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**The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
(Order No 12/2003)
7th Waxing of Thadingyut 1365 ME
(2nd October 2003)**

Reformation of National Convention Convening Work Committee

To enable the National Convention Convening Commission to carry out its duties and responsibilities successfully and smoothly, the State Peace and Development Council has reconstituted the National Convention Convening Work Committee with the following personages:

National Convention Convening Work Committee

(1) U Aung Toe Chief Justice	Chairman	(14) U Maung Pa Vice-Mayor	Member	(26) Daw Than Ministry of Education	Member
(2) U Aye Maung Attorney-General	Vice-Chairman	Yangon City Development Committee		(27) U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) Ministry of Information	Member
(3) Dr Than Nyun Chairman	Member	(15) Col Than Myint Department of Strategic Studies	Member	(28) Daw Khin Nu Executive Member	Member
Civil Service Selection and Training Board		(16) U Nay Win Director-General	Member	Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science	
(4) Brig-Gen Aung Thein Deputy Minister	Member	Border Trade Department		(29) U Hsan Tun Director	Member
Ministry of Information		(17) U Bo Kyi Managing Director	Member	Supreme Court	
(5) U Thein Sein Deputy Minister	Member	Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise		(30) Daw Po Po Kyi Deputy Director	Member
Ministry of Information		(18) U Chit Naing Director-General	Member	Attorney-General's Office	
(6) U Maung Aung Deputy Minister	Member	Information and Public Relations Department		(31) Daw Nan Nwut Member	Member
Ministry of Immigration and Population		(19) U Kyaw Hsan Director-General	Member	(32) Daw Mya Mya Deputy Director	Member
(7) U Aung Thein Deputy Minister	Member	Transport Planning Department		Printing and Publishing Enterprise	
Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries		(20) U Kyaw Win Director-General	Member	(33) U Thauung Nyunt Secretary	
(8) U Myo Nyunt Deputy Minister	Member	Fine Arts Department		Legal Adviser	
Ministry of Education		(21) U Win Maung Rector	Member	(34) U Khin Maung Myint Joint-Secretary-1	
(9) Brig-Gen Than Tun Deputy Minister	Member	Central Institute of Civil Service		Director-General	
Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National		(22) U Zaw Min Thein Rector	Member	Civil Service Affairs Department	
Races and Development Affairs		(23) Dr Paik Tin Rector	Member	(35) Dr Thauung Myint Joint-Secretary-2	
(10) U Khin Maung Win Deputy Minister	Member	University for Development of National Races		Adviser	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs		(24) U Kan Zaw Rector	Member	Ministry of Health	
(11) Dr Tun Shin Deputy Attorney-General	Member	University of Computer Studies			
(12) U Tin Aye Supreme Court Justice	Member	(25) U Ba Han Institute of Economics (Yangon)	Member		
(13) U Aung Myint Member	Member	Adviser			
Civil Service Selection and Training Board		Supreme Court			

Sd/ Than Shwe

Senior General

Chairman

State Peace and Development Council

National Convention can be able to lay down basic principles to draft a constitution that is the lifeblood of the nation Mass rally held in Bago in support of Prime Minister's clarification on seven-point roadmap



Chairman Pro-rector U Kyaw Myint Oo delivers a speech at the mass rally. — MNA

YANGON, 2 Oct — A mass rally, organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association, was held in support of the Prime Minister's clarification on seven stages of policies and programmes of the State (roadmap) at the sports ground in Bago, on 30 September.

Present on the occasion were Central Executive Committee members of USDA, members of township USDAs in Bago Division, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Working Committee for Women's Affairs, members of the Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Nurses Association, Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Artists and Artisans Asiayon, War Veterans Organization, Bago Division Medical Association and Rice Millers Association, and farmers, workers and local people totalling over 15,300.

Before the mass rally, the four columns comprising members of departmental staff, members of social organizations, USDAs and local people with flag bearers and the band troupe marched into the sports ground and took their designated places.

Pro-Rector of Toungoo University U Kyaw Myint Oo presided over the mass rally together with Principal of Bago Degree College U Thein Win, Retired Headmaster of No 3 Basic Education High School, Bago, U Kyin Thein, Bago Division USDA Secretary U Saw Maw Tun and Bago Division MCWA Secretary Dr Tin Tin Win. Bago District USDA executive Daw Moe Thuzar Kyaw acted as master of ceremonies and Reserve Executive Daw Moe Moe Khaing of Bago Township USDA as co-master of ceremonies.

First, the master of ceremonies announced the commencement of the mass rally. U Kyaw Myint Oo made a speech. He said:

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address on the seven future political programmes on 30 August 2003, which are of vital importance for the nation. First, I would like to say that we all support the address as it states the objective condition of the people and explains the nation's future programmes.

(See page 16)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 3 October, 2003

To exhibit genuine Myanmar culture

It is incumbent upon all the citizens to preserve and safeguard own traditions and cultural heritage as the high national prestige is the glory of a nation or a race.

All must be aware that the country and the people will be put in danger of extinction due to lack of preservation of own traditional culture. Therefore, the Government is laying emphasis on uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character.

Traditional cultural arts possesses the power of uplifting the national prestige and integrity. They are the guiding principles of moral development of the citizens including the youths to walk on correct national path.

With this end in view, the Government holds traditional cultural performing arts competitions yearly. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have been held since 1993 and the eleventh will be held soon.

As a result of holding these competitions there achieved good results such as flourishing of the strong will to preserve own traditional culture among youths. It also leads to the cherishing of own nation and race and culture.

As the time for holding the eleventh Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions is approaching, the morale of the participants becomes high. They are preparing for the competitions to be able to exhibit their skills. They will have to present genuine Myanmar culture in the competitions. It is particularly necessary to present Myanmar dance without harming the traditional style.

Thanks to the support of doyen artistes, assistance rendered by the leading committee and the respective subcommittees and the active participation of the people, Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions are held more grandly than ever year by year.

The competitors are urged to strive to display genuine Myanmar traditional culture highlighting Myanmar traditions, and officials and artistes are to supervise the competitions to ensure that true Myanmar culture is exhibited at the eleventh Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.

Duty assigned to collect agricultural census data

YANGON, 2 Oct — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin inspected water storage and maintenance of main embankment of Taungnawin Dam in Paukhaung Township, Pyaw District, on 30 September.

After giving necessary instructions there, the minister inspected the repair of No 11 sugar mill (Inngagwa) in the township. At the briefing hall, the minister heard reports by managers of respective sugar mills under the Myanmar Sugarcane Enterprise and gave necessary instructions. The minister then inspected the sugarcane plantations in the compound of the Inngagwa sugar mill. In the evening, the minister saw over the harvesting and threshing of monsoon paddy in Thindawye Village in Thayawady Township.

The minister attended the ceremony to assign duty to collect data of agricultural census of Myanmar held at Myanmar Rice Research Centre in Hmawby, Yangon Division, yesterday morning. Among those in attendance were Deputy Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thein, Resident Representative of FAO Mr Tang Zhengping and officials of UN agencies.

Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin made a speech on the occasion. He said that the economy of Myanmar is based on agriculture sector. The firm and reliable figures and data are important to draw the policies and plans for development of agricultural sector. The data collection of agricultural census will be conducted from 1 October to 15 November on some 4 million families residing at 12,207 village-tracts in 272 townships of 60 districts in states and divisions, he added. Afterwards, Director-General U Win Kyi of the Settlement and Land Records Department presented a report and assigned duty to Division Officer U Naing Win of the SLRD, on behalf of auditors and data collectors. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt to attend 9th ASEAN Summit

YANGON, 3 Oct— At the invitation of Her Excellency Madame Megawati Soekarnoputri, the President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar will attend the 9th ASEAN Summit, Summits of the ASEAN Heads of State/Government and Heads of State/Government of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea and ASEAN-India Summit scheduled to be held in Bali, Indonesia in the near future. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets executives and members of Loilem District and Township USDAs in Loilem, Shan State, on 1-10-2003. (News on page 7)— MNA

Ambassador U Soe Win presents Credentials to Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

YANGON, 3 Oct— U Soe Win, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Commonwealth of Australia, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Major-General Michael Jeffery, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, on 25 September 2003, in Canberra. — MNA

Myanmar Gazette

YANGON, 2 Oct— The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Managing Director of the Myanmar Foodstuff Industries of the Ministry of Industry-1 U Kyaw Myint as Director-General of the Directorate of Industries of the same ministry from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

MNA

Foreign Affairs Minister arrives back from New York

YANGON, 2 Oct— After attending the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly which was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung arrived back here by air this morning.

He was welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Senior Officers, Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme Mr Vishwa Khana and responsible personnel from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The minister attended the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly from 22 to 30 September and also acted as its Chairman on 25 September. And during

his stay in New York, the minister for Foreign Affairs also attended the 27th Annual Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Group of 77 on 25 September, the Annual Meeting of the Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the Non-Aligned Movement on 26 September, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Joint ASEAN-UN Luncheon on 29 September and the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Asia Cooperation Dialogue on 30 September. U Win Aung delivered a statement at the United Nations General Assembly on 29 September. While in New York, the minister also met United Nations Secretary General Mr Kofi Annan, President of the 58th Session of the General Assembly Mr Julian Hunte and other heads of delegation.

Officer on Special Duty U Min Thein also returned with the minister. — MNA



Minister U Win Aung addresses the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 29-9-2003. — MNA



Minister U Win Aung chairing the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 25-9-2003. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin addresses the ceremony to assign duty to collect data of agricultural census of Myanmar. — AGRI & IRR



Security Council must play its full role in securing international peace and security

The following are excerpts from the address of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Somsavat Lengsavat delivered to the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 30 September.

The world had been beset by terror, civil wars, armed conflicts, acts of aggression, and interference in the internal affairs of States. In handling those problems, it was essential to show patience, courage, and determination to solve them through diplomatic and political means. Furthermore, the challenges faced today were not limited to the political and military spheres, but included global warming, pollution, natural disasters, HIV/AIDS and other diseases, poverty and underdevelopment, refugees, debt and economic stagnation. The severity of those challenges was made more acute in a globalized world, where the gap between developed and developing countries continued to widen.

Landlocked developing countries experienced special needs and problems in development, he said. In its role as

Chair of the 31-member Group of Landlocked Developing Countries, his country had spared no effort to bring those special concerns to the forefront of the international arena. Such efforts had culminated in the holding of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community on Transit Trans-

port Cooperation in Kazakhstan, and the adoption of the Almaty Declaration and Programme of Action, which all stakeholders were urged to implement fully and effectively. The war in Iraq had severely tested the principle of collective security and the resilience of the Organization, he said.

The Security Council must play its full role in securing international peace and security.—*Internet*

The severity of challenges was made more acute in a globalized world, where the gap between developed and developing countries continued to widen.

Laszlo Kovacs, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Hungary

Maintaining peace, non-proliferation, and human rights were among the international community's main objectives. His country remained committed to multilateral institutions to tackle global and regional issues.

The United Nations should place priority on terrorism, and he called for widening the scope of multilateral instruments to fight terror around the world.

The United Nations had to play its part in both restoring sovereignty to the Iraqi people and in rebuilding the country.'

Turning to Iraq, he stressed the need to focus on reconstruction efforts and development.

The United Nations had to play its part in both restoring sovereignty to the Iraqi people and in rebuilding the country. The priority must be the stabilization of the security situation in Iraq and the normalization of day-to-day life.—*Internet*



Laszlo Kovacs

Jan Petersen, Foreign Minister of Norway

Unless security needs were met in Iraq, democracy, as well as economic and social development, would be lost.'

Without a safe and secure environment, the United Nations would be unable to help Iraq.

Norway urged focused

attention on rebuilding Iraq with the aim of helping its people regain control of their destiny and a future of peace with their neigh-

bours.

Terrorism was a dark force, he said, calling for strengthening the role of the United Nations in multilateral disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation.

The establishment of the International Criminal Court was a historic turning point, and Norway was committed to achieving



Jan Petersen

progress in realizing the Millennium Development Goals.—*Internet*

Hornamhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia

World faced four key challenges: Iraq, the Middle East, terrorism and poverty. Given the fragile and unstable situation in Iraq, the United Nations must assume a critical role in restoring stability during this transitional period, and Iraq should be allowed to govern itself as soon as possible through free and fair elections.

Internet



Hornamhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs

ထုတ်ဖော်ပြောဆိုမှုများ

Simeon de Saxe-Cobourg, Prime Minister of Bulgaria

Yet it remained clear that international peace and stability required the active participation of the United Nations.

It was to be hoped that the Council would recover its unity on Iraq, as ensuring the stability and prosperity of that country was in the interest of the entire international community.

Thus, in order to assist the people of Iraq in restoring their sovereignty as soon as possible, it was vital for the Council to give the United Nations a clear and realistic mandate.

Chad's Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration Nagoum Yamassoum

While terrorism threatened international peace and security, and globalization had made relations between North and South more difficult, the best response to such situations was to be found only in collective and concerted action.

The United Nations remained the sole Organization to enjoy real international legitimacy. To ensure that continued to be the case, the Organization must not become merely a showcase for the power of the few.

In that respect, the membership of the Security Council should be expanded to take account of the real state of affairs in today's world.

Antanas Valionis, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania

While nation-building was not an overnight process, the primary goal in Iraq should be the restoration of sovereignty and implementation of a political process leading to the establishment of a fully representative government through democratic elections.'

Only through coordinated effort and close international cooperation was it possible to rebuild a free and peaceful Iraq.

The first signs of recovery in Iraq were already visible, as demonstrated by the appointment of a Governing Council and the formation of a preparatory constitutional committee.

Those positive developments should be supported and encouraged, he said. The upcoming Madrid conference would address many issues which were important to Iraq's future, and international support was indispensable.

You Seffbin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Oman

The war against Iraq was a link in a chain of wars suffered by the Middle East region.

It had created a new reality characterized mainly by the collapse of the former regime, and the deterioration of basic services for Iraqi society.

The continued lack of security and loss of life, the destruction of the United Nations compound, and the escalating tempo of assassinations did not promote an atmosphere conducive to the reconstruction of the country and returning sovereignty to the people.

It was necessary that **all efforts be made to enable Iraqis to resume responsibility for running their country.** Iraq benefited from dynamic human and natural resources that could help it regain its strength and play its regional and international role.—*Internet*

Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam



Prince Mohamed Bolkiah

The feeling of hopelessness and frustration voiced, not only by ordinary people but also by many governments, made the task of restoring belief in the ability of the United Nations to act on their behalf the most important immediate one.

It was for that reason, too, that his country supported the Secretary-General's calls for structural reform of the Organization, including its Security Council, and was optimistic that those goals would be accomplished.

In the face of today's problems, the United Nations must continue to offer strong reasons for optimism about the future.

To do that, the Organization as a whole had to be a genuine partnership between nations, as well as stand for shared idealism and a shared sense of justice.—*Internet*

Rumsfeld faces sharp questions on cost, duration of Iraq operation

WASHINGTON, 2 Oct — US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld dismissed as “utter nonsense” Tuesday charges that the Pentagon failed to adequately plan for post-war Iraq, as he fended off sharp questions about the occupation’s high cost and stress on US forces.

Rumsfeld and his aides side-stepped questions about how much the Iraq operation will cost, how much they expect to raise from allies at a donors conference in Spain next month, and how long US forces are likely to be tied down in Iraq.

At a congressional hearing on President George W Bush request for another 87 billion dollars for Iraq this year, Rumsfeld blamed the perception that US-led occupation is in trouble to “misinformation” and “a wave of bad press.”

“The phrase I hear the most is, ‘You have no plan,’” Rumsfeld said. “It’s just utter nonsense.”

“There’s been very good planning done here. The bridges, the central bank has been set up, the schools, the water, the electrical system’s being worked on, the judicial system’s out and functioning, civil defence people, village clerks,” he said. Democrats and some Republicans, however, raised a host of concerns about long-term costs and the effects on US forces, particularly the National Guard and Reserves.

“I recognize we don’t pull the plug on this operation once we start it,” said Representative David Obey, Democrat of Wisconsin. “I think to do so would be like a surgeon opening up a patient and then saying the hell with it.”

But he pressed Rumsfeld for his “best estimate” of the cost and duration of the operation.

Referring to the National Guard and Reserve, he asked, “What are our real expectations of the length of time they’ll

have to serve? How do we intend to deal with the worldwide straining this is putting especially on the army? What can we really expect by way of long-term costs?”

Bush wants 66 billion dollars in additional funding to pay for US military operations in Iraq, and another 20 billion dollars to rebuild the country.

Rumsfeld would not estimate the military expenses beyond 2004, but noted estimates by international organizations that an additional 50 to 75 billion dollars will be needed to rebuild Iraq.

The United States hopes other countries will contribute money at the Spain conference, and expects Iraqi oil income to rise from an estimated two billion dollars in 2004 to 12 billion dollars the next year and climbing to more than 20 billion dollars in the years after.

Some lawmakers want to loan, rather than give Iraq money to rebuild. Others warned Rumsfeld that heavy reliance on the National Guard and Reserve could undermine recruitment and retention.

Internet

Iraq’s deprived schools struggle to start new year

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct — The classrooms at Baghdad’s al-Waqidi school are dirty and the books have yet to arrive. But excited pupils filled the playground on Wednesday as Iraq’s first post-Saddam Hussein school year officially began.

Schools across Iraq are in varying states of disrepair. Locals, aid agencies and the US-led occupiers have restored electricity and water to many, fixed furniture, and reprinted books to purge all mentions of Saddam.

But supplies have yet to reach schools and many were not ready to welcome pupils.

At those that were, old lessons had to be unlearned, with some pupils accidentally praising Saddam — a ritual drummed into them until Saddam’s overthrow in April.

Teachers complained about the lack of text books, shortages of pens and pen-

cils, broken furniture and unswept classrooms. “People said these are new days, you will get new classrooms, new books, but that hasn’t happened,” said Sana Abd al-Rahman, a teacher at al-Waqidi primary school.

“It’s just gone from bad to worse.”

MNA/Reuters

ဝက်မွန်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



A Chinese photographer arranges traditional head-dresses on two young clients outside the Forbidden City in Beijing, on 30 Sept, 2003. China’s capital is crowded with hundreds of thousands of mainland tourists during the National Day golden week holiday. China celebrates its 54th National Day on 1 Oct.—INTERNET

China to implement new laws and regulations

BEIJING, 2 Oct — Some newly-passed laws and regulations, which will have a major impact on people’s daily lives, will go into force from October 1, China’s National Day.

From October 1, tourists can take 3,000 US dollars out of China at one time if they stay abroad for less than half a year, and 5,000 US dollars if they stay for more than half a year, according to a new regulation by the State Administration of Foreign Exchange.—MNA/Xinhua

At least three US soldiers wounded in Iraq attack

TIKRIT, 2 Oct — At least three US soldiers were wounded in a bomb attack on Wednesday close to the main American military base in Saddam Hussein home town of Tikrit, a Reuters correspondent at the scene said.

The bomb exploded shortly before 5 pm as a patrol travelled along a road just outside the base, one of Saddam’s former palaces, around 110 miles north of Baghdad.

US forces in the Tikrit area have come under frequent attack from guerrillas, believed by US commanders to be mainly Saddam loyalists and foreign Islamic militants.

The US-led military task force in Iraq says more than 700 soldiers have been wounded in attacks since May 1, when major combat was declared over in the war that ousted Saddam.

Internet



US troops guard a street in the city of Khaldiyyah west of Baghdad. Retired general Anthony Zinni has warned the military is “very strained” and “could reach the breaking point” as US lawmakers quizzed Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on the possible cost and duration of the operation in Iraq.—INTERNET

Member states urged to assist UN in promoting rule of law

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Oct — A top United Nations official on Tuesday urged all UN member states to assist the world body in its efforts to promote justice and rule of law in building a sustained peace in post-conflict societies.

Without significant assistance from member states, the UN would not be able to carry out the complex mandates in restoring justice and rule of law for the sustainable resolution of conflict, Jean-Marie Guehenno, UN under-secretary-general for peacekeeping operations, told an open meeting of the Security Council.

He said that in addition to providing individual personnel for rule of law activities, member states could assist by providing staffing for an entire sector, and this was what Britain had done in Kosovo, by providing staffing for an entire criminal investigation unit.

Another model was for member states to serve as lead nations for assistance to a particular sector, he said.

“In Afghanistan, for example, Germany is in the lead for policing and Italy for the justice sector.”

Stressing there was no single approach to justice and rule of law, Guehenno said any strategies adopted by the UN must be tailored to the needs and conditions of the host country, and must promote national ownership and capacity-building.

“We must avoid the mistakes of the past, where imported solutions failed to take into account local culture and traditions and our activities were carried out without adequately consulting national actors,” he said.

Guehenno, who spoke on behalf of several UN departments within the Secretariat that are engaged in supporting justice and the rule of law

in post-conflict societies, said the UN was learning lessons, strengthening its capacities, and developing ways to work together more efficiently and effectively in the field of justice and rule of law.

What remained to be seen was how effective the UN, its member states and outside entities would be in developing mandates, allocating adequate budgets, deploying human and other resources and implementing those mandates in the field, he said. Representatives from 25 nations that are not members of the Security Council are expected to speak at the Council meeting on justice and rule of law and the UN role, a follow-up to a ministerial meeting of the Council held on September 24.

MNA/Xinhua

Demonstration by unemployed men in central Baghdad turned into a riot

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct—Police fired in the air, as protesters threw rocks and set cars ablaze. Up to 100 men gathered outside a police station, where they said they had been promised jobs after making payments to police officers.

One policeman told *Reuters* news agency that they opened fire only after demonstrators fired first, and there were unconfirmed reports that several people were wounded.

A BBC correspondent who witnessed the incident says it shows that the situation in Baghdad remains extremely volatile, despite coalition claims that security is improving by the day.

A much larger demonstration took place in Mosul, beginning outside an employment office. Some stones were thrown, but the march was otherwise peaceful.

In ongoing attacks on coalition troops, a US soldier was killed in a roadside bomb in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit on Wednesday.

Two other soldiers were injured in the blast, near the entrance to a US base in the town.

The death brings to 88 the number of American soldiers killed by hostile fire since President George W Bush declared an end to major combat operations on 1 May.

The police blamed the fracas in Baghdad on provocateurs, who, they said, incited the men to attack the building. "We didn't shoot at the beginning. We think this is a

democracy and they can express their point of view. But then they started firing," policeman Falah Hassan told *Reuters* news agency.

The violence lasted for about half-an-hour. US troops arrived at the scene later, and firefighters were called in to extinguish burning cars.

"They promised us jobs in July," said one man.

"All these policemen are corrupt," said another. "We gave them money to register our names as candidates [for jobs] and when we returned they said we have no business being here."

Bribes of \$100 were mentioned as being demanded in return for a job, with the unemployment rate estimated at 50%.

But the protesters said that, despite being paid, the police authorities had given the posts to their relatives.

The incident happened outside the headquarters of the Facilities Protection Service (FPS), just north of the Palestine Hotel, the main base for foreign journalists in Baghdad.

The FPS provides security guards for Muslim shrines and other sites.

Internet

IGC says six months not enough to write Iraqi constitution

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct—A six-month period set by the United States is not enough for Iraqis to write a new Constitution, a spokesman for the Iraqi Governing Council (IGC) said Tuesday.

"I don't think six months will be sufficient, but we must wait and see," said Entifadh Qanbar, spokesman for the current rotating IGC president Ahmed Chalabi.

Qanbar said the Iraqis need more time to discuss certain issues concerning the future Constitution and then to adopt it. The six-month period proposal was first raised by US Secretary of State Colin Powell on Friday as a sign of compromise with Washington's rivals in the United Nations.

"Six months seems to be a good timeline to put out there for the creation of a Constitution," Powell told a Press conference in New York.

US officials then repeatedly conceded that the period does not necessarily mean a deadline.

Top US administrator in Iraq, Paul Bremer, said later that Powell "was talking about the period after the... constitutional conference convention is assembled."

On Tuesday, a US military spokesman said the proposal was "not a deadline as this is not processed yet".

"We are not set in any deadlines for the writing of a new Iraqi Constitution," said Lieutenant-Colonel George Krivo.

The IGC kicked off discussions Monday over the recommendations submitted by a preparatory committee on the election of the constitutional assembly.

The preparatory committee has reportedly made a number of suggestions over the process of drafting a constitution, ranging from several weeks to two years.

MNA/Xinhua

Nearly 200 people suffer food poisoning in Vietnam

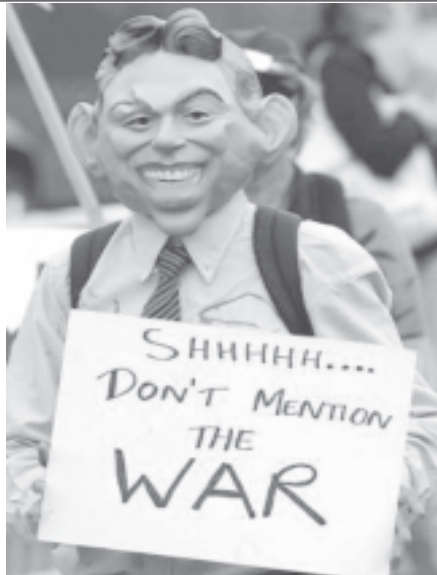
HANOI, 2 Oct—Nearly 200 people in Vietnamese northern province Thai Binh had to receive emergency treatment due to food poisoning on Monday afternoon, local newspaper *Labour* reported Tuesday.

After having a wedding party, all of the patients showed the symptoms of vomiting, stomachache, and lower blood pressure.

By 4 p.m. on Monday, the Thai Binh Province Polyclinic Hospital received more than 50 serious poisoning cases, mostly children and elder people.

MNA/Xinhua

Anti-war protestors demonstrate outside the Bournemouth International Centre as Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair delivers his keynote speech at the Labour Party conference on 30 September 30, 2003. British Prime Minister Tony Blair acknowledged on Tuesday that his support for war in Iraq had divided the nation and the world, but told his ruling Labour Party he had no regrets and would battle on.—INTERNET



Asia Cultural Cooperation Forum ends in HK

HONG KONG, 2 Oct—For Hong Kong to survive and continue to thrive in the 21st Century, it must turn to a creative economy, Hong Kong Secretary for Home Affairs Patrick Ho said at the end of the Asia Cultural Cooperation Forum here Tuesday.

Hong Kong hosted the two-day forum which has attracted cultural leaders in creative industries from Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Taiwan, and Guangdong Province in Chinese Mainland to discuss issues on globalization, regional cooperation and creative industries.

Ho noted that "We must adopt strategies which preserve the most value-added part of the business at home as well as to attract the money earned overseas back to the homeland."

Innovation and creativity become the core concern for the business world as well as governments. We need innovation in technology, creativity in cultural content (that is creative industries),

and in management".

Another strategy is to upgrade the quality of life of the city, such as good public order, healthy environment, rule of law, an attractive arts and culture environment, a creative workforce, and a leisurely and international ambience to attract investors to deposit their wealth here, to draw in creative talents to live here and to bring in tourists to spend money here, Ho added.

Creative industries appeal to the desire, the inspiration and spectacular experience of the consumers and the creative industries function as a tipping point towards a creative economy, which should be pursued consistently and persistently, despite of the ups and downs in the yearly mappings, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

India's DPM lauds govt's economic policies

NEW DELHI, 2 Oct—Deputy Prime Minister of India L K Advani on Tuesday said the relevance of the concept of "Swadeshi" had not changed in the era of liberalization and globalization while foreign investment and technology were welcome where they were needed.

"In recent years, the meaning and applicability of self-reliance has changed because of liberalization and globalization... Nevertheless, self-reliance or the larger concept of Swadeshi has not ceased to have its relevance in the changed situation," he said at the golden jubilee function of Indian Institution of Electronics and Telecom Engineers (IETE).

Advani said, "India of our dreams can be built only by Indians, primarily by using our own natural, human and cultural resources. Foreign investment, foreign technology, foreign management practices, all these are welcome where they are needed, (but) the basic effort has to be our own."

MNA/PTI



Jordan's Queen calls for better security in Iraq to help aid efforts

PARIS, 2 Oct—Jordan's Queen Rania called for improved security in Iraq so that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can provide Iraqi civilians with medical services and other much-needed aid.

"Our main concern is that many of the NGOs that would like to go there to offer their services are unable to do so because of the security situation," Rania told a press conference at the French foreign ministry.

"Of paramount importance is to improve the security situation to allow more workers to go there and provide the Iraqi people with the help that they need," she added Wednesday.

The 33-year-old queen, who was accompanying her husband King Abdullah II on a visit to Paris, broke with protocol to visit the French ministry on her own to thank Paris for contributing to the Global Fund for Children's Vaccines. The fund, created in 2000 by a group of international heavyweights like Microsoft chairman Bill Gates and former South African president Nelson Mandela, seeks to improve the vaccination of children in the developing world. — Internet

Female undergraduates from the Sungkyunwan University of South Korea brandish the ancient bamboo slips in a dance to commemorate the 2,554th anniversary of the birth of Confucius, at Dacheng Hall of the Temple of Confucius at Qufu, east China's Shandong Province, on 28 Sept. 2003.

XINHUA

Military families unhappy with Iraq deployments

WASHINGTON, 2 Oct — Families of some US troops in Iraq, especially those mobilized as military reserves, said on Wednesday they felt betrayed by extended deployments and feared this could weigh heavily on morale in the field.

Relatives are e-mailing Congress to voice frustration, have set up web sites and are writing petitions to demand shorter deployments, a more predictable rotation of troops and fixed homecoming dates.

Families of "weekend warriors" — Army Reserves and National Guard members more accustomed to devoting a weekend a month and two weeks summer training rather than a year in the desert — are particularly bitter by extended call-ups.

"There are single parents, business owners, employees and new fathers in our unit. The reserve system is not designed to supplement the military for such an extended period of time," says a petition set up by families of the 129th Combat HET Transportation Company Reserve Unit in Kansas.

The web site for the petition said Army Reserves families were disillusioned by a decision to keep reservists on the ground

beyond 12 months.

"Morale is absolutely pathetic," said Rachel Trueblood, whose husband, a staff sergeant, is based in Kuwait. "Some of the guys out there are saying 'Let me get out of here, we are sitting out here doing stupid stuff and risking our lives.'"

Trueblood said it was unclear when her husband would be home. "We are meant to be the back-up force not the active one," she said.

A spokesman for the Army Reserves acknowledged some troops were "surprised" by how long they would be deployed but he said morale was high and troops wanted to do their duty.

"The policy is clear. It says boots on the ground for one year," he said. "It possibly could have been communicated a little bit better up front. We want everyone to know that when you mobilize you will spend a year in theatre and that is probably going to mean 14-16 months."

Internet

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A soldier of US Army 101st Airborne Division guards two detained Iraqi men, who allegedly witnessed a bomb in Mosul, 400 kms (250 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 30 September, 2003.—INTERNET

Egypt wants "timetable" to withdraw foreign forces from Iraq

CAIRO, 2 Oct — Egypt wants the US-led coalition in Iraq to set a "timetable" for pulling out its forces, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's advisor Osama al-Baz revealed.

"A timetable should be set to hand power and sovereignty back to the Iraqis," Baz told the Arabic daily *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* while accompanying Mubarak to Abu Dhabi on Monday.

"Our goal is to reduce the duration of the foreign military presence in Iraq to achieve stability," Baz was quoted as saying Wednesday.

"If coalition forces think logically, they will find it in their interest to end their pres-

ence as quickly as possible."

Baz was also interviewed about events in the Palestinian territories and Egyptian politics.

Asked if the United States had asked Egypt to freeze accounts linked to radical Palestinian groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad, Baz replied: "There are no accounts belonging to the two movements in Egypt." When asked if Mubarak's son Gamal, 40, had used the ruling National

Democratic Party convention that ended in Cairo Sunday to launch a campaign to succeed his father, Baz replied: "The subject is not on the agenda."

"Gamal Mubarak is like any other Egyptian citizen and has the right to participate in politics wherever and whenever, including the presidency of the republic," Baz was quoted as saying.

In a closing convention speech, President Mubarak

called for the removal of shackles on political parties and for other steps toward democracy, echoing a message Gamal made at the opening and consolidating his rise in the party.

The younger Mubarak's rise, including his appointment last year to head a powerful party policymaking body, has fuelled speculation he will one day succeed his 75-year-old father. The Mubaraks deny the rumours.—Internet

Chinese Premier meets "Friendship Award" winners

BEIJING, 2 Oct — China welcomes more foreign talented people to come to take part in its construction, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao here Tuesday.

China will improve its laws and regulations to create better working and living conditions for foreign experts, Wen said when meeting 50 foreign experts who won this year's "Friendship Award" presented by the Chinese Government. Extending congratulations, greetings and thanks to the award winners, Wen said that absorbing overseas wisdom and talented people is a vital part of China's drive of opening up and the Chinese Government will take measures to participate in international exchanges of talent.

The "Friendship Award", launched in 1991, is the supreme award the Chinese Government confers annually to those foreign experts who have made outstanding contributions to China's economic and social progress.

MNA/Xinhua

Iraq's Governing Council to reinstate Baathists

BAGHDAD, 2 Oct — The Iraqi Governing Council (IGC) announced Tuesday that it would reoffer jobs for some members of the dissolved Baath Party through case study.

A central committee would be formed in every ministry to examine the application of Baath members working with the former government and dismissed after the downfall of Saddam Hussein's regime, the IGC said in a statement. Those who maintained good records but were fired in the deBaathification movement might be exempted from the dismissal, the statement added. Also on Tuesday, a group of employees of the former Department of Agriculture attached to the Presidential office held a rally outside the headquarters of the US-led Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA).—MNA/Xinhua



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (2nd L) meets with 50 foreign experts who have won this year's "Friendship Award" conferred by the Chinese government in Beijing on 30 September 2003. So far, 716 foreign experts have been awarded the honour.—XINHUA

Assad not concerned of US sights after Iraq

DAMASCUS, 2 Oct — Syrian President Bashar al-Assad slammed the US-led war on Iraq as a "mistake" on Monday and said Damascus was not concerned it might be in US sights for a similar campaign.

Assad, who denies US charges Syria is developing chemical weapons, questioned Washington's policies in Iraq and said US-led forces should withdraw.

"I don't think that the United States would make the same mistake (in Syria) it made in Iraq," Assad told an Italian newspaper on Monday in an interview reported by Syria's state news agency SANA.

"Strong US threats were made against Syria immediately after the war on Iraq, but there was no evidence that a US attack would take place."

A spat between Syria and the United States during the war raised concern in the region that Damascus might be the next target of a US-led military campaign.

Washington, which has been demanding better Syrian cooperation with its Middle East policies, had accused Damascus of allowing anti-US militants to cross the Syrian-Iraqi border to launch attacks

against US troops.

"If we were to be concerned, then our concern would be over the ramifications of the (Iraq) war (on Iraq) and those are the more dangerous ones," Assad said. "This occupation should end... the Iraqis are now wondering when the occupation forces are going to withdraw, and if a deadline is not set they will resist the occupation in a variety of ways."

Asked what he would say to Bush if he met him, Assad said: "I would ask him first where are the Iraqi weapons of mass destruction... and I would ask him where is the democracy in Iraq that they spoke of?"

"Where is the better life that they promised the Iraqis after Saddam Hussein goes?" He said unless Washington set a deadline for withdrawal, Damascus would not play any role in Iraq under "the US umbrella because we will be rejected by the Iraqi people as the Americans are".

MNA/Reuters

Mahathir urges foreign mly industries to form JVs with locals

KUALA LUMPUR, 2 Oct — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad on Tuesday urged the foreign aerial and maritime industries to form strategic partnerships and alliances including joint ventures with local companies.

"At the same time, we hope your participation will also provide a better understanding of our local industrial capabilities and the investment opportunities and incentives provided by us in our desire to make Malaysia a regional hub for manufacturing and marketing activities, for civil and military aerospace and maritime products," Mahathir said when opening the five-day Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition 2003 (LIMA) in Northern part of the country.

LIMA was an excellent platform for exhibitors to market their products to Malaysia and the region, he said, adding it had and would continue to benefit Malaysia and the Asia Pacific Region. —MNA/Xinhua



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations and townselders in Loilem on 1-10-2003. — MNA

If measures are taken independently and without unity, the nation will remain far away from transforming itself into a democratic one

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects regional development tasks in Loilem District

YANGON, 2 Oct — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, arrived at the Government Computer College (Panglong) yesterday morning. Principal of the college Daw Thauung Thauung Nu and teachers welcomed the Prime Minister and party.

First, the principal reported to the Prime Minister on teaching and administrative affairs, background history, location and area, courses, degrees to be con-

ferred, courses for post-graduate diplomas and master's degree, duration of courses and curriculums, number of students and teachers and installation of modern teaching aids of the college, and Naung Ton Construction Co Chairman U Sai Tit Aung, on completion of the main building and left and right teaching halls, and construction tasks. Afterwards, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions.

Next, the principal accepted the cash donation for the college including K 5 million each donated by

Co Ltd U Nay Win Tun and wife Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint of the Special Region-6, Managing Director U Chit Khaing of Eden Group Construction Co, and Shan Yoma Gems Co Ltd, and K 2.5 million by the Chairman of Naung Ton Construction Co.

The Prime Minister and party viewed round the teaching activities in the classrooms and computer rooms.

Later, the Prime Minister and party arrived at the Government Technological College (Panglong). Principal U Min Min Oo of the college and teachers welcomed them. The principal

reported to the Prime Minister and party on teaching and administrative affairs including back-ground history, location and area, strength of teachers and students and courses of the college. The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, the principal of the college accepted the cash donation to the college including K 5 million each donated by Chairman of Ruby Dragon Co Ltd U Nay Win Tun and wife Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint of the Special Region-6, Managing Director U Chit Khaing of Eden Group Construc-

tion Co, and Shan Yoma Gems Co Ltd, and K 2.5 million by the Chairman of Naung Ton Construction Co.

The Prime Minister and party viewed round the teaching and learning activities in the workshop and computer rooms of the college and construction tasks.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party arrived at the 200-bed General Hospital in Loilem. Head of Shan State Health Department Dr Khin Maung Cho, Medical Superintendent Dr Myo Than and physicians welcomed them.

The Prime Minister viewed round the newly opened three-storey building and a three-storey operation theatre under construction.

The medical superintendent of the hospital accepted the cash donation to the hospital including K 5 million each donated by Chairman of Ruby Dragon Co Ltd U Nay Win Tun and wife Daw Nan Aye Aye Myint of the Special Region-6, Managing Director U Chit Khaing of Eden Group Construction Co, and Shan Yoma Gems Co Ltd, and K 2.5 million by the Chairman of Naung Ton Construction Co.

Later, the Prime Minister arrived at the office of Loilem District Union Solidarity and Development As-

sociation and met with executives and members of the district and township associations.

At 9.30 am, the Prime Minister met with members of Loilem District and Township Peace and Development Councils, the district and township level departmental officials, members of social organizations and townselders at the hall of the town and gave instructions.

First, the commander reported to the Prime Minister on climate, land utilization, the area of cultivable land, virgin and vacant land, forest land, cultivation and yield of ten major crops such as paddy, corn, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, black pulse, pigeon pea, Pedisein, long staple cotton, and sugarcane, and 25 kinds of local crops, local rice sufficiency, measures for achieving rice sufficiency, and health and education tasks of the state.

Next, Chairman of Loilem District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myint Tin reported to the Prime Minister on climate, paddy yield, measures for boosting per acre yield, extended cultivation of pulses and beans, industrial crops, kitchen crops, and perennial crops, land reclamation, yield target of winter crops, sufficiency of rice and edible oil of the district.

(See page 10)



The Government Computer College (Panglong) in Loilem, Shan State. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects construction of the annex to the Government Computer College (Panglong) on 1-10-2003. — MNA



The chairman and members chanting slogans at the mass rally to support the State's political roadmap. — MNA



Dignitaries at the mass rally in favour of the seven future policies and programmes of the State. — MNA

National Convention can be...

(from page 16)

Similarly, the government has given priority to evolution of an economic system that enables development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well in the agriculture sector.

Attention has been paid to extension of sown acreage of paddy and all crops as well, using modern agricultural methods, quality strains and water supplying tasks.

The State produced only 654 million baskets of paddy per year when the Tatmadaw government started to take duties of the State. So, growing of monsoon paddy as well as multiple cropping in summer has been encour-

aged with the sole objective to produce 1,000 million baskets of paddy per year. The objective has realized starting 2000-2001.

For water supply tasks, dams and reservoirs, sluice gates and river water pumping projects and underground water tapping projects have been implemented all over the country. During the time of the Tatmadaw government altogether 150 dams have been built. Another 39 projects are under construction and arrangements have been made to implement 84 more projects.

Altogether 257 state-owned factories of small, medium and large sizes have been opened and there are state- and private-owned

51,980 factories in the country. These efforts are made for the country to be a modern, developed and industrialized one. It can be seen that the industrial economic objectives have been achieved.

As regards the rail transportation sector, there are about 3,000 miles of rail-

feet and above have emerged.

In education sector, the number of basic education schools is 40,049, up from 33,747 in 1988. In addition, 3,800 post-primary schools have been opened in rural areas to create opportunities for pursuing middle school education. In the higher edu-

The State Constitution is the lifeblood of a country. There will be no country without a constitution. The stability, development and prosperity of the State rely on how well and properly the State Constitution is drawn up and practised.

road, up from 1,976 in 1988.

As regards the road and bridge sector, there were 13,600 miles of road in 1988. At present 2,000 more miles of road and 55 new roads have been built. Altogether 158 major river-crossing bridges each of which is 180

feet and above have emerged. In education sector, the number of universities and degree colleges is 154, up from 32 in the past.

To provide better health care services, the Institute of Paramedical Sciences has been opened. There were only four institutes of medi-

cine in 1988. The number rises to 14 under the Ministry of Health. These successes have been achieved by overcoming the various sanctions, destructive acts and obstacles imposed by those who do not want the State to prosper. The success has been due to cooperation between the State and the public.

In the third part of his speech on political programme, the Prime Minister said as the Union of Myanmar is made up of over 100 national races, living in unity through thick and thin for years countable by the thousand, the firmness of Union Spirit is of vital importance for national solidarity. Thus, the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of the national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty — based on Union Spirit, has been laid down as the State policy. The instructions of the Prime Minister are the ones to be followed practically as the duty. In accord with the national policy, the four political objectives, the four economic objectives, and the four social objectives, have been laid down in systematically marching towards the State's goal for emergence of a modern and developed nation in the future.

In the four political objectives, the way to build the country has been included clearly. So, emer-

gence of a new firm Constitution is the key to building the future country. The State Constitution is the lifeblood of a country. There will be no country without a constitution. The stability, development and prosperity of the State rely on how well and properly the State Constitution is drawn up and practised.

Famous political scientist Aristotle defined that a constitution is the fundamental law that conferred rightful authority, not just power or force, upon those who hold office of government that the constitution established. In striving for emergence of a new, modern and developed democracy country, establishing of discipline-flourishing democracy system, that does not tarnish the long tradition of the Union, our own national character and dignity, is of paramount importance.

In conclusion, she, on behalf of those present, tabled the motion calling for the entire mass of people to partake in any sectors for the successful implementation of the seven-point future policy of the State with true sense of Union Spirit. Member of the Organizing Committee of Bago Township War Veterans Organization Township Deputy Law Officer U Kyaw Tint seconded the motion tabled by Dr Thin Thin Yee, saying that in his address, the Prime Minister made clarifications on (See page 9)



Bago Division USDA Executive Daw Moe Thu Zar Kyaw acts as master of ceremonies together with Bago Township USDA Reserve Executive Daw Moe Moe Khaing. — MNA



Those in attendance at the mass rally to support the State's seven-point roadmap. — MNA

National Convention can be...

(from page 8)

fruitful results in economy, social affairs and politic sectors thanks to the efforts of the government during the period from the assumption of the Tatmadaw Government to date. No one can deny these facts.

In the agricultural sector of Bago Division, the sown acreage of paddy cultivation was over 1.2 million acres in 1988 and now there are over 1.58 million acres of paddy. There was a single dam of Pynpon in the division before 1988 and now the number of dams has increased reaching up to 20. These dams benefit over 208,900 acres of cultivable land, thereby raising the living standard of local farmers. And many sluice gates and dams are under construction.

With a view to uplifting the economic life based on modern industrial manufacturing process, developing the industries and creating job opportunities in the agricultural sector, the government established the Indagaw Industrial Zone in the division. Now it is manufacturing such import-substitute items as automobile engines, car spare parts and farm machinery. There has been an increase in the number of private factories,

mills and workshops up to 2,581 and it means contribution towards the State's economy as well as more employment opportunities for local people.

The government has built basic transport infrastructures including roads and river-crossing and creek-crossing bridges such as Yangon-Mandalay Six-lane Highway, Bawnatkyi-Zaungtu-Taikkyi Road, Nyaungkhashei-Myitkyo-DaikU Road and many rural roads, which effectively contribute to the emergence of good foundations for economic progress. The division had roads stretching 819 miles in 1988, compared with 963 miles now. The bridges each of which is more than 180 feet long — Bago River crossing bridge, Waw Bridge, Khapaung Bridge, Kadok Bridge, Kawliya Bridge, Pyu Creek Bridge, Swekyin-Madauk Bridge, Ye Nwe Bridge, Baidah Bridge and Kwinchaung Bridge have been inaugurated. In 1988, the division had 2,029 bridges each of which is less than 180 feet in length and now there have been 2,255 ones. Consequently, local people have enjoyed fruitful results of smooth transport and swift flow of commodities.

In the electric power sec-



Columns marching to Bago People's sports ground to attend the mass rally. — MNA

tor, the State built Zaungtu Hydropower Station in Bago Township, diesel-fired power stations at Myitkyo Village in Waw Township and Mone Village in Kyaukkyi Township. And Khapaung, Pyu, Kun,

In the education sector, there were 11,348 teachers and 367,190 students in 1,738 basic education schools in 1988 and now there are 13,524 teachers and 464,354 students in 2,072 schools. Altogether 250 post-

ple in a bid to build up a developed nation. Providing of better health care services for the people reflects the improvement of the social sector of the nation. In the division in 1988, there were a 150-bed hospital, two 50-bed hospitals, four 25-bed hospitals, six 16-bed hospitals, 17 station hospitals, 292 health care centres, two dispensaries and 57 rural health care centres, compared with a nurses training school, a 200-bed hospital, a 150-bed hospital, a 100-bed hospital, two 50-bed hospitals, four 25-bed hospitals, six 16-bed hospitals, 24 station hospitals, 320 rural health centres, three dispensaries and 63 rural health care centres now.

The local people have practically enjoyed these fruits. He expressed his heartfelt thanks to the government for its goodwill.

The people are required to further enhance the development of the whole Union and to strive till realizing the discipline-flourishing democratic system.

Since Myanmar is home to over 100 national races, it is important for them to join hands and to live in high prestige and peace. In the process, the supremacy of constitution is a must. The constitution must assure the interests of the citizens, national races and all walks of life of people. The people are duty-bound for the emergence of an enduring consti-

tution, and to safeguard it.

In conclusion, he resolutely seconded the motion, calling for the participation of the entire mass of people in any sector for the successful implementation of the seven-point roadmap of the State with the full sense of Union Spirit.

Permanent Member of Bago Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Soe Soe of Bago People's Hospital seconded the motion calling for "active participation of the entire national races in realization of the seven-point political roadmap of the State by doing their bit with full Union Spirit".

He said that although Myanmar regained the independence in 1948, she was subjected to the internal insurgency, the evil legacy of the colonialists, which occurred together with the independence. When the Tatmadaw had to unavoidably assume the State duties on 18 September 1988, the security of the State was in the lowest position.

The armed insurgents launched the major attacks such as Mongyan and Methawaw battles on the government. Meanwhile, various internal groups in the name of democratic forces staged unrest and created anarchic acts leading to brutally killing one another. At the same time, some big nations under the

(See page 10)

Efforts are to be made to maintain the development momentum of Bago Division as well as the nation and simultaneously to keep on building up a discipline-flourishing country which can assure the national solidarity.

Thaukyaykhat, Pathi, Bawkahta, Ye Nwe and Shwekyin hydel-power plants are under construction. On completion of these projects, 637 more megawatts can be supplied to the region.

primary schools have been opened in the rural areas of the division.

Regarding the health sector, it is mainly needed not only to promote the education standard but to uplift the health and fitness of the peo-



Those in attendance at the mass rally to support the State's future policies and programmes. — MNA





The mass rally to support the State's seven-point roadmap, organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association, in progress at the sports ground in Bago, Bago Division. — MNA

National Convention can be...

(from page 9)

pretext of democracy meddled in the internal affairs of the State. The Tatmadaw, after its assumption of the national duties, had to restore peace and tranquillity in the nation first. The 17 national race armed groups, after realizing the genuine goodwill of the government, returned to the legal fold and are actively participating in the nation-building endeavours. Unprecedented progress has been made since the government and the national race groups, who returned to the legal fold, have been making efforts based on mutual trust and understanding for the national development.

The Tatmadaw government has laid down projects for development of border

areas and national races, and is implementing them with added momentum while striving for prevalence of peace and tranquillity in the nation. As priority is being given to development of border areas and national races, the new ministry related to development of border areas and national races emerged. Since then, task for development of border areas and national races is meeting with success.

In addition, the government has laid down the 24 development zones and the five rural development tasks, and work is well under way to bring about harmonious development across the nation.

Under the five rural development tasks, measures for development of health,

education, transport and economic sectors are being undertaken right down to grassroots level. In view of those endeavours, it is obvious that the government is making all-out efforts in the interest of the national people.

Unprecedented peace and tranquillity prevails in the na-

tional Convention in 1992.

The National Convention is the meeting in which the basic principles are to be discussed and searched to be able to draw a constitution in shaping the democratic nation. Successful holding of the National Convention and the emergence of a new

The National Convention is the meeting in which the basic principles are to be discussed and searched for to be able to draw a constitution in shaping the democratic nation. Successful holding of the National Convention and the emergence of a new enduring constitution is of paramount importance for the nation.

tion and the socio-economic life of the national people improves in all spheres.

At a time when peace and tranquillity prevails in the nation and the government has been able to forge the national solidarity to a certain extent, arrangements were made for convening the Na-

enduring constitution is of paramount importance for the nation. Only when the National Convention is meeting with success could the constitution be drawn with the use of the basic principles laid down by the National Convention.

The seven-point

roadmap clarified by the Prime Minister is politically important work programmes for the State. Thus, they are to be implemented successfully phase by phase. It is for the emergence of a nation with discipline-flourishing democracy.

A new constitution that could guarantee all the national people to be able to live in the Union through thick and thin for years countable by the thousand is specially required.

Therefore, I would like to urge the entire national people to make concerted and collective efforts in the interest of the State.

In conclusion, I enthusiastically second the motion tabled by Dr Daw Thin Thin Yi calling for "active participation of the entire national people in realization of the seven-point political

roadmap of the State by doing their bit with full Union Spirit".

Afterwards, the chairman sought the approval of the mass rally concerning the motion calling for active participation of the entire national people by doing their bit for the successful implementation of the seven future policies and programmes tabled by Daw Thin Thin Yi and seconded by U Kyaw Tint and Dr Soe Soe, on behalf of the public.

Next, the master of ceremonies announced the resolution of the mass rally calling for active participation of the entire national people by doing their bit for successful implementation of the seven policies and programmes.

The mass rally concluded with chanting of the slogans.

MNA

If measures are taken...

(from page 7)

Afterwards, the Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements and made a speech.

In his speech, the Prime Minister said the officials, departmental heads and I arrive here to fulfil the requirements for development of Loilem District. We have toured the district to meet officials concerned and fulfil the needs in agriculture, electricity, economic, education, health and social sectors in the district, and now meet departmental officials, townsenders, social organi-

zation members and local people here today.

The government, laying down policies and objectives, has been making efforts for agriculture, industry, economic, education, health, social sectors. It is needed for the officials at different levels to realize and implement the objectives and policies successfully in agriculture, education, health and other sectors.

As regards the agriculture sector, the State has already set targets for boosting production of respective

major crops. Departmental officials, are to go down to the grassroots levels to educate and organize farmers for successful implementation of the tasks. The departmental officials are to organize growing of marketable crops instead of conventional crops in the interests of the farmers using quality strains and advanced methods by rendering assistance to the farmers.

In the district, the Darseik river water pumping project in Langkho Township is being implemented for extension of sown acreage for lo-

cal rice sufficiency. The other day, I arrived there and fulfilled requirements and assigned duties on survey tasks and land reclamation to officials concerned.

To be able to supply enough electricity in the district, the State, spending a large sum of money, is implementing Kengtwang hydro-electric power project to be completed by 2006. On completion, 24-hour electricity can be distributed to 11 townships in the district and surplus electricity to the national grid.

Industries on a manage-

able scale and cottage industries in the district will develop if there is enough supply of electric power. So, it is sure that the socio-economy of the region will improve.

At a time when the State has given priority to development of the district, service personnel in the district are to deal with the people at the grassroots level in discharging duties of the State for rapid implementation of the project. In this way, real condition of the people and their desire will be known and the projects will be im-

plemented effectively and systematically in accordance with the policies of the State.

All officials concerned are striving day and night for development of the State by laying down policies and projects. State, division, district and township level officials are to make relentless efforts for the country to be able to keep abreast of the others.

Nowadays, the government has declared firm national goals and future political programmes to the international community and is implementing them.

In implementing the future programmes of the State, efforts are to be made for strengthening the national economy and for fulfilling clothing, food and shelter needs of the citizens. At the same time, it is needed to strive for development of human resources that is needed for development of the State.

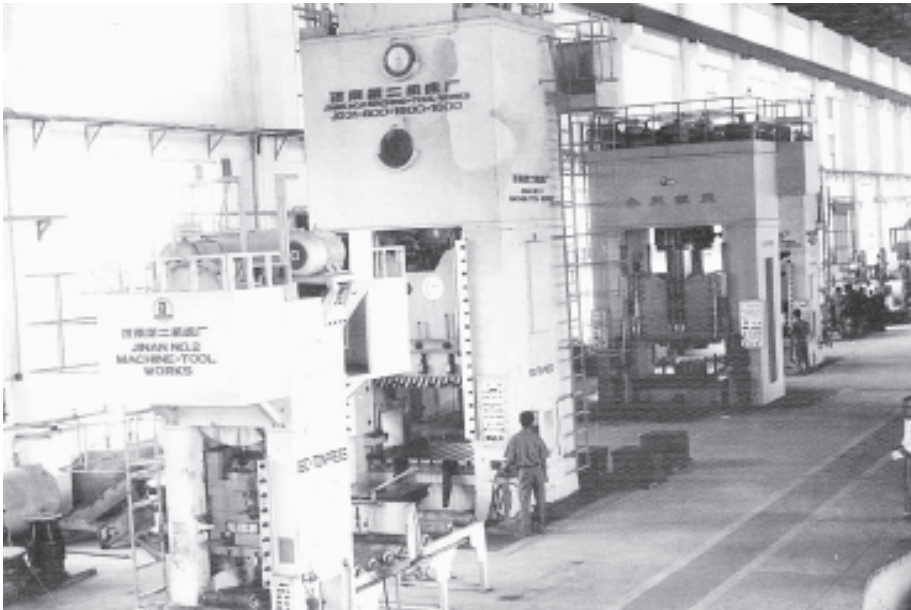
The government has been taking measures for elevating the education sector of the nation with a view to bringing about highly-qualified new generations equipped with correct views and concepts for only when the citizens are highly-educated, can they possess correct views on and concept of everything.

(See page 15)



The Government Technological College (Panglong) in Loilem, Shan State. — MNA

Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

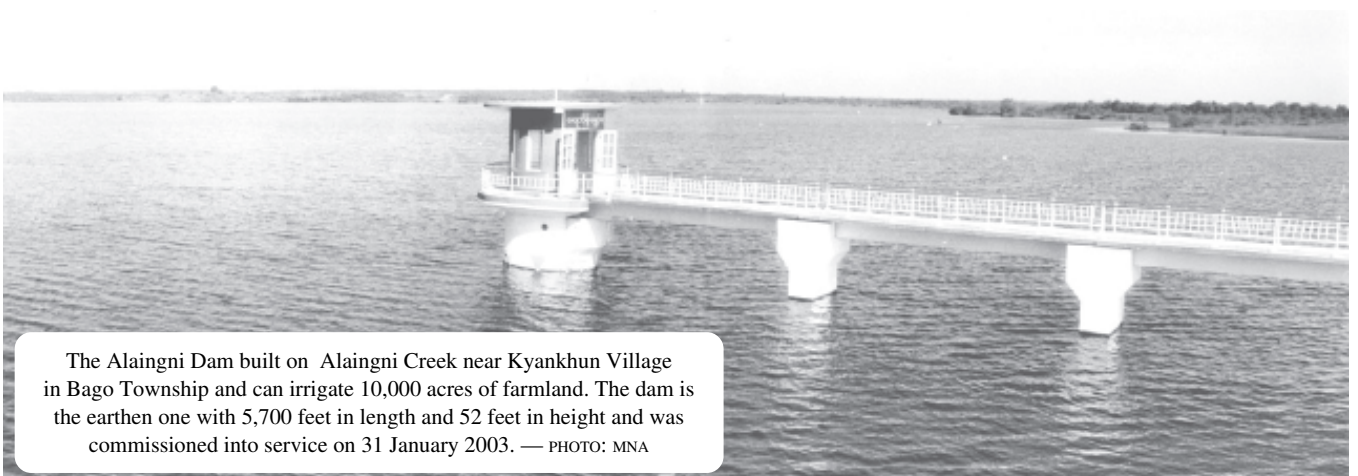


The government is making efforts for industrial development based on agriculture. The photo shows the Discwheel Workshop of the Ministry of Industry-2 in Indagaw Industrial region, Bago Division. The workshop produces 34,500 discwheels every year to fulfil the domestic needs.— PHOTO: INDUSTRY-2



The 1,500-foot long Sittoung Bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk) bridge spanning the Sittoung River is linking Shwekyin and Madauk. The bridge is the third biggest one after Nawaday and Myitmakha Bridges among the bridges built in Bago Division since 1988. It was inaugurated on 11-2-2003.—

PHOTO: MNA



The Alaingni Dam built on Alaingni Creek near Kyankhun Village in Bago Township and can irrigate 10,000 acres of farmland. The dam is the earthen one with 5,700 feet in length and 52 feet in height and was commissioned into service on 31 January 2003. — PHOTO: MNA

"People's Daily" editorial marks National Day

BEIJING, 2 Oct — The *People's Daily*, China's leading newspaper, is to publish an editorial Wednesday celebrating the 54th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

This year marks the beginning of China's efforts to build an affluent society in an all-round way, says the editorial headlined "Building An Affluent Society in An All-round Way with Full Confidence." Faced with the challenges of a complicated international situation, the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak, and drought, flood and other natural disasters, the Chinese people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee with Hu Jintao as the general secretary, conquered SARS and maintained rapid economic growth, the editorial says.

The grandiose goal of building an affluent society in an all-round way reflects the common will of the Party and the people, and the fundamental interests of most Chinese people, it says. Underlining economic development, the editorial says China will stick to the policy of expanding domestic demand and carry out the proactive financial policies and stable currency policy. The editorial puts stress on balanced, comprehensive and sustainable development, calling for harmony between humans and nature. The CPC and the government, serving the public unselfishly, will work to create job opportunities and increase the peasants' income as much as they can, the editorial says. The editorial calls on the whole nation to fight against formalism, bureaucracy, falsification and squandering in the country's construction, and to create a happy life and bright future with full confidence. — MNA/Xinhua



Thousands of holidaymakers flock along the historic Bund district to celebrate National Day, in Shanghai on 1 October, 2003. China is enjoying a week-long National Day holiday to commemorate the 54th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on 1 October. — INTERNET

Beijing, Hong Kong urged for improved medical exchange

BEIJING, 2 Oct — Gu Xiulian, vice-chairwoman of China's top legislature, Monday called for enhanced medical and health exchanges between Beijing and Hong Kong.

During a meeting with a delegation of health and medical officials and experts from Hong Kong, Gu, vice-chairwoman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, spoke highly of the performance of the medical and health workers in Hong Kong during the fight against SARS earlier this year.

She called on the health and medical circles in Hong Kong to continue their support for the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region headed by Tung Chee-hwa in their administration according to law, and contribute to prosperity and stability in the region.

The delegation is in Beijing at the invitation of the Beijing Municipal Government for exchanges on SARS.

MNA/Xinhua

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Efficient use of electricity

- * Use daylight as the main source of light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- * Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- * Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

- * Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- * Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- * The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

160,000 said dying yearly from global warming

MOSCOW, 2 Oct — About 160,000 people die every year from side-effects of global warming ranging from malaria to malnutrition and the numbers could almost double by 2020, a group of scientists said on Tuesday.

The study, by scientists at the World Health Organization (WHO) and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, said children in developing nations seemed most vulnerable.

"We estimate that climate change may already be causing in the region of 160,000 deaths...a year," Professor Andrew Haines of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine told a climate change conference in Moscow.

"The disease burden caused by climate change could almost double by 2020," he added, even taking account of factors like improvements in health care. He said the estimates had not been previously published. — MNA/Reuters



Two Air France airplanes are parked at the Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, France, on 30 Sept, 2003. Air France agreed to merge with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines on Monday. The move will result in the creation of Europe's leading airline group.

XINHUA

DHAKA, 2 Oct — An estimated 0.24 million women suffer from obstetric fistula every year in Bangladesh, reported the official *Bangladesh News Agency* on Monday.

This was revealed at a workshop held here on Monday by Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) of Bangladesh and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) as part of their joint efforts to develop a set of doctors to deal with the disease.

Obstetric fistula is one of the worst form of pregnancy related problems. It is generally caused by wounds during delivery, and the incidence of this disease is very high among girls in the rural areas of the country as they are married off in their teens. — MNA/Xinhua

Many Bangladesh women suffer from obstetric fistula

All this needs to be known

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



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



Salas ready to return for River Plate

BUENOS AIRES, 2 Oct—Chilean striker Marcelo Salas, who has been sidelined for one month with a thigh strain, said on Tuesday that he was ready to return to action for Argentine champions River Plate.

River, who have picked up a paltry six points in as many games, are looking from some inspiration from Salas to lift them up the table. They are away to Arsenal on Wednesday night.

"I hope to play," Salas said.

"I feel well and I can play the 90 minutes."

Salas, who made his name with River during the 1990s, rejoined the club at the start of this season from Italy's Juventus.

"We've got to try and win all the games that are left," Salas said. "We must not think that the championship is over."

Salas' injury also kept him out of Chile's opening two matches in the qualifying competition for the 2006 World Cup.

MNA/Reuters



Anderlecht's Ivica Mornar (L) is challenged by Bayern Munich's Bixente Lizarazu (R) during their Champions League soccer match in Brussels.

INTERNET

Former Colombia coach increases pressure on Maturana

BOGOTA, 2 Oct—Colombia coach Francisco Maturana should resign if his team do not pick up at least four points from their next two World Cup qualifiers, his predecessor Luis Augusto Garcia said Tuesday.

Colombia lost their first two qualifiers for the 2006 World Cup as they went down 2-1 at home to Brazil and 4-0 away to Bolivia earlier this month.

Although they have 16 more games to play, starting with home matches against Argentina and Venezuela in November, the heat is already on Maturana who was reappointed after Garcia himself was fired halfway during the qualifiers for the 2002 World Cup. "He has to overcome what has happened," Garcia, currently coach of provincial club Tolima, told a television programme. "I think four points will save the year. Otherwise, it will be very difficult."—MNA/Reuters

Besiktas stun Chelsea with Sergen double

LONDON, 2 Oct—Two goals in five first-half minutes from midfielder playmaker Sergen Yalcin earned Turkish champions Besiktas a surprise 2-0 win over Chelsea on Wednesday.

Besiktas had never won a Champions League match away from home and before Wednesday Chelsea had lost only one European match out of 40 played at Stamford Bridge.

The multimillion-dollar home side had most of the possession, the majority of the good moves and the advantage of an extra man for most of the second half but could not finish.

Besiktas, on the other hand, capitalized on the two chances they earned by putting a nervy Chelsea defence in disarray in the first half of the Group G encounter.

The Turkish side caught Chelsea unawares with a fast free kick on the left in the 24th minute, taking advantage of an unguarded moment just after hobbling defender Celestine Babayaro was substituted by Wayne Bridge.—MNA/Reuters

Solari goal highlight of Real's win over Porto

OPORTO (Portugal), 2 Oct—Real Madrid overcame a bad start and the absence of injured David Beckham to score a comprehensive 3-1 victory over Porto in Group F of the Champions League on Wednesday.

It was Real's ninth victory in 11 matches against their Iberian rivals dating back to 1979 but more importantly maintained their winning start to a group they lead with six points after beating Olympique Marseille two weeks ago. Marseille (3 points), Porto (1) and Partizan Belgrade (1) now all seem to be playing for the second spot and a place in the knockout phase.

Though they won comfortably in the end, with goals from Ivan Helguera (28), Santiago Solari (37) and a volley from Zinedine Zidane (66), Real conceded an early goal on a wet and windy night at a Das Antas stadium where the locals obviously preferred to watch the match on television at home.

There were rows of empty seats and a crowd of just 37,000 to see their Spanish rivals — but those that did make the effort were treated to an exciting match which Porto started far better and at times threatened to dominate.

It took Porto — playing without skipper

Jorge Costa, injured in training on Monday and injured midfielder Dimitri Alenitchev — just seven minutes to take the lead.

Costinha headed a rebound past Real goalkeeper Ilker Casillas after the Spanish goalkeeper had flapped at a glancing header from Derlei.

Porto, with their Brazilian playmaker Deco orchestrating some good attacking play, then went close to making it 2-0 after 25 minutes when Derlei slid in on a Deco cross — only for Casillas to make a fine save for a corner.

That appeared to spark Real into life as Zidane began to find space and colleagues in midfield and Luis Figo began to provide some accurate crosses from the right.

Skipper Guti, who had an impressive match also began to cajole his men to improve — and it worked.

After being outplayed for most of the opening period, Real equalized against the run of play when Ivan Helguera headed home a cross from Solari after 28 minutes.

MNA/Reuters

Stuttgart shock Man Utd with quick double strike

STUTTGART (Germany), 2 Oct—Bundesliga leaders VfB Stuttgart scored twice in quick succession early in the second half on their way to a deserved 2-1 victory over Manchester United in the Champions League on Wednesday.

Hungarian striker Imre Szabics caught the United defence off guard to open the scoring with a low drive from outside the box on 50 minutes and Germany forward Kevin Kuranyi beat an advanced Tim Howard by slotting the ball under the bar from the edge of the box to double the advantage two minutes later.

The visitors pulled one back with a 67th-minute penalty by Dutch striker Ruud van Nistelrooy, who made headlines with his third penalty miss of the season against Arsenal at Old Trafford 10 days ago but got it right this time.

Goalkeeper Howard then made sure Manchester United escaped further punishment with a superb save from a penalty by defender Fernando Meira with 10 minutes remaining.

Stuttgart, who had started their campaign in Group E with a 2-1 defeat by Rangers at Ibrox, bounced back to suggest they could also make an impact in Europe

after taking the Bundesliga by storm.

Last season's surprise runners-up are the only side yet to lose a match and concede a goal seven games into the German championship.

Stuttgart took the game to United, who had opened their campaign with a 5-0 drubbing of Panathinaikos, from the start with Philipp Lahm and Alexander Gleb making penetrating runs.

Felix Magath's side threatened in the sixth minute with an effort from midfielder Jurica Vranjes that went wide and kept pushing after that.

The best chance of a tight, entertaining first half fell to Kuranyi but his header flew just over the crossbar in the 23rd minute.

Manchester United's danger man van Nistelrooy was kept under close control by central defenders Meira and Marcelo Bordon and showed little apart from his penalty.

MNA/Reuters

Champions Milan escape with 0-0 draw at Celta

VIGO (Spain), 2 Oct—European champions AC Milan were outplayed for long periods and were fortunate to escape with a 0-0 draw against Celta Vigo in an absorbing Group H encounter on Wednesday.

Champions League debutants Celta were clearly not intimidated by the more experienced Italians as they took charge in the opening minutes and proceeded to boss the midfield throughout at the Balaidos stadium.

Milan hardly had a shot on goal during the 90 minutes while the Galicians created a string of good opportunities but were unable to add the finishing touch to their promising approach play.

Both coaches made changes in the second half, Celta sending on striker Savo Milosevic and Milan with the introduction of forwards Filippo Inzaghi and Rivaldo, but neither side proved capable of breaking the deadlock.

Milan, though, will have been happier with a point that keeps them top of the group on four points from two games, while after consecutive draws Celta have now fallen

behind Ajax, who beat Club Bruges 2-0, in the standings.

A high tempo start featured some slick passing moves from both sides in midfield.

Celta midfielder Juanfran, who had an outstanding game, made good ground on the left in the opening minute before spinning a fine cross into the area, but Alexander Mostovoi was unable to get any direction on his header.

Milan's first real chance came in the 12th minute when striker Andriy Shevchenko clipped a dangerous cross into the heart of the area, but Celta keeper Jose Manuel Pinto just managed to tip the ball away from the head of the waiting Serginho. Celta maintained their ambitious approach with Juanfran and Mostovoi pressing forward from midfield, but the Galicians lacked the vital sting when it came to finishing.

MNA/Reuters

Inzaghi leads Lazio comeback against Sparta

ROME, 2 Oct—Striker Simone Inzaghi scored twice to lead Lazio's second-half fightback in a 2-2 draw with Sparta Prague in the Champions League on Wednesday. Their recovery from two goals down put them top of Group G with four points after Besiktas stunned Chelsea by beating them 2-0 at Stamford Bridge to leave those teams on three points.

Sparta are bottom with just one point after two games. Lazio began brightly and had a chance to take the lead against Sparta when a loose ball from a corner fell to Massimo Oddo six metres out, but the Italy defender poked his effort straight at visiting goalkeeper Jaromir Blazek.—MNA/Reuters



PSV Eindhoven's Korean player Ji-Sung Park, right, jumps for a high ball with Deportivo de La Coruna's defender Manuel Pablo Garcia during a Champions League group C soccer match in La Coruna, Spain, on 30 September, 2003.—INTERNET



Pro-rector U Kyaw Myint Oo presides over the mass rally together with members. — MNA

National Convention can be able ...

(from page 1)

We all want to see Myanmar catching up with other nations in terms of de-



Specialist Dr Daw Thin Yee tables the motion. — MNA



Township Deputy Law Officer U Kyaw Tint seconds the motion. — MNA



Dr Soe Soe seconds the motion. — MNA

velopment, the national economy firmly developing and the rise in the social standard of the people. Hence, we will have to strive for achieving peace, prosperity and progress in the nation, and promote and propagate the spirit of national unity and Union Spirit, the main pillars for perpetuation of the Union.

Peace and stability, economic development, national unity, and perpetuation of the Union are matters that are not only interlinked but are also mutually reinforcing.

We all know that in 1988, the rule of law and peace and stability were destroyed, and the nation nearly lost her independence. Because of the unavoidable situation, the Tatmadaw has to take over the State duties. Since assumption of the State duties, it has restored the national peace and stability, and launched the national development and modernization drive. I hereby reiterate that we all heartily welcome the Prime Minister's address as it is the task to be undertaken without fail.

In his address, the Prime Minister explained the different stages of the future programme based on the hard facts of the past and the present developments. The different stages of the future programmes are:

- (1) - Reconvening of the National Convention that has been adjourned since 1996.
- (2) - After the successful

holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of a genuine and discipline-flourishing democratic system.

- (3) - Drafting of a new constitution in accordance with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.
- (4) - Adoption of the constitution through national referendum.
- (5) - Holding of free and fair elections for Pyithu Hluttaws (Legislative bodies) according to the new constitution.
- (6) - Convening of Hluttaws attended by Hluttaw members in accordance with the new constitution.
- (7) - Building a modern, developed and democratic nation by the state leaders elected by the Hluttaw; and the government and other central organs formed by the Hluttaw.

There are two main factors in the seven stages, and they are:

The reconvening of the National Convention; and the emergence of a constitution.

The National Convention, which is of vital importance for the nation was convened from 1993 to 1996. But due to the act of placing the attitude and wishes of an individual and the interests

of own party above the national cause, and carrying out a plan aimed at destroying the National Convention, it has been adjourned since 31 March 1996.

Reconvening of the National Convention is the most basic and important task. Only the National Convention can be able to lay down basic principles to draft a constitution that is the lifeblood of the nation. A special requirement is that the new constitution must be free from the weaknesses of the past constitutions, and that it must be an enduring one.

The future constitution must be the one that does not effect the fine historical traditions of the Union; that does not tarnish the national prestige and integrity of our people and nation; and that does not harm the national characteristics of our people.

In his message sent to the 46th Anniversary Union Day celebrations on 12 February 1993, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe stated the fact concerning Union Spirit as follows:

"As various national

Only the National Convention can be able to lay down basic principles to draft a constitution that is the lifeblood of the nation.

racies are living in the Union of Myanmar, like the saying, which goes, "A hundred fruits from the same stalk", although their languages, traditions and cultures and social systems may have seemingly differences in form, but in essence, the eth-

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

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nic races are like the fruits that come out from the same stalk that is the source based on the Union blood and Union Spirit."

In conclusion, I would like to urge the entire people of the nation through the mass attending today's meeting, all the national races of the Union will have to actively and energetically strive for the success of the seven stages of the future political programme clari-

people to partake in any sector for the successful implementation of the seven-point future policy of the State with true sense of Union Spirit.

She said as presented by the chairman, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt made a significant and important nation-building speech on 30 August. The Tatmadaw government, while building up the factories, workshops and economic infrastructures which were in ruin, has built development infrastructures such as river and creek crossing bridges, dams and reservoirs, colleges and hospitals all over the country. As regards the national economic policy, the market-oriented economic system that places emphasis on the private sector has been introduced to implement national economic projects.

(See page 8)



Those in attendance chanting slogans at the mass rally in support of the State's seven future policies and programmes. — MNA