivotal

role in cementing close military ties between the countries in the realm of combating the menace of terrorism and extremism being spearheaded by the inimical forces."

The exercises coincided with the announcement from the Afghan President Hamid Karzai about the phased handover of security responsibilities from the foreign troops to Afghan forces. Karzai mentioned several areas where the Afghan National Army will take security responsibility, which also include the Taliban stronghold of Helmand.

Xinhua

Two girls' schools dynamited in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 25 March—Suspected Taliban militants blew up two girls' schools in Pakistan's Khyber tribal region near Afghan border, officials said Friday.

A security official said that the primary schools were dynamited late Thursday night in Landi Kotal area of Khyber agency. No one was hurt as the schools were closed when the attack happened.

He said the schools were completely destroyed while their boundary walls were also severely damaged. Both schools were at the half-kilometre distance from each other.

Official data shows that the militants, as part of their campaign, have destroyed nearly 40 schools, health centers and other government buildings. Destruction of schools has deprived thousands of students in the region, officials said.

Xinhua

An Afghan street vendor selling used clothes and other items waits for customers in Kabul, Afghanistan recently.

INTERNET



HAILING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

National cause and Tatmadaw

Thiha Aung

Only when the Tatmadaw is strong, will the nation be strong



Politics is exercised in every country. And every country and race has national cause. It is everyone's knowledge that politics is based of differences. There are different ideas and activities in politics, but there should not be differences in national politics. National cause is the building of unity amidst different ideas and activities. National politics is "working together" amidst different opinions.

One of the reasons why the Tatmadaw has been able to play the leadership role in the national politics in Myanmar till today is that it remains loyal to national cause. Therefore, the Tatmadaw self-confidently claims that it never betrays national cause.

Once, Myanmar fell under the rule of colonialists for more than 100 years. It was very clever of the colonialists to prolong their rule over Myanmar. Inspired by great love of own race and religion, the people launched movements to liberate themselves from the colonial rule. Then,

political movements for national cause spread across the nation.

Myanmar's political campaigns took place under visionary leadership of educated youths. The colonial education system designed to prolong the colonial rule brought about a spate of civil servants loyal to the British Empire, whereas national education campaigns produced a host of educated politicians adhering to national cause. Patriotic politicians, despite so many people thinking highly of colonialists, managed to form the Burma National Army force step by step.

Previous to the Burma National Army, Myanmar had never had an own Tatmadaw. Soon after the emergence of the national force, anti-colonialist armed revolts, Anti-Fascist Resistance and national liberation movements could be launched on the national scale. History shows that young politicians known as Thirty Comrades could build unity among political groups with national spirit, while undergoing harsh military training to form the Burma Independence Army, which later became the Burma National Army.

The Tatmadaw was behind the pursuance of the national goal of throwing off the yoke of the colonial rule. Before the establishment of the Tatmadaw, the people were hardly united due to diverse ideas of different political organizations. But, they became cohesive due to the Tatmadaw that was the mainstay of independence struggles. The Tatmadaw managed to organize the Burma Communist Party and People's Uprising Party that exercised different imported policies and many other small parties into the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (AFPFL). The parties won victory over Fascists because they prioritized national politics over party politics.

The retreat of Fascists from the Myanmar soil was followed by the reentrance of the British government into the nation. Then, the nationalistic

fervour of some parties faded away, and they took precedence over political sectarianisms. In the time of Anti-Fascist Resistance, the Tatmadaw played the leadership role in national politics, but polished the image of politicians by claiming that it was at the forefront in the defence sector, and politicians, in the political sector.

Yet, some politicians exploited the good volition of the Tatmadaw. They put party politics and power politics in the fore and defected to colonialists to harming the image of and devastate the entire Myanmar Tatmadaw. With the concept that they could exploit Myanmar at will only with the downfall of the Tatmadaw, the British government was about to accept the scheme conspired by the self-centered politicians. However, the people categorically rejected the plot of the left-wing and right-wing opportunist politicians and put forward and seconded the motion of continued existence of the Tatmadaw.

Only with the demand made the people, could the Tatmadaw continue to exist, but not as it was. Due to the restriction of the British government, the Tatmadaw was degraded to a combined force for a part of the Burma National Army and some battalions from the Burma Army it had formed. War veterans who had served in the Burma Independence Army till the Patriotic Burma Force were organized into Pyithu Yebaw in order that they remained as political or military reserve forces.

It is said that military affairs is the sequel of the political affairs. Some Tatmadaw leaders gave up military duties to play the leadership role in political campaigns for independence. Pha-Ta-Pa-La Federation formed for Anti-Fascist Resistance was reconstituted into Pha-Hs-Pa-La Federation (AFPFL) to expedite independence struggles. The AFPFL was to lead the people as the national political force. Instead, the Communist Party in it split into two factions, one of which was to be removed from it.

Despite different ideas of different political parties, the nation managed to regain independence with consolidated unity of the people and the leadership role of the Tatmadaw in the movements. In the post-independence period, some parties reared their heads again instead of working closely for national cause. At that time, Myanmar had been independent in terms of administration, but was still dependent by means of political dogmatism. In the time of parliamentary democracy system, many went underground for armed insurrection.

The Communist Party split into two factions: Communists (White Flag) and Communists (Red Flag) and went underground. Pyithu Yebaw force formed as reserve force gradually disregarded national cause and split into White Yebaw and

(See page 5)

The Tatmadaw was behind the pursuance of the national goal of throwing off the yoke of the colonial rule. Before the establishment of the Tatmadaw, the people were hardly united due to diverse ideas of different political organizations. But, they became cohesive due to the Tatmadaw that was the mainstay of independence struggles. The Tatmadaw managed to organize the Burma Communist Party and People's Uprising Party that exercised different imported policies and many other small parties into the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (AFPFL). The parties won victory over Fascists because they prioritized national politics over party politics.

HAILING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

National cause and Tatmadaw

*Thiha Aung**(from page 4)*

Yellow Yebaw due to practice of new dogmatism. White Yebaw force went underground. Later, KNDO and MNDO became armed insurgent groups after being caught in the political snare set by the colonialists. To make things worse, many forces defected to armed insurgent groups. The AFPFL government was nicknamed Yangon government as its administrative machinery was no longer effective. Had the Tatmadaw collapsed at that time, the whole nation would have collapsed by now. We cannot bear even the thought of the nation's future unless the Tatmadaw remained loyal to the nation and the people.

With its might of strength, the Tatmadaw managed to repulse the attacks of insurgents

Objectives of the 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

1. To work in concert with the people for further burgeoning the eternal principles namely justice, liberty and equality
2. To participate in the leading role of State's national politics hand in hand with the people
3. To crush internal and external subversives, who are disrupting State stability, peace and development, in collaboration with the people
4. To build a strong, competent and modern patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes

Myanmar people hold the religion in high esteem. They are hypersensitive to threats to national cause. They arm themselves with whatever weapons they get to cope with harms to national cause. Since its birth, the Tatmadaw upholds national cause and equips itself with a strong sense of patriotic spirit. In the course of the history, the Tatmadaw is dedicated to national cause, tries for capacity building and shows benevolent attitude towards the people in discharging responsibilities.

surrounding Yangon. The people provided all-round assistance for the Tatmadaw in that regard. While engaging in military operations one after another against multicoloured armed insurgent groups, the Tatmadaw had to drive out of the Myanmar's soil Kuomintang troops that had intruded into the nation since 1950. The nation was in a state of panic due to the armed insurgency. The people rose from the nightmare of panic following the Tatmadaw's victory over armed groups. So, the Tatmadaw won the support from the entire people. At that time, there was no compulsory military service law, but almost every patriotic young man joined the Tatmadaw, some of them were educated, some were from governmental departments, and some were high school and university students.

In those days, the entire people contributed towards strengthening the Tatmadaw. And the Tatmadaw built itself into a stronger one. Every Tatmadaw member was trained to be able to discharge the duties of the positions two-step higher than theirs. The Tatmadaw had to launch a raft of military operations to deal with internal armed strife. Discharging State security duties and national defence duties in such a brilliant way that the Tatmadaw's military prowess was improving significantly.

According to the historic necessities, the

Tatmadaw served as the Caretaker Government in 1958, took over State power in 1962 as the Union was standing on an abyss due to the loopholes of the constitution (1947), served as People's Tatmadaw in the time of the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party that was in office in 1974, and undertook democratization processes and nation-building tasks after the political unrest in 1988. Therefore, the Tatmadaw came to have political and administrative calibers apart from military prowess.

Besides, the Tatmadaw was convinced of the national cause in the interests of the nation more than ever. Learning from its experiences of international relations, it came to realize that every country maintained smooth relations with other countries, but prioritized national interests.

In Myanmar today, the Tatmadaw has more knowledge and experiences in the military, political and administrative fields more than any other organization. And the Tatmadaw is the force that has been improving through constant learning and training with self-discipline and consolidated unity in it. Patriotic, educated youths have been joining the Tatmadaw since 1941-42. Tatmadaw members have access to military training, education, M.A courses and Ph.D courses.

Myanmar people hold the religion in high esteem. They are hypersensitive to threats to

POEM

The Unforgettable Armed Forces Day

- * Now is the 66th Anniversary
All along the history
Patriotic Tatmadawmen
Saved country from subjugation
Dynamic efforts they made
Driving out Fascists
Marching soldiers in unity
For national dignity
The Armed Forces Day
An occasion so auspicious
And also unforgettable
- * Everunforgettable
The Armed Forces Day
On this auspicious occasion
Soldiers in thousands
Marching in columns
Military parade in harmony
With dignity and glory
Strength of new nation
Patriotic soldiers they are
We all honour them with happiness

Hailing the 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day
Nang Mon Hein (Trs)

national cause. They arm themselves with whatever weapons they get to cope with harms to national cause. Since its birth, the Tatmadaw upholds national cause and equips itself with a strong sense of patriotic spirit. In the course of the history, the Tatmadaw is dedicated to national cause, tries for capacity building and shows benevolent attitude towards the people in discharging responsibilities.

Translation: MS

First regular session of Pyidaungsu...

(from page 1)

Industry-1 U Aung Thuang answered queries raised by U Thein Yi of Htantabin Constituency on “**plan for construction of river-crossing bridge to link Tatthit Island and Bawle Island**” and “**upgrading of earthen roads in Lamutanlay Village and Kyutaw Village-tract to tarred facilities in Htantabin Township**”, U Ko Gyi of Aungmyaythazan Constituency-12 on “**prevention against prices manipulation and economic monopolization with existing law and by issuing new law and procedure**”, U Htay Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency-12 on “**government’s plan for harmonious development of national education and potential role of private sector in future education system**”, U Win

Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No (2) on “**Proficiency of 4 Skills English Language**”, Daw Lei Lei Win Swe of Tamway Constituency on “**measures to stabilize commodity prices and maintain stable commodity prices**”.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives and Member of Union level organization Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun discussed the proposal of U Htay Oo from Hinthada Constituency that “**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw opposes economic sanction on Myanmar**” and sought approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Under provisional agenda, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker submitted proposal that “**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s condolence goes to victims of earthquake of magnitude (7.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter in Tachilek Tahlay Region, eastern Myanmar which has claimed 73 lives and injured 125 to now.**” The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the proposal which was recorded.

Dr Banya Aung Moe from Mon State Constituency No (7) submitted proposal that “**the government should take measures to restore national consolidation and internal peace**”, Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No (4), “**the government should set up a particular department to deal with migrant labourers under a suitable ministry**”, Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency No (1), “**the government should pay compensation or provide cash assistance and special loans for regeneration works to breeder national entrepreneurs in case of slaughter of poultry due to bird flu outbreak**”. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sought the approval.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that the 15th-day first regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw ended and the 16th day regular session will continue at 10 am on 28 March.

The session came to an end at 3:40 pm.

MNA

Education Minister elaborates on government’s plans for progress of national education

NAYPYITAW, 25 March— At today’s Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session, U Htay Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No (12) put a question about govern-



U Htay Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency-12 making question.

MNA

ment’s plans for harmonious development of national education and the potential role of private sector in future education system.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein replied that his ministry has been implementing 30-year long-term education promotion plan in connection with 24-Special Development Region Project, Project for Progress of Border Areas and National Races, and rural development schemes being implemented by the government.

With a view to turning out highly-qualified human resources for the nation and particular region and covering access to education, the Ministry of Education has been undertaking such works as upgrading degree colleges to universities, opening new degree colleges and universities, recruiting lecturers and instructors, organizing new

learning programmes in states and regions across the nation. In 1988, the nation saw only 32 universities and degree colleges, whereas the number has risen to 161 now, five times more than in 1988. It means learning opportunity has increased five times in higher education sector.

More learning programmes have been organized and the number has tripled from 79 in 1988 to 215 in 2010. Before 1988, number of lecturers and instructors at universities and colleges was over 5600 and now has doubled, reaching more than 12,000 including over 3000 Ph.D holder faculty members.

As a result, number of undergraduates pursuing higher education has risen from over 110,000 in 1988 to over 500,000 now. Regarding basic education sector, over 40900 basic educa-

tion schools were opened in 2010-2011 academic year. Over 274,000 teachers are training over 8.05 million students. The number of basic education schools has increased over 7100, teachers over 100,000 and students over 2.81 million in comparison with 1988. 1074 basic education schools have been founded in border areas, providing over 2.1 million students access to education.

Every one ward and five villages in the nation have three basic education schools in general and the approximate distance between the school and the home is about 1.4 miles.

In basic education schools, pre-primary education classes were opened and opportunities to pursue education have increased as a result of school-enrollment week activity in the third week



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein responding to question.

MNA

of May prior to new academic year to ensure that all children at school-age go to school and extended opening of post primary schools to encourage children who have finished primary education continue learning at basic education middle schools.

Due to those efforts, school enrollment rate of basic education school has in-

creased from 67.13 percentage in 1988 to 98.37 percentage in 2010-2011 academic year, net study rate at basic education schools has risen from 74.7 percentage to 84.61 percentage, and continue-to-study rate at middle schools has reached to 77.61 percentage from 45.6 percentage.

Myanmar is practising free basic education system, bringing benefit to over 5.15 million students at primary education level. The free basic education system is in compliance with United Nations Millennium Development Goal and Sub-section (c) of Section (28) of the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and is the programme No (2) of the 30-year long-term education promotion plan.

Regarding private role in education system, private schools were allowed to run in the past and now tuitions are permitted in accord with tuition law.

The Ministry has been drafting bills and making plans to cooperate with private sector in future education system.—MNA

Education Minister replies to question on four skills of English Language proficiency



U Win Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency-2 raising question.—MNA

NAYPYITAW, 25 March—At today’s Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session, U Win Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No-2 put a question on arrangements to be made for new generation of today to be proficient in four skills—Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking—of English Language, saying that English Language plays a vital role in political, social and economic affairs. It is important for today’s new generation to know English in this world of Globalization.

Regarding the query, Minister for Education Dr. Chan Nyein replied that the Ministry of Education is encouraging teachers of Higher and Basic Education to be proficient in their four skills (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking) and placing emphasis on use of more effective teaching methods and modern teaching aids and conducting English Language competitions.

For promotion of English Language Proficiency, English Proficiency Courses are being conducted for faculty

members of universities and degree colleges. English language is being used in compiling and reading researches, except Myanmar.

For students of Higher Education, English language is being taught in degree and postgraduate courses. Arrangements have been made to improve the English language proficiency of students by establishing 57 multimedia lecture rooms and 93 language labs in 44 Universities and Degree Colleges. Besides, students are being nurtured to be proficient in their English

by taking part in English Language competitions such as debate, roundtable discussions and essay contests which are held on significant days of the State.

English Language Proficiency Courses are being opened at Myanmar-India English Language Training Center which was set up in 2009 and the center produced 2000 trainees. Under Human Resources Development Programme of the ministry, National Center for English Language Center was opened in 2005. So far, 12000 trainees have been produced from English Language Proficiency Postgraduate Course and English Language Proficiency Course.

(See page 7)

Industry-1 Minister explains measures to maintain stable commodity prices

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March— At today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session, Daw Lé Lé Win Swe of Tamway Constituency said that commodity price has been surging across the nation since the beginning of January and that especially people with low income are facing hardships due to price rise of basic foodstuffs, and asked what contributing factors to rising commodity prices are and the government's measures to deal with the situation and maintain stable commodity prices.



Daw Lé Lé Win Swe from Tamway Constituency raising query.—MNA

For his part, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang said that local and foreign issues and special phenomenon—rise of global

oil and gold price, climate change, world's financial market change, global political and military issues, inland transportation charges, bridge and road-passing charges, and black market—have adverse effect on commodity prices.

During 2010, world's crops production declined due to climate change across the globe. Decline in world's food production led to an increase in rice, edible oil and food-stuff prices beginning the third quarter of 2010. United Nations, World Food Programme and other responsible organizations concerned about the issue. Commodity price across the world is on the increase as some countries have stockpiled food-stuffs. One of the reasons of high commodity price in Myanmar is that rice and food-stuff for domestic consumption have leaked into neighbouring countries that are facing rocketing food prices.

World's crude oil price has been surging gradually since September last year. Drop in oil production resulted from political instability of oil-producing countries in the Middle East added fuel to the situation, which was worsened when the world's industrialized nations began to store crude oil, being afraid that oil supply would be cut off. The rise in oil price resulted in increased transportation charges which led to



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang replying to query.—MNA

rising commodity prices.

Another factor was the rumors of pay rise for governmental staff. Oil production in oil exporters (Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Bahrain, Oman, Tunisia and others) from the Middle East has declined by two third and countries that possess oil are storing it, which leads to rise in oil price. The situation was further worsened when other countries felt worried about the situation in the Middle East and have begun to store oil and other commodities.

Domestic oil use has increased due to mining of jade, jewels, gold and other minerals in this summer. Over 1,100 companies are working in jade mining industry alone and its oil consumption reaches over 2 million gallons per month. Over 400

companies working in gold and other mineral mining industry use over 1.4 million gallon of oil. These companies are stockpiling the oil for fear of potential oil shortage resulted from instability in Middle East, making oil price rocketing high.

To prevent huge damages of roads, ASEAN standard transport system was adopted. Transport charges hit high as transport entrepreneurs is not used to the system.

Regarding speculation of raising salaries of government staff, storing commodities by some merchants makes the increase in demand and price in the market.

Following fabricated broadcasts of foreign media in previous January and Feb-

Education Minister replies to question on...

(from page 6)

Starting from 2006-07 academic year, English Language Teaching Refresher Courses for primary and middle school teachers have been opened for two times and English Language Teaching Refresher Courses and orientation courses for high school teachers for three times. Effective methods are being used in teaching English in basic education level.

In 2006-07 academic year, 1123 BA and MA (English) holders were appointed as SATs after taking Educational Technology Course.

To upgrade the teaching methods of English teachers, they were sent to attend courses and workshops held at home and abroad.

Township level, Region and State level and Central level English Language contests for primary and middle School students are held yearly starting from 2008-09. So far the competitions have been held for three times.

There were 35288 schools equipped with multimedia platform where English language is being taught effectively with the use of multimedia devices.

According to the above-mentioned ways and means, arrangements have been made for students of basic and higher education level to be proficient in four skills of English language.—MNA

ruary, deposits were drawn out from two domestic banks. But the situation is now stable with this news fading out as rumors.

Commodity Price Supervisory Committee watches production, export and consuming of commodity and estimates that the food security covers the entire nation. The State is setting sight on sufficiency of rice, oil, salt, meat, fish, onion, garlic, chili, pulses and beans and vegetables. A total of 1566.303 million of baskets of rice were harvested from 19.933 million of summer and monsoon paddy farmlands. The amount is sufficient for 59 million of population accounting for nearly 160 per cent. Rice production increased from 631 million baskets in 1988 to 1566.303 million now. Edible oil is somewhat sufficient as 322.435 million of edible oil is produced from 9.271 million acres of farmlands of oil crops. Onion, garlic, chili and pulses and beans production exceeds local consumption. Local food security will not be a matter of concern in any circumstance.

Meat and fish production has been increased to meet local consumption. Compared with 4.1 kg in 1988, the meat individual annual consumption has surged to 24.8 kg. Fish individual annual consumption has increased to 59.9 kg from 15.3 kg and egg consumption to 122 from 21. Meat and fish exceeded the local consumption are exported. A total of 532.909 million US dollars

were obtained from meat and fish export in 2009-2010 compared to 10.38 million US dollars in 1988. In 2011-2012, the estimated amount of fish and prawn production is 2618.8 million viss, that of meat is 1273.252 million viss and that of egg is 3332.1 million eggs with the cooperation of international projects, local and foreign experts, entrepreneurs and organizations. With short- and long-term objectives, the State is realizing meat and fish sufficiency and price stabilization.

The State is boosting development of agriculture, breeding and production yearly by ensuring enough commodity is in market, transport charges are reasonable and by reducing unnecessary stages and controls which increase the production price. The State controls food leakage to other countries, joins hands with related organizations to eradicate of rice and food storage following rumours, pursues private entrepreneurs not to play prices and to participate in market, encourages swift commodity flow and helps improve agricultural and breeding production.

Political and economic instability in some foreign countries and playing price by some businessmen are the contributing factors for current price increase. For this situation, the State has arranged to distribute fuel and helped the swift transport and basic foods are sufficient in the country. So, the State can maintain the price stabilization well.

MNA

Query about prevention of price manipulation, economic monopolization in line with existing laws or by enacting new laws and procedures answered

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March — U Ko Gyi of Aungmyethazan Constitu-



ency at today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session questioned what measures should be taken to handle price manipulation and economic monopolization, how they would be prevented with the existing laws and whether it was necessary to enact new laws and procedures.

In response to the questions, Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein said the existing laws to take

U Ko Gyi from Aungmyethazan Constituency raising query.—MNA



Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein replying to question.—MNA

Query about prevention of price...

(from page 7)

action against price manipulation and economic monopolization that can affect the people are the Control of Imports and Exports Temporary Act, the Essential Supplies and Services Act and the Sea Customs Act, the Land Customs Act, the Contract Act and the Sale of Goods Act. Besides, under the permission of the government, authorities can deal with such issues by issuing orders. If there is breach of those orders, necessary measures will be taken in line with the existing laws. Pea trading scandals and illegal trading are being exposed and action is being taken against them in

line with the existing laws. As there were cases of complaints about price manipulation and monopolization with a wealth of foreign currency in hand, investigation was made and action was taken. The State always takes action whenever there are any malpractices against the right of the private sector to trade openly in the market economy system.

Now, necessary procedures are being studied and drafted to amend and supplement some of the existing laws and promulgate new laws so as to catch up with the current conditions of the market economy.

All ASEAN nations are making plans to finalize the competition law in 2015 according to ASEAN Economic Community. Now it has been drafted and prescribed in Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand and Malaysia. In the world, some nations have prescribed fair trade competition law

instead of competition law, anti-monopoly law, anti-trust law and against unfair competition law. These laws are prescribed to make sure that there is no individual's or group's monopolization of production, service and trade in the market and that a competition system emerges.

For drafting a competition law, the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development is conducting studies in coordination with related departments.

Section 36 (b) of the 2008 constitution states that the Union shall prevent acts that harm public interests through monopolization or manipulation of prices by an individual or group with intent to endanger fair competition in economic activities. Regarding the question of U Ko Gyi, measures are being taken to implement the provisions of Section 36 (b) of the constitution.—MNA

Construction Minister replies to question on construction of bridge between Tatthitkyun and Bawlekyun in Htantabin Township



U Thein Yi of Htantabin Constituency raising question.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—At today's session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, U Thein Yi of Htantabin Constituency asked whether there is a plan to build a bridge for linking Tatthitkyun and Bawlekyun in Htantabin Township, and he would like to know when it will be built.

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint replied that Htantabin of Yangon Region was an isolated town in the past. After 1980, nine miles and six furlongs long Htantabin-Thidaaye asphalt road was constructed from Yangon-Pathein Road. Therefore, Htantabin has easy access to Yangon day and night.

The government built 1940 feet long Hline River Bridge (Myochaung) and 1940 feet long Bawle River Bridge (Yebawthoung) as two-way RC facilities for development of Bawlekyun region. The 29 miles and two furlongs long Hmawby-Yedwington-Myochaung-Yebawthoung-Kungyangon-Ywatha Road was constructed. The roads were linked with Ywatha and Aphyauk and Ywatha and Uto.

Kokkowa River between Tatthitkyun and Bawlekyun flows into Hline River near Htantabin. Mouth of Kokkowa River is about 1000 feet wide, and if the bridge is constructed, the facility will be 1900 feet

long including approach roads on both sides.

People from Htantabin Township and Tatthitkyun may travel to Bawlekyun along nine miles long Htantabin-junction of Yangon-Pathein road, one mile and two furlongs long section from Shwepyitha-Danyingon junction, 12 miles and four furlongs long section from Danyingon junction to Hmawby, five miles and one furlong long section from Hmawby to Yedwington, two miles and four furlongs long section from Yedwington to Myochaung Bridge and 16 miles and six furlongs long section from Myochaung Bridge to Bawle Village, taking two hours.



Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint making clarification.—MNA

At present, there is no plan to build a bridge between Tatthitkyun and Bawlekyun.

Due to requirements of the regions, the Ministry of Construction is carrying out construction and maintenance of roads and bridges. In this regard, the ministry builds under 180 feet

long bridges under its plans and takes approval from the government to construct above-180 feet long bridges.

Tatthitkyun and Bawlekyun of Htantabin Township have better transport based on Yangon and Hmawby, so there is no plan to build the bridge at present.—MNA

PBANRDA Minister replies to question on upgrading earthen road in Lamudanlay Village in Htantabin Township

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—At today's session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, U Thein Yi of Htantabin Constituency asked whether there is a plan to upgrade the earthen road to gravel one in Lamudanlay Village of Kyudaw Village-tract in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region, and he would like to know the time for upgrading it if it is possible.

In his response, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt said that the Development Committees Law was promulgated as Law No. 5/93 on 1 April 1993 by the State Law and Order Restoration Council to undertake urban beautifying and rural development. Section 9 of the law was stipulated to carry out 31 tasks and supervise them.

According to the law, tax and revenue are to be

collected for spending it on beautifying of urban area and development of rural areas.

As Htantabin Township has least amount of tax yearly, the State provides cash assistance for urban and rural development tasks and upgrading roads.

For example, the township has five miles and seven furlongs long tarred roads, one mile long gravel road, 21 miles long laterite roads and 73 miles and seven furlongs long earthen road and 114 bridges at present compared with two miles long gravel road and eight miles long earthen road in 1998.

Spending funds of the State, three miles and one furlong long earthen road linking Yangon West University and Ayeywaly Village was upgraded to the tarred one from 2000-2001 to 2010-2011 financial year.

Development Affairs Department gives priority to population density, needs of economic development and needs of regional development in constructing the rural roads. Whenever the report is submitted to the State due to deficiency of township funds, the government allows the plan on the priority.

According to Section 254 of the Constitution of



Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt making clarification.

MNA

the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Chief Ministers of Region and State have the responsibility to manage the spending of funds in line with the Budget Law in the townships.

That is why officials at different levels will review the facts of priority for upgrading the earthen road in Lamudanlay Village of Htantabin Township.

MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Nine hluttaw representatives and Finance and Revenue Minister assess proposal submitted by U Htay Oo from Hinthada Constituency

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—Nine representatives held discussions about the approved proposal **“This Hluttaw opposes the economic sanctions imposed against Myanmar”** submitted by U Htay Oo from Hinthada Constituency at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session today.

Wunna Kyaw Htin U Win Myint from Sagaing Region Constituency (3) said that the West Bloc has tightened economic sanctions against Myanmar since 1997, thus harming the nation’s economic growth and ordinary people. Economic sanctions also harm foreign trade and Foreign Direct Investment. Myanmar receives least Official Development Assistance and no finance assistance from World



Wunna Kyaw Htin U Win Myint of Sagaing Region Constituency-3 participates in discussion.—MNA



U Tun Aung Kyaw of Ponnagyun Constituency participates in discussion. MNA

Bank, I.M.F and ADB, and have adverse effects on labour intensive industries and tourism industry.

However, there was marked increase in turnover in trade with Asian countries: from 878 million in 1987-88 to over 12 billion US dollars in 2009-2010. The contribution to trade with Europe and America declined sharply from 30% in 1990 to only 5%. Sanctions also harm Myanmar exports’ competitiveness.

Economic sanctions are against a principle of WTO, and so he seconded the proposal, he said.

U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency said that economic sanctions imposed by the US, EU and Canada harm employees and employers, and money transfers. Rich natural resources alone are not enough for national development. Sanctions also harm FDI. So, he is in support of the motion.

He suggested that a suitable foreign policy be laid down to address the issue as economic sanctions also have effects on the West Bloc, and ASEAN countries are demanding lifting sanctions.

U Tun Aung Kyaw from Ponnagyun Constituency said that economic sanctions harmed the nation especially states. The US government has imposed economic sanctions against Myanmar exercising Customs and Trade Act since 1997, and it tightened sanctions in 2003. That dealt a blow to some states and regions including Rakhine State in export of marine product and finished wood products and hotels in MraukU archaeological site and Ngapali Beach Resort, handicrafts and travel services.

In 2003, Myanmar was the fourth largest marine exporting Asian country to the US. Trade embargo hindered prawn farms.

In 2010, Myanmar held an election and took a giant step toward democracy. So, the US and EU countries should lift economic sanctions, he said.

Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin of Ayeyawady Region

Constituency (10) said that in Myanmar, women enjoy all due rights, as evidenced by the fact that many of the hluttaw representatives are women.

Due to the market economy introduced to the nation in 1988, women got jobs in factories and garment factories. However, the economic sanctions imposed in 1997 and tightened in 2003 led to the closure of many factories including garment factories. That made about 50,000 women redundant and had adverse effect to their families.

Many job-lost women became sex workers, and many fell victim to unfair treatment and forced marriage abroad. So, public’s outrage can turn to those foreign countries imposing sanctions against Myanmar.

She said that she was opposed to all sanctions and news fabrication, and seconded the proposal.

Daw Dwe Bu from Injangan Constituency said that every country and people shall have the right to choose the policy they like and deal with internal affairs without foreign interference for development. That is the theme of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

The people have chosen the most appropriate way to democracy. Turning a blind eye to objective conditions of the nation, the West Bloc is imposing economic sanctions and trade embargo, which effects both Myanmar and the US, Britain and EU. So, she seconded the proposal, she said.

One of the reasons of imposing sanctions is fabrication of news. So, she is opposed to retorting news stories that disrupts national development.

Now, democratization is in full swing in Myanmar. And the people will keep trying for greater development in the process. So, the people will have to welcome mutual cooperation with other countries.

So, the people have to work closely to surmount the economic sanctions that hinder the national goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed country.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe from Yangon Region Constituency (4) said that some are claiming in their own interests that economic sanctions affect the ruling government, not the people. Sanctions caused disruptions to national development and deny humanitarian assistance to Myanmar. Banning their citizens from investing in Myanmar, they are violating human rights.

Prohibition of import of agricultural inputs is disruptive to agriculture and life of farmers. And blocking the flow of technologies to Myanmar is violation of technological rights.

All hluttaw representatives are required to deal with economic sanctions in order to safeguard national interests. So, he seconded the proposal, he said.

Daw Nan Nu Wah from Kunhing Constituency said that parties objected to economic sanctions through announcements. In addition, ASEAN countries called for lifting sanctions.

In the economic sector, Myanmar has to rely on other countries for some kinds of goods such as fertilizers, pesticides and agricultural tools and machinery. Process cost is two to three percent, which causes burden on the people. These are evil consequences of economic sanctions.

Due to economic sanctions, Myanmar lost opportunities to get monetary and technological assistance from IMF, ADB and IFI. In comparison with neighbouring countries, Myanmar lost money and technology worth millions of US dollars in the period of economic sanctions.

Owing to lack of foreign direct investments, development tasks faced loss for development of national races and remote areas.

Economic sanction imposed against Myanmar is not beneficial to both sanction imposers and victims. The sanctions imposed with the reasons of democracy and human rights are meaningless for the new Myanmar country that starts democratization process. He on behalf of all Myanmar people said that time has come to welcome progress of Myanmar with assistance and encouragement instead of continuing sanctions,



Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun making clarification.—MNA

and she deeply supported the proposal.

U Hla Maung (a) U Naing Hla Maung of Chaungzon Constituency said that economic sanctions imposed by the US and the EU do not benefit the Myanmar people. Therefore, all the people are not happy with sanctions. Five national race parties declared a joint statement for removal of sanctions. With regard to the sanction issue, the word “objection” was included in the discussions of U Htay Oo. He suggested that the word “I would like to request to lift the sanction” should be used instead of the word “objection”.

Indeed, the request to lift the sanction is not to hope for easily lifting the sanction. So, it is necessary to show the capability of the nation by successfully realizing multi-party democracy system.

Only when the multi-party democracy system can be realized practically, will all democratic nations of the world support Myanmar. Therefore, the US and the European countries must lift the sanctions, and so he said that he supported the proposal.

Dr Pwint Hsan of Mayangon Constituency said that before imposing sanctions against Myanmar, over 300 garment industries were operated with the larger strength of workers. Due to economic sanctions, a half of industries were closed down and about 850,000 workers became jobless. In consequence, their families faced difficulties.

Businesses, government departments, foreign embassies, NGOs and other enterprise, running with US currency faced difficulties due to economic sanctions on transfer of money.

The US and its accomplices banned investment in Myanmar and put pressure on international monetary organizations to cut loans and assistance to Myanmar. In addition to economic sanctions, the UE and Canada restricted import of timber and gems from Myanmar and banned financial services. Their activities made an impact on tourism industry due to misinformation for tourists.

Economic sanctions are designed for political reform, but people missed job opportunities and losses in social economic fields. Hence of U Htay Oo in accord with the wishes of the people.

He expressed his opinion that inventing fabrications, economic sanctions withheld real situations to cause the political change, as they liked. If one reviews discussions, paper compilation and articles of internal and international communities, the wrong doing activities of imposers can be seen.

Without giving priority to prosperity of Myanmar and the people, the activities in support of economic sanctions with selfishness and sending misinformation are destructive acts of the persons who do not want to serve the interest of the State and the people.

Therefore, he objected the releasing of all misinformation that turns a blind eye to endeavours of the State and the people and progress of sound foundations for building a new democratic nation.

As the government has been implementing the seven-step Road Map of the State for democratization process and improvement of human rights, at present the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is being convened for handing over the duties of the State to the democratically elected government as the last step.

(See page 10)

Nine Hluttaw representatives and Finance and...

(from page 9)

Moreover, Myanmar is further strengthening friendly ties with neighbouring countries, regional countries and other global nations that wish to cooperate with

United States which has a foreign source.

Beginning May 1997, the successive US presidents from the time of President Bill Clinton to that of President Obama have issued the

Although economic sanctions cannot effectively stop the endeavours of the State and the people for development of social economy, the sanctions can impact on factories and workshop projects that create job opportunities for the people.

In 2003, many garment

were not imposed, Myanmar may stand second in the fishery importing countries.

Due to prohibiting the transfer of monetary, Myanmar suffered from difficulties in remittance service. The prohibition on financial and monetary services caused crises to businesses, government departments, foreign embassies, NGOs and all the works relying on US monetary system for trade and remittance. As the US traveller's cheque could not be used, the tourism industry faced difficulties.

The World Bank stopped to disburse no more loan to Myanmar beginning 1987. However, IMF and WB provided financial assistance to Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia during the

banned the international financial organizations not to disburse monetary to Myanmar in 2003 and 2004.

Official Development Assistance for Myanmar stopped after 1988. In reviewing the statistics 2008, Laos got US 48 dollars per head in ODA, Cambodia US 51.6 dollars, Vietnam US 43.5 dollars and Sri Lanka US 50 dollars when Myanmar received over US 10 dollars. In calculation that everybody should get US 45 dollars per year, 50 million population of Myanmar lost US 2500 million dollars yearly. Such amount of money is equal to one-year proceeds of selling natural gas from Myanmar. If Myanmar gets ODA regularly beginning 1998, the amount of money can con-

Only when the entrepreneurs have capability to compete in the domestic and international markets through the market-oriented economic system, will the State's economy develop. If the domestic market is being realized in line with the market-oriented economic system and the international market is being banned, the development of market will be far from the goal of Myanmar. In consequence, merchants, farmers, workers and consumer people will face greater difficulties at the free market and free trade stage.

It is obvious that the US and its lackeys that imposed sanctions against Myanmar have been holding foreign policy of occurring regime change and to install puppet



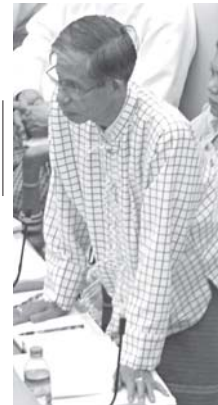
U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency in discussion.—MNA



U Pwint Hsan of Mayangon Constituency in discussion. MNA



Daw Dwe Bu of Injangan Constituency in discussion. MNA



U Hla Maung (a) U Naing Hla Maung of Chaungzon Constituency in discussion.—MNA



Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin of Ayeyawady Region Constituency-10 in discussion. MNA



Daw Nan Wah Nu of Kunhing Constituency in discussion. MNA

Myanmar and the people for serving their interests. Therefore, he deeply supported the proposal of U Htay Oo.

With regard to the proposal, Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun said that the US government started imposing the sanctions against Myanmar under the pretext of human rights and democracy in 1997 applying the International Emergency Economic Powers Act of 1997-IEEPA.

IEEPA is a United States federal law authorizing the U.S Presidents to regulate commerce after declaring a national emergency in response to any unusual and extraordinary threat to the

national emergency in May yearly and continued imposing sanctions that Myanmar unusually threatens the national security, foreign policy and economy of the US.

In this regard, he would like to discuss an issue that who really threaten national security, foreign policy and economy. With the common sense, everybody knows that least developed Myanmar with over 50 million population cannot threaten superpower US with 300 million population which has the strongest economic strength and the biggest military might spending a half of world total military expenditure.

factories were closed down in Myanmar due to sanctions against imports of Myanmar by the US according to its Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act. Disadvantages of sanctions left about 120 garment factories in 2009 compared with about 300 factories in Myanmar before the sanctions. Due to the sanctions, hundreds of thousands of female workers of garment factories became jobless. Of them, 95 per cent were female workers from aged 18 to 35. The sanctions imposed by the US affected the fishery industry. From 1988 to 2003, Myanmar stood fourth in Asia in importing fishery products to the US. If the sanctions

South-east Asian financial crisis in 1997. In the event of cyclonic storm Nargis in 2008, they did not provide any coin to Myanmar. The US and the EU officially

tribute a great deal to development of the State, education and health sectors of the nation.

Generally, the big country imposes economic sanction against the small country to dominate the activities and policy of the victim country for liking of the big country. In addition, the imposer country intends to remove the government of the victim country and substitute its puppet government as an act of regime change.

WTO members US and EU countries imposed sanctions against Myanmar by breaking the Article I and Article III of General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT 1947) on nondiscrimination among the WTO member countries in trade and creation of opportunity in equal term without abiding by the provisions of the WTO.

According to Section 35 of the Constitution, the State economic policy is market-oriented economic system.

government rather than the issues of democracy and human rights.

Myanmar have made utmost efforts by overcoming the various obstacles and prohibitions and the government is striving for construction of important infrastructures, roads and bridges, implementing hydropower projects for energy sector, building dams and river water pumping projects in clusters, building the modern Tatmadaw for State defence and constructing the schools, universities, hospitals, dispensaries and medical institutions in all parts of the nation. As a result, the nation has established the sound foundations for economic and political sectors. Therefore, the approval should be sought at the Hluttaw for the proposal of U Htay Oo.

The Hluttaw took decision by vote with 625 for, five abstentions and four against that the Hluttaw approve the proposal.

MNA

Proposals submitted, approved at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March — Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sought approval to discuss proposals submitted by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives at today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.

U Banya Aung Moe (a) Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency-7 submitted the proposal **"urging the government to implement national reconsolidation and internal peace"**.

U Saw Aung Kyaw Naing (a) Shar Bu Fot of Kayin State Constituency-1 seconded the proposal.

As there were some Hluttaw representatives who thought the proposal was no longer needed to discuss because the Government Spoke Authoritative Team Leader Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan had answered query of U Saw Thein Aung of Hlaingbwe Constituency and that of U Za Khon Tein Ring of Kachin State Constituency-4 on national reconsolidation and internal peace, the decision was put to the vote. The proposal was then announced not to discuss as there were votes with 106 for, 20 abstentions and 520 against.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency-4 submitted proposal **"urging the government to establish department for migrant workers under an appropriate ministry"**.

U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region Constituency-3 seconded the proposal.

The Hluttaw representatives take a vote to seek approval to discuss the proposal. With 334 for, 52 abstentions and 249 against, the proposal was approved to discuss.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency-4 withdrew proposal on **"proportional regional admission to University of Medicines"**, saying it has bad points as well as good points. He requested the Hluttaw to put the proposal into the record. The Hluttaw announced it will not continue of the resource person's volition to discuss the proposal.

Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency-1 submitted proposal **"urging the government to pay compensation or aid and to allow special incentives for recovery works to citizen breeders who scull chickens and ducks infected by avian flu for their loss"**.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency-4 seconded the proposal. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the proposal as the representatives agreed to discuss.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced that Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss approved-to-discuss proposals may enlist at the Hluttaw Office Director-General after the meeting.—MNA



Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence comforts earthquake victims at the relief camp in Tahlay.—MNA

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut on inspection tour of earthquake-hit-areas in Tachilek

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March— Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence, together with Deputy Minister for Progress and National Races and Development Affairs U Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and

Resettlement U Kyaw Myint and officials concerned, arrived in Tachilek this evening.

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut together with Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Than Tun Oo, the deputy ministers and officials looked into damaged roads, bridges, residences and buildings caused by the earthquake and rescue tasks being carried out, and

provided the victims with necessary aids.

Next, he met with earthquake victims families of the local station and inspected the damages there.

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut then viewed damaged residences and buildings caused by the earthquake in Monglin Village, and enquired after earthquake victims under medical treatment at Tachilek Peoples Hospital and provided them with necessary assistance.—MNA



Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of Ministry of Defence inspects wreckages in Tahlay.

MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker comforts hospitalized Amyotha Hluttaw Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, accompanied by officials concerned, visited Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Tin Myint of Bago Region Constituency No (3) who is receiving treatment at Nay Pyi Taw People's

Hospital (1000-bed) here this evening.

The speaker and party, together with Medical Superintendent

Dr Daw Phyu Phyu and personnel of the hospital, comforted Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Tin Myint.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint inquires after Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Tin Myint of Bago Region Constituency-3.—MNA



Earthquake in Loimwe causes casualties...

(from page 16) reported to collapse down in Tachilek, Tahlay,

Naywng Village, Monglin Village, Mongkoe Village-tract, and Kyakuni Village.

It is learnt that local authorities and personnel have rushed to



Photos show residential buildings ravaged by a strong earthquake in Tahlay.

the scene and are providing necessary assistance. National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee is also preparing to send rescue mission to the earthquake-hit areas.

MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Than Tun Oo views earthquake-stricken buildings.

(News on page 16)

Commander looks into progress of Metmung Township

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Than Tun Oo on 19

March inspected water supply for Kengtung and maintenance of Kengtung-Taunggyi Road and Mongping-Metmung Road.

On 20 March, he visited the local battalion in Metmung Township and presented seeds of crops, sports gear, foodstuff and one tuk-tuk to officials.

In Metmung, he met departmental officials and presented bags of cement, CI sheets and seeds of high yield paddy to them. After visiting Metmung Township Hospital, he presented cash assistance and medicines to patients.

The commander looked into progress of Metmung and gave necessary assistance to local people.

MNA



Earthquake victims at rescue camps. (News on page 16)



Hong Kong actor Jackie Chan and other artists pose before a news conference for an upcoming charity event for the victims and survivors of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, in Hong Kong on 24 March, 2011.—INTERNET

Jackie Chan, Hong Kong stars, set Japan benefit

LOS ANGELES, 25 March—"Rush Hour" star Jackie Chan is spearheading a charity concert to benefit Japan's earthquake and tsunami victims.

The event, dubbed the "Love Without Borders 3/11 Candlelight Gala," takes place 1 April at Hong Kong's Victoria Park and participants include singers such as Alan Tam, Shirley Kwan and Chinese-American rapper Jin.—Internet

Kate Winslet authors celebrity book for autism

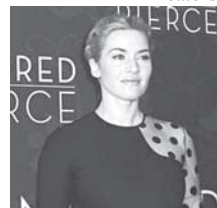
NEW YORK, 25 March—Actress Kate Winslet will author a book of celebrity self-portrait photos by Ben Stiller, Jude Law, Meryl Streep and others to support the treatment of autism, Simon & Schuster said on Thursday.

Winslet organized the collection of self-portrait photos for the book titled "The Golden Hat" after becoming inspired by an HBO documentary she narrated called "A Mother's Courage: Talking Back To Autism" that aired last year.

The film shows Keli Ericsson, an Icelandic boy who suffered from severe non-verbal autism,

eventually being able to communicate. He now composes poems, including one describing a magical hat that enables an autistic boy to communicate. The book, which will be released later this year, derives its name from Ericsson's poem and tells the story of Winslet's relationship with the Ericsson family as well as Keli Ericsson's poetry and writings.

Reuters



Britain still searching for guitar heroes

LONDON, 25 March—As former "saviours of rock'n'roll" The Strokes release their fourth album this week, nowhere is the search for rock's new standard bearers more intense than in Britain. But who is up to the task. The 2001 release of the US band's debut "Is This It" and the emergence of compatriots The White Stripes sparked a

renaissance in guitar music, but with both bands slipping from view it is up to younger bands to fill the void. Theoretically Britain is the place to look, being the country which gave the world The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, David Bowie and Sex Pistols — but salvation may be far off.

Internet

Cast member Kate Winslet arrives at the premiere of the HBO Miniseries "Mildred Pierce" in New York City on 21 March, 2011. INTERNET

Beware of Fire

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA MACHAN VOY NO (291)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MACHAN VOY NO (291) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.3.2011 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 to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GOLDEN HOPE VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GOLDEN HOPE VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: GREEN S&A-CO LTD, KOREA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VINASHIP SEA VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VINASHIP SEA VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: GREEN S&A-CO LTD, KOREA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RUKUN VOY NO (277)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RUKUN VOY NO (277) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.3.2011 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 to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (1122)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG XIU VOY NO (1122) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.3.2011 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 to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CHANA BHUM VOY NO (429)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CHANA BHUM VOY NO (429) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

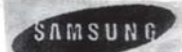
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., of 416, Maetan-dong, Yeongtong-gu, Suwon-si, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-



Reg. No. 2093/1997
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in respect of "All goods in Int'l Classes 14, 37, 38, 42".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Samsung Electronics
Co., Ltd.
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 26 March 2011

**Lectures, Exams
for B.Ed
Correspondence Courses
Announced**

The lectures and exams for the trainee teachers of B.Ed correspondence course for 2010-2011 academic year will be held at Yangon Institute of Education. Lectures will be given for the first year of course No-29 and the second year of course No-28 from 25 April to 15 May. Trainees are to report not later than 24 April and will not be allowed to report three days beyond the target date. The examinations for the courses will be held from 18 to 23 May.

Curry powder molecule 'is cheap sensor for explosives'

DALLAS, 25 March — The main chemical in the curry spice turmeric could



A cheap and widely available spice seems to be a solution to diverse problems. — INTERNET

be the basis for cheap explosives detectors, say researchers. The curcumin molecule is already well-known in medicine for its anti-cancer and anti-oxidant properties.

Now, research presented at the American Physical Society meeting suggests it could replace more complex solutions

to spot explosives like TNT.

As it gathers molecules of explosive material in air, changes in its light-emitting properties can be measured.

This "fluorescence spectroscopy" is already employed in a wide array of sensing and analysis techniques. —Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11004S)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11004S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S T.S LINE LIMITED**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Contestants of the 2011 Miss Tourism International take part in a training for the regional final, scheduled on 29 March, in Huian County, Quanzhou of southeast China's Fujian Province, on 24 March, 2011. — XINHUA

**Obese women,
children
underestimate
their weight**

BEIJING, 25 March — A new study has found that many overweight women and children often underestimate how heavy they are, according to media reports on Wednesday.

The study, conducted by researchers from Columbia University Medical Centre in New York City, surveyed 111 women with the average age of 39 and 111 children aged between 7 and 13.

Among the participants, about 66 percent of the women and 39 percent of the kids were overweight or obese.

They were shown images of different body silhouettes representing a range of weights, including underweight, normal weight, overweight, obese and extremely obese.

Internet

England stars don't fear Capello any more, says Barry

WATFORD, 25 March— Gareth Barry admits England's stars finally feel able to relax around notoriously strict coach Fabio Capello. Capello has tried to rule England's squad with an iron fist since taking charge of a group who had been over-indulged by previous boss Steve



England midfielder Gareth Barry

McClaren. The Italian's no-nonsense approach included banning mobile phones from team dinners, limiting the squad's leisure activities and insisting that players are on time for every meeting.

Initially Capello's hardline stance was seen as a positive step but Manchester City midfielder Barry believes it backfired at last year's World Cup when the players became bored by the daily grind of training and resting with little chance to enjoy the sights of South Africa. —Internet

Ramsey to captain Wales

LONDON, 25 March— Arsenal midfielder Aaron Ramsey has been named captain of Wales ahead of this weekend's Euro 2012 showdown with England, manager Gary Speed revealed on Thursday. Ramsey, 20, will don the armband for the first time as he makes his international comeback following a long lay-off caused by a badly broken leg. Speed chose Ramsey after veteran striker Craig Bellamy ruled himself out of consideration for the role, citing a niggling knee injury.

"Aaron Ramsey will be captain," Speed said. "I thought about it a lot. "As

I have mentioned before, it is about the future and planning ahead. "There were two or three candidates. I thought about what is best for the team going forward. "I spoke to Aaron before making the decision and told him there were certain responsibilities and duties that would go with it, and to see if he was happy with it." —Internet



Arsenal midfielder Aaron Ramsey

Marseille agree Brandao loan move

PARIS, 25 March— Marseille president Jean-Claude Dassier confirmed on Thursday that striker Brandao, currently under investigation for rape, is to join Brazilian club Cruzeiro on loan until the end of the year.

"Brandao's departure



Marseille president Jean-Claude Dassier confirmed on Thursday that striker Brandao, is to join Brazilian club Cruzeiro on loan until the end of the year. —INTERNET

is official," Dassier said after meeting the Brazilian player on Thursday. "I wish Brandao and I told him so, lots of success in Brazil. He's joining a big club and I hope this awful affair will have a positive outcome."

Brandao was placed under police investigation for allegedly raping a 23-year-old woman after a night out in Aix-en-Provence, near Marseille on 9 March and also faces disciplinary action from his club. He had been allowed to travel to Brazil for a period of rest by the club but returned to Marseille this week.

—Internet

Loss of Coleman new blow for Ireland

LONDON, 25 March— Republic of Ireland boss Giovanni Trapattoni has been hit by a fresh injury blow with the news Thursday that Seamus Coleman has been forced to withdraw from the squad through injury. The 22-year-old Everton midfielder has not trained all week because of an ankle injury, and after assessment on Thursday afternoon, the decision was taken to send him back to Merseyside.

He follows Newcastle striker Leon Best back to England 24 hours after he also had to admit defeat in his efforts to shake off an ankle problem. Sean



Republic of Ireland boss Giovanni Trapattoni has been hit by a fresh injury blow with the news Thursday that Seamus Coleman(L), has been forced to withdraw from the squad through injury. —INTERNET

St Ledger, a regular in Trapattoni's first-choice defence, has not trained since picking up a knee injury in Tuesday morning's session, and his fitness is being closely monitored. — Internet

Italy need to start all over again - Prandelli



Italian's national football team coach Cesare Prandelli

LJUBLJANA, 25 March—Coach Cesare Prandelli admitted on Thursday that Italy need to start rebuilding football in the country from the grassroots level. Italy play Slovenia in a Euro 2012 qualifier on Friday looking to maintain their three-point lead over their rivals at the top of Group C. But ever since Italy's dismal show-

ing at the World Cup in South Africa last June, the focus in the country has been on the lack of emerging talent.

And former Slovenia striker Zlatko Zahovic stuck the knife in earlier this week when he claimed that Italy don't have many good players any more and that his team should win easily. Prandelli wasn't hiding from the fact that his squad is lacking in quality, particularly with AC Milan playmaker Andrea Pirlo injured and Manchester City youngster Mario Balotelli frozen out for disciplinary reasons.

—Internet

Wozniacki in bid for US title double

MIAMI, 25 March— World No 1 Caroline Wozniacki, weekend winner of the Indian Wells WTA title, launched her bid for a second straight crown with a victory at the Miami WTA and ATP Masters tournament.

Wozniacki on Thursday reached the third round of the \$9 million event with a 6-2, 7-5 victory over American Bethanie Mattek-Sands.

"Especially in the first match you want to get going, you want to have the rallies," said the



Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark

Dane, who like all the top seeds enjoyed a first-round bye. —Internet

French national football team coach Laurent Blanc, seen here giving instructions at practice, insists that the return of Franck Ribery and Patrice Evra. — INTERNET

Amanda Blumenherst leads Kia Classic

INDUSTRY, 25 March— Amanda Blumenherst birdied the final four holes for a 7-under 66 and a one-stroke lead over Germany's Sanda Gal on Thursday in the Kia Classic. Blumenherst, the former Duke star seeking her first LPGA Tour victory, had nine birdies and two bogeys in her opening round on the Industry Hills Golf



Amanda Blumenherst

Club course at Pacific Palms. The American took advantage of tranquil morning conditions on the rain-softened course.

"The fairways are extremely soft right now. So are the greens," Blumenherst said. "It's playing a lot longer than it says on the card, which actually suits me because I'm one of the longer ball-strikers." Michelle Wie birdied the par-5 18th for a 68. The Kia endorser, returning to the tour after finishing finals at Stanford, played in chilly conditions late in the afternoon. —Internet

SPORTS

Schalke boss says Man Utd eyeing Neuer

BERLIN, 25 March— Manchester United have expressed interest in signing Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer from Schalke 04, the Bundesliga club's president was quoted as saying on Wednesday. "An international agent has approached me and informed me that Manchester United are interested in Neuer. If we get a written request from Manchester we will look at it," Clemens Tonnies told the Bild daily.

It is not the first time that Neuer, who was Ger-

many's man between the posts in their highly successful 2010 World Cup campaign, has been touted as a possible replacement for the retiring Edwin van der Sar at Old Trafford. Neuer, who turns 25 later this month, is under contract until June 2012. —Internet



Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer from Schalke 04

Ribery, Evra won't overshadow France task: Blanc

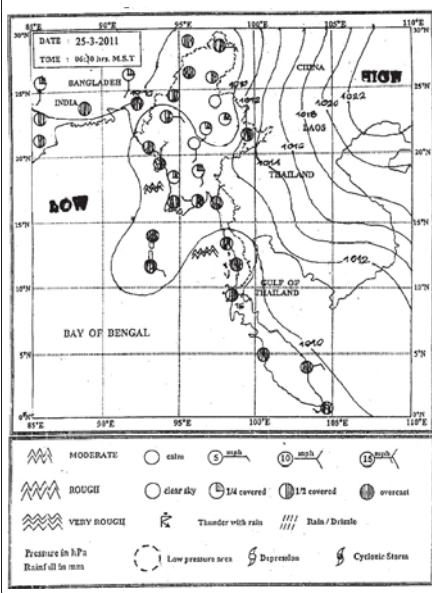
LUXEMBOURG, 25 March—Coach Laurent Blanc insists that the return of Franck Ribery and Patrice Evra to the France fold will not overshadow the task of collecting all three points in Friday's Euro 2012 qualifier against Luxembourg. The pair, recalled for the first time since the 2010 World Cup fiasco, will start for Group D leaders

France against tailenders Luxembourg, as the main additions to a side which otherwise resembles the team that beat England 2-1 last November.

Blanc has kept faith with Yoann Gourcuff despite the midfielder's problems adapting to life at Lyon, as the France coach tries to recreate the Samir Nasri-Gourcuff tandem that succeeded so well against the English at Wembley. Ribery and Evra will replace Mathieu Valbuena, who was not selected, and Eric Abidal, who is recovering after having a liver tumour removed. —Internet



Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 25th March, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kayin State, isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Shan and Mon States, weather has been partly cloudy in Ayeyawady and Yangon Regions, Kachin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperature in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kachin, Southern Shan and Chin States, (5°C) above March average temperature in Upper Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, (3°C) to (4°C) below March average temperature in Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Regions and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk, Magway and Aunglan (41°C) each, Kalywa, Mandalay, Nyaungoo, Nay Pyi Taw (Pinyinmana) and Minbu (40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kawkarate (1.02) inches, Kawthoung (0.87) inch, Kengtung (0.28) inch and Ya (0.08) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 24-3-2011 was 106°F. Minimum temperature on 25-3-2011 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 25-3-2011 was (50%). Rainfall on 25-3-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 24-3-2011 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 25-3-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 25-3-2011 was (59%). Total sunshine hours on

24-3-2011 was (9.3) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 25-3-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (5.79) inches at Mingaladon, (6.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (7.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 24-3-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 26th March 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. 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 moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers will be isolated in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 26-3-2011: Partly cloudy to cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-3-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Weather Outlook For Fourth Weekend Of March 2011: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region and rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Yangon Region.

"Biggest haul" of hashish seized in Nepali capital

KATHMANDU, 25 March — The Narcotic Drugs Control Law Enforcement Unit (NDCLEU) has seized the "biggest haul" of hashish worth millions from notorious drug traffickers in Nepali capital Kathmandu.

According to Friday's *The Kathmandu Post daily*, during its week-long special operation dubbed "Operation Dakshinkali", NDCLEU seized a total of 1,240 kg of refined hashish and arrested 10 "notorious" drug traffickers, including three Indian nationals.

It is the biggest ever seizure made in the past two decades, according to NDCLEU. The anti-drug law enforcement agency said 575 kilos of "refined" hashish was the biggest haul made by NDCLEU earlier. According to NDCLEU estimation, the confiscated drug fetches worth more than 24 million Nepali rupees (some 338,028 US dollars) in the local black market. Birendra Babu Shrestha, incharge of NDCLEU, described the seizure as the biggest ever



South Africa's Imran Tahir dives to stop the ball as New Zealand's Jacob Oram makes his crease safely during their Cricket World Cup quarter-final match in Dhaka on 25 March, 2011.—INTERNET

made in a single operation of NDCLEU's two-decade-long fight against contraband drugs.

"This seizure of the contraband drugs is a significant achievement in terms of quantity and quality as all the arrestees are major drug traffickers linked to India-based drug syndicate," said Shrestha.—MNA/Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (26-3-2011) (Saturday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	(09:00am-11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	(26-3-11 09:30 am ~ 27-3-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Marching towards A Democratic New Nation "Transport, Communication & Information"
- * News
- * Secret Palaces for Yummy food (Kho Taung Montee)
- * News
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Comes on Kissie, Kissie"
- * News
- * My Native Town Meiktila

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Marching towards A Democratic New Nation "Transport, Communication & Information"
- * News
- * Secret Palaces for Yummy food (Kho Taung Montee)
- * News
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Comes on Kissie, Kissie"
- * News
- * My Native Town Meiktila
- * News
- * Those who never Give Up "Shwe Min Thar Foundation"
- * News
- * Ancient Mural Paintings of Poe Win Hill
- * Record Album
- * News
- * Myanmar Traditional Pavilion Painting
- * News
- * Traditional Banana Shrine Art
- * Myanmar Movie "Good-Hearted Bad Guy"



Saturday, 26 March
View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:10 am**
2. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:25 am**
3. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:30 am**
4. Morning News
- 7:40 am**
5. Nice & Sweet Song
- 7:50 am**

6. Health Programme
8:00 am
7. Poem Garden
8:15 am
8. Documentary
8:25 am
9. Musical Programme
8:40 am
10. International News
8:45 am
11. Song Of National Races
8:50 am
8. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
11:00 am
1. Martial Song
11:10 am
2. Game For Children
11:35 am
3. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
1:00 pm
4. Yan Can Cook

- 1:25 pm**
5. TV Drama Series
2:25 am
7. Mahowthada
4:00 pm
1. Martial Song
4:10 pm
2. Cultural Dances
4:20 pm
3. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
4:40 pm
4. Musical Programme
4:50 pm
5. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Law)
5:05 pm
6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
5:10 pm
7. Teleplay (Health)

- 5:25 pm**
8. Singing In Different Versions
5:40 pm
9. Documentary
6:00 pm
10. Evening News
6:15 pm
11. Weather Report
6:20 pm
12. Ahlshamae Hlagabawai
6:40 pm
13. Tatmadaw for the people
7:00 pm
14. Teleplay to mark 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day
8:00 pm
15. News
16. International News
17. Weather Report
18. TV Drama Series
19. Gitadagale Phwinfbaoahn

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- ★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- ★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- ★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

**Earthquake in Loimwe causes casualties and losses
Authorities concerned and officials
providing necessary assistance**

**NDPCC to send rescue missions
to earthquake-hit regions**

**Teleplay to be broadcast to
commemorate 66th
Anniversary Armed Forces Day**

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March —In commemoration of the 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Myanma Radio and Television will broadcast a teleplay titled 'Birthday Gift' on 26 and 27 March.

Directed by Academy Zaw Myint Oo, the play stars Academy Tun Tun Win, Academy Khin Moh Moh Aye, Naing Lu, Phone Hlyan, Min Htet and Kyaw Khant.

The play will be broadcast by Myanma TV at 7 pm on 26 March and after 8 pm news programmes on 27 March; by MRTV-4 after 8 pm news programmes on 26 and 27 March; by Myanmar International at noon on 26 March and 9.30 am on 27 March.—MNA

**SPECIAL FEATURES TO
HAIL 66TH ANNIVERSARY
ARMED FORCES DAY**

**National cause
and Tatmadaw**



THIHA AUNG

PAGES 4+5

A crack caused by strong earthquake seen on Kengtung-Tachilek Road in Loimwe.



NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—A strong earthquake measuring magnitude of (7.0) Richter Scale jolted Loimwe, 35 miles south-east of Kengtung around 8:30 pm yesterday, causing casualties and losses in Tachilek, Tahlay and some villages.

The earthquake, according to the observation at 1:35 pm today, has claimed 73 lives and injured 125. A total of 224 houses, one six-unit quarter, 11 religious buildings and nine departmental buildings were
(See page 11)