

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Thursday, 3 February 2005

Nationalities have lived together through thick and thin

The nationalities who had descended from the same ancestors have lived together through thick and thin in this country. For thousands of years all our nationals have lived together as equal citizens from the moment of their birth.

All our nationals have the same virtues of truthfulness, honesty, uprightness and straightforwardness, of being hospitable, generous, considerate and sincere. These are in fact our national characteristics.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From the address delivered at the graduation parade of 47th Intake of Defence Services Academy)



Thai Supreme Commander concludes visit

YANGON, 1 Feb—Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand General Chaisit Shinawatra and party left here for home this morning after completion of an official visit to Myanmar. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar

(See page 6)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye bids farewell to Royal Thai Armed Forces Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra at the airport. — MNA

IDC doing utmost for development of private industries

Industrial Development Committee holds Meeting No 1/2005

YANGON, 2 Feb—The Industrial Development Committee held coordination meeting No 1/2005 at the Ministry of Industry-1 on Kaba Aye Pagoda

Road here yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Committee Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Committee ministers and the mayor, members of the

(See page 6)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win addresses coordination meeting No 1/2005 of Industrial Development Committee. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 3 February, 2005

Unitedly work for achievement of our national goal

Political, economic and social situations of the present-day Myanmar is far better than those in 1988 and before. It is because the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw have been working together in concert.

The Government has been systematically implementing the national plans to reach our national goal — the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Moreover, a committee for special projects implementation has been formed to meet the requirements sector-wise and region-wise.

For regional development, border area development work, 24-region development work and five rural development tasks are being carried out. As a result, rural areas as well as urban areas are developing harmoniously.

For the development of agriculture, the biggest sector of the State, new dams and river water pumping stations are being built wherever necessary. Moreover, to meet the electricity needs of the people and developing industries, plans for heavy and medium electric power stations are being implemented.

To improve transport, new motor roads including those linking village and village, railroads, river-crossing bridges and airports are being built. To raise the standard of the education sector important for human resource development, the 30-year national education promotion plan is being implemented.

And at the same time, basic education schools, universities and colleges are being built in each and every state and division to open opportunities for youths to pursue basic education as well as higher education.

In the health sector also, medical institutions including hospitals installed with modern equipment are being constructed to provide better and wider health care service to all those living in rural, urban and border areas.

The government is taking all these constructive measures to lay foundations for a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy.

Therefore, we would like to call on the entire people living in the Union to work together with the government to translate our national goal for the emergence of a new nation into reality.



CASH DONATED: Under the patronage of Chan Gim Sein, Daw Gim Kwan, David Chan, Chan Tian Hwa, Saw Choo and Pick Choo donated K 300,000 to the funds of Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Photo shows wellwishers presenting the donation to Administration Board Chairman U Maung Tin. — H

People's Desire

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

MINISTER RECEIVES

GUESTS: Industry-1

Minister U Aung

Thaung receives

Chairman of Acrus Co

of Russian Federation

Mr Kirill A Neklyudov

and party at his office

on 2-2-2005.

INDUSTRY-1



EP Minister inspects Yeywa Hydro-electric Power Project

YANGON, 2 Feb — Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, accompanied by Director-General of the Hydro-electric Power Department U Win Kyaw and officials, arrived at Yeywa Hydrel Electric Project site being implemented in Kyaukse Township, on 31 January and inspected fixing the valves at the diversion tunnel, constructing the foundation of the main dam, construction of the retaining walls, building the hydro-electric power plant and construction tasks of reinforced concrete mixer. The minister

gave instructions on meeting the set standard, minimizing loss and wastage and proper use and maintenance of heavy machinery.

Afterwards, the minister and party proceeded to the quarry and inspected construction of the tarred road to Yeywa Project.

Next, the Minister and party arrived at Shwesayan Sub-power Station in Patheingyi. The Minister gave instructions on earlier completion of the tasks than the scheduled time. — MNA



BABY SHOW CONTEST: South Okkalapa Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association organized Union Day commemorative baby show contest in the township on 2-2-2005.

Yangon Division MCWA Supervisory Committee Chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay presents gift to a winner.

YGN COMMAND

Tatmadaw Medical Conference 9-11 Feb

YANGON, 2 Feb — The 13th Myanmar Tatmadaw Medical Conference will be held at Defence Services Orthopaedic & Reconstructive Surgery Hospital (500-bed) in Mingaladon from 9 to 11 February.

Physicians, house surgeons, cadets of Defence Services Medical Academy, nursing cadets and other interested persons wishing to attend the conference may contact the Academic director of DSMA (Tel; 03135063), the record officer of 1,000-bed Defence Services General Hospital (Tel; 03135079), the record officer of 500-bed No 2 Military Hospital (Tel; 03131253) or the record officer of 500-bed DSORSH (Tel; 03135109) beginning 1 February to the date before the start of the conference. — MNA

UMFCCI President meets Israeli Ambassador

YANGON, 1 Feb — President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing met Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ruth Schatz at the UMFCCI Building yesterday morning. At the meeting, enhancement for exchange of economic information between the two countries, pro-

Respects to be paid to teachers of Union High School

YANGON, 2 Feb — A ceremony of paying respects to the old teachers will be held by the old students of former Union High School at Eighth Mile, Mayangon Township, at No 24D on 106th Street in Mingala Taungnyunt at 1 pm on 12 February.

The old teachers and old students are to attend without fail and those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact to Col Ba Hein (Retd), Tel-558695, Maj Maung Thein (Retd), Tel-572015, U Ba Nyunt Oo, Tel-684761, U Tun Myint, Tel-056-21473, U Aye Pe Tel-371659, Dr Aye Pe, Tel-642155 and U Win Kyi, Tel-573198. — MNA

All this needs to be known

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

viding assistance on economic technologies concerning agricultural service, sending private entrepreneurs to Israel for studing and joining training courses, exchange of trade delegations and their participation in trade fairs were cordially discussed. — MNA

Indonesia, Japan FTA to boost ASEAN-Japan free trade

JAKARTA, 1 Feb— “The bilateral trade agreement (between Indonesia and Japan) would accelerate the trade process in establishing ASEAN-Japan FTA,” the Ministry of Trade’s director general for international cooperation Pos Hutabarat was quoted Tuesday by *The Jakarta Post* newspaper as saying.

Officials from both countries met here Monday to hold preliminary talks on bilateral FTA, whereas the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is scheduled in April to start trade liberalization talks with Japan.

Monday’s meeting discussed, among other things, the cost and benefits of establishing an Indonesia-Japan FTA, Pos said, adding that he has yet to make a formal calculation on how the FTA would boost trade between the two countries. The meeting is the first of three scheduled sets of talks ahead of formal negotiations for a preferential trade agreement. The preliminary talks will produce a full-scale assessment on FTA in mid-April to be submitted to relevant ministers of the two countries, Pos said.

Afterward, the ministers will

determine whether or not an Indonesia-Japan FTA is needed, and if it is deemed necessary, they will decide when negotiations will start, he explained.

The meeting is expected to explore import duties, labour regulations, immigration, taxation, trade facilitation and investment issues in both countries.

A bilateral trade agreement is considered a faster measure in liberalizing trade between nations compared to deals involving more than two countries. According to Pos, neighbouring countries are ahead of Indonesia in establishing FTAs with Japan. Singapore and the Philippines have already signed such agreements, but only the city-state has implemented the deal as the Philippines is still straightening out several technical details.—MNA/Xinhua



Japan’s electronics giant Sharp unveils the world’s largest 65-inch sized LCD television set Aquos last October in Tokyo. Sharp said it posted record sales and profits in the nine months to December on continued robust demand for liquid crystal display (LCD) televisions and camera-equipped cellphones, despite slower exports.—INTERNET

Indonesia reports increase in natural gas reserves

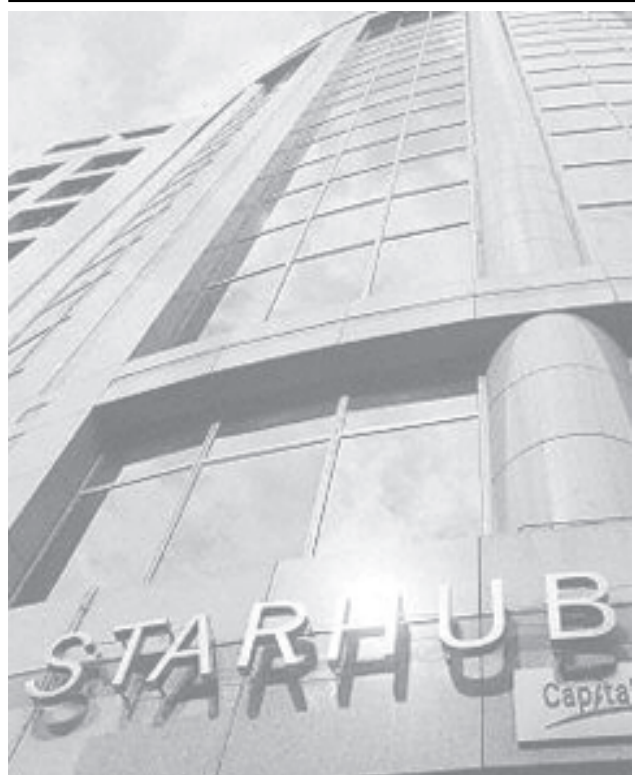
JAKARTA, 1 Feb— Indonesia’s natural gas reserves have risen by 7.45 trillion standard cubic feet (TCF) thanks to new reserves found in either new sites or existing fields, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has revealed.

The ministry’s director of natural gas Novian Thaib was quoted Monday by *The Jakarta Post* newspaper as saying that the new findings were discovered during exploration operations in a number of fields across the country. “With the new findings, gas reserves in the country stand at 188.34 TCF,” Novian said.

However, he fell short of providing details as to which fields have additional reserves, saying the data is still being drawn up by the ministry.

Separately, the oil and gas upstream regulatory agency (BP Migas) deputy director Zanial Achmad said that among the revised reserves is the Masela field in Maluku Province, currently operated by Japanese company Inpex Corporation.

“It is not a new gas field, but we have found substantial additional reserves other than that which we certified,” he said.—MNA/Xinhua



StarHub headquarters in Singapore. StarHub and NTT DoCoMo announced they will launch high-speed Japanese company’s Internet ‘i-mode’ mobile phone service here by the fourth quarter of this year.—INTERNET

Philippines to prepare for illegal workers deportation from Malaysia

MANILA, 1 Feb— The Philippine Government has deployed a repatriation task force to Malaysia to prepare for the mass deportation of some 500,000 illegal Filipino workers from Sabah, eastern Malaysia, on Tuesday.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Jose Brillantes said on Monday that former Philippine lawmaker Nur Jaafar was designated as special representative to Kuala Lumpur and head of the inter-agency task force contacting Malaysian officials for the possibility of a one-month extension of amnesty for those illegal Filipino workers.

Brillantes said that the Philippine Government will give an “orderly repatriation of all undocumented migrants in Malaysia upon the expiration of the amnesty programme”.

“All measures are now in place in order to ensure that all Filipinos are going to be received properly. The government has adequately prepared for this and has come up with measures to anticipate the expected influx of Filipinos in Malaysia,” Brillantes said.

He also said that those who will be deported could go back to Sabah provided that they have the necessary work permits and travel documents.

Most of the Filipinos working without permits in Malaysia are from the poor areas of Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi.—MNA/Xinhua

1,434 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 1 Feb—As of Tuesday, 1 February, 2005, at least 1,434 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,096 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said.

The AP count includes four military civilians and is three higher than the Defence Department’s tally, last updated at 10 am EST Tuesday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the

Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,296 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at

least 987 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 10,770 US servicemembers have been wounded in hostile action, according to a Defence Department tally released Tuesday.—Internet

HKUST, USTB strengthen ties

HONG KONG, 1 Feb — The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) and the University of Science and Technology Beijing (USTB) on Monday signed an agreement to promote academic exchange and research collaboration.

HKUST President Paul Chu and USTB President Xu Jinwu sealed the agreement at a ceremony held at HKUST.

Under the agreement, HKUST and USTB will collaborate in teaching and research in various fields, including materials science and engineering, mechanical engineering, computer science and engineering, electronic engineering, civil and environmental engineering, chemical engineering and bio-engineering.

Internet MNA/Xinhua

US soldiers plead guilty to Iraq abuse

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb— Two US soldiers have pleaded guilty to charges of abusing Iraqi inmates at Abu Ghraib prison outside Baghdad.

Sgt Javal Davis on Tuesday admitted to stomping on the fingers and toes of a group of seven bound and hooded

prisoners in November 2003. Other guards then undressed the prisoners and stacked them into a naked human pyramid.

In a separate case also heard at the military base in Texas, military intelligence soldier Spc. Roman Krol pleaded guilty to pouring water on

prisoners as they crawled naked on the floor and throwing a football at them.

The military judge sentenced him to 10 months in prison, reduced his rank to private and gave him a bad conduct discharge.

Internet



A British soldier looks on as a Hercules C-130 taxis across the runway at Basra Airport recently. An investigation is underway into the cause of a British military transport plane in Iraq which killed 10 people, in Britain's biggest single loss of life since the invasion of Iraq.—INTERNET

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British Airways to increase capacity in China

BEIJING, 31 Jan— British Airways (BA) announced here Sunday its plan to increase its share of China's market this year.

BA will increase Beijing-London service from five to six flights a week and Hong Kong-London service from 17 to 21 each week starting June this year.

It has also approached the Chinese Government with plans to launch flights from London Heathrow to Shanghai this year, said Andrew Cahn, director of Government and Industry Affairs for British Airways.

The tourism agreement signed last

Friday allowing Chinese group tourists to visit Britain will help initiate a wave of Chinese interest in the country as a tourist destination.

Tim Ramage, General Manager of British Airways China, said that currently there are more than 80,000 passengers flying between China's Mainland and Britain every year. The company expects an annual increase of 15 per cent to 20 per cent of travellers in the coming years. — MNA/Xinhua

Saudi Arabia to host first global anti-terror conference

ABU DHABI, 31 Jan— Saudi Arabia is to host the first global anti-terror conference in the capital Riyadh on February 5-8, the Arab News reported on Saturday.

Delegates from 49 countries, including the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Russia, as well as representatives of several international organizations will participate in the four-day event.

The conference will discuss ways to eradicate the root cause of global terrorism and measures to help tackle money laundering as well as drug and arms smuggling.

Official sources said the conference will underline the Saudi Government's call for joint international efforts to confront and root out terrorism and address reasons that lead to the spread of the dangerous phenomenon and freeze its financial sources.

The discussions will focus on four topics — roots of terrorism, relations between terrorism and drugs,

culture of terrorism and relations between terrorism and arms smuggling and money laundering, according to the report.

The participants will also include 14 Arab countries, including Egypt, Yemen, Syria, Morocco, Jordan and Algeria, and 14 non-Arab Asian countries, including Japan, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Iran and the Philippines.

Leading international organizations to participate in the event are the United Nations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Arab League, the European Union, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the African Union, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Makkah-based Muslim World League.

MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabwe, South Africa to set up one-stop border post

HARARE, 2 Feb — Zimbabwe and South Africa are soon going to implement a one-stop border post at Beitbridge, The Herald newspaper reported on Tuesday.

The two countries' immigration authorities are waiting for the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority and the South African Revenue Authority to harmonize their operations in line with the new development, said the paper.

The necessary infrastructure at the entry and exit points was available needing only minimal additions, Beitbridge principal immigration officer Dennis Chitsaka was quoted as saying. Under the new order, travellers will be cleared just once for passage into either country.— MNA/Xinhua

Mexico, Peru become tourism destinations for Chinese citizens

BEIJING, 31 Jan— Mexico and Peru gained Approved Destination Status (ADS) from the Chinese Government, allowing Chinese tour groups to visit, said an official with China National Tourism Administration on Sunday.

China and the two Latin American nations signed a relevant tourism agreement.

So far, there are six American nations which have gained ADS, with Cuba being the first one in 2003. Brazil, Argentina and Chile followed in 2004.

There are no direct flights between China and the Latin American nations. Passengers have to transfer via North America or Europe. Chinese airline

companies hoped to open direct flights this year by code-sharing cooperation with Latin American carriers.

More than 28.5 million journeys were made by Chinese citizens abroad in 2004. China has become the world's fastest growing outbound tourism source nation in the world. Chinese group travellers can now visit 63 nations and regions.

MNA/Xinhua

Fresh foreign investment in Vietnam soars in January

HANOI, 2 Feb— Vietnam licensed 56 foreign-invested projects with aggregate registered capital of 375 million US dollars in January, posting respective year-on-year rises of 12 per cent and 210 per cent.

Vietnam is likely to attract 1.3-1.4 billion dollars in registered capital of new foreign-invested projects and additional capital of existing ones in the first quarter of this year, according to the Ministry of Investment and Planning on Tuesday.

To realize the target of luring 4.5 million dollars worth of foreign investment this year, Vietnam will allow in-

vestors to establish capital management firms and partnership companies on a trial basis, shortly publicize the national list of projects calling for foreign investment by 2010, permit localities to license bigger projects, and intensify investment promotion with focus on its key partners and multinationals.

MNA/Xinhua

US-led authority did not properly safeguard Iraq's money

WASHINGTON, 31 Jan—The US-led authority that governed Iraq after the 2003 invasion did not properly safeguard 8.8 billion US dollars of Iraq's own money and this lack of oversight opened up these funds to corruption, said a US audit released on Sunday.

The US Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction was scathing in criticism of how the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) handled Iraqi money until it handed over power last June to Iraq's interim government.

"The CPA provided less-than-adequate controls for approximately 8.8 billion US dollars in DFI (Development Fund for Iraq) funds provided to Iraqi ministries through the national budget process," said the report, released on the same day Iraqis voted in elections.

"We believe the CPA management of Iraq's national budget process and

oversight of Iraqi funds was burdened by severe inefficiencies and poor management," he said.

DFI is made up of proceeds from Iraqi oil sales, frozen assets from foreign governments and surplus from the UN Oil for Food Programme. Its handling has already come under fire by several UN-mandated audits. The report said the CPA failed to ensure funds were not used to pay "ghosts" employees and cited one example where CPA officials authorized payment for about 74,000 guards but only a fraction of these could later be validated.—MNA/Reuters



Indian schoolchildren, their faces painted as tigers, strike a pose for photographers during a competition held to raise awareness of the tiger in Bangalore recently.—INTERNET

Chinese scientists grow embryonic stem cells to motor neurons

LOS ANGELES, 1 Feb — Scientists reported Sunday that they coaxed human embryonic stem cells to become spinal motor neurons, critical nervous system pathways that relay messages from the brain to the rest of the body.

The new research, published in the on-line version of the journal *Nature Biotechnology*, was conducted by Chinese scientists working at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Motor neurons can transmit messages from the brain and spinal cord, dictating almost every movement in the body from the wiggling of a toe to the rolling of an eyeball.

The development is important because it provides critical guideposts for scientists trying to repair damaged or diseased nervous systems, said research leader Su-chun Zhang. One day it may help victims of spinal-cord injuries, or pave the way for novel treatments of degenerative diseases such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, Zhang said.

Scientists have long believed in the therapeutic promise of embryonic stem cells with their ability to replicate indefinitely and develop into any of the 220 different types of cells and tissues in the body, but they have failed to convert embryonic stem cells into motor neurons.

The goal proved elusive even in mice, whose embryonic stem cells have been available to scientists for decades. One reason may be that they are one of the earliest neural structures to emerge in a developing embryo, Zhang and colleagues said. With the ticking clock of development in mind,

Zhang and his team deduced that there is only a thin sliver of time, roughly the third and fourth week of human development, in which stem cells could be successfully prodded to transform themselves into spinal motor neurons. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Nepali PM appreciates Nepal-China cooperation

KATHMANDU, 31 Jan — Nepali Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba spoke highly of the Nepal-China friendship and cooperation here Sunday while inaugurating the new building of Nepal Television that was granted by the Chinese Government.

"The new building of Nepal Television indicates that a new milestone of friendly relations between the governments and peoples of our two countries is being laid," Deuba said.

The Prime Minister also praised the Chinese Government for its incessant generous assistance provided to Nepal, including 77 projects regarding highways, bridges, factories, hospitals, stadium and conference centre, which are in value of 185 million US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua



Japanese woman shovels snow on 1 Feb, 2005 to make a path through the temporary housing complex in the northern Japanese city of Nagaoka where people take refuge after evacuating from their houses severely damaged by a magnitude-6.8 earthquake in October, 2004 and a series of large aftershocks, that killed 39 people and injured over 2,000. —INTERNET

Philippines protests US authorities' ill-treatment of Filipino seamen

MANILA, 1 Feb — The Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Monday protested the American authorities for their ill-treatment of 13 Filipino crewmen working in a US ship when they were taken to a criminal court to testify against the captain.

DFA spokesman Gilbert Asuque said that the 13 Filipino crewmen from the ship *MV Katerina* were handcuffed and shackled with leg irons after being subpoenaed by the United States Attorney's Office, Central District of California, as material witnesses for the criminal case. "These are not defence witnesses. These are government witnesses. They invited these people and they still cuffed them. They should show them some courtesy," he said in a radio interview.

Asuque said that the Filipinos were shackled on November 23, 2004 when they were transported from the Holiday Inn in San Pedro, California, to the US

District Court in Los Angeles.

"The Attorney General's Office said this is standard procedure during criminal cases. We are protesting this," he said, adding that the Philippine Embassy in Washington D.C. has sent a note to the US Department of State on the ill-treatment.

According to the DFA, the 13 Filipinos earlier agreed to testify against officers of the *MV Katerina* after being ordered to dump oil waste and garbage at the Port of Long Beach, California, last year.

The vessel was later charged of illegal discharge of oil-contaminated wastes into the ocean and falsification of pollution prevention records, DFA said. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Vietnam to export less coffee this year

HANOI, 1 Feb — Vietnam is expected to export 800,000 tons of coffee this year, down 11.7 per cent over last year, according to the Ministry of Trade on Monday.

The country's coffee output of the 2004-2005 crop is estimated at around one million tons, lower than that of the previous crop.

The prices of coffee beans in Vietnam now stand at around 637 US dollars per ton, slightly lower than those of late 2004. Vietnam shipped abroad 906,000 tons of coffee worth 594 million dollars in 2004, up 20.9 per cent in volume and 17.7 per cent in value against 2003.

Its major importers are the European Union, the United States, Japan and Singapore.

The country now has some 505,000 hectares of coffee, mainly robust strain. — *MNA/Xinhua*

At least ten British service personnel killed in Iraq plane crash

LONDON, 31 Jan — At least 10 British military personnel were believed to have been killed on Sunday when a Royal Air Force transport plane they were abroad crashed in northwest of Baghdad, the British Press Association reported.

The figure of those killed was around "10", with it "highly unlikely" to be more than 15, the news agency quoted military sources as reporting.

British Sky TV earlier quoted military sources as reporting that up to 15 British military personnel could have been killed in the crash.

The British Ministry of Defence confirmed earlier in the day that a *C-130 Hercules* crashed at around 17.25 local time (1425 GMT) some 30 kilometres northwest of the Iraqi capital.

However, it could not provide details on the cause of the crash and the extent of casualties among

personnel on board.

If the casualties are confirmed, it would be the biggest loss of life for British forces since they joined the US-led war against Iraq in March, 2003.

According to the British military, 76 service personnel have been killed in Iraq since the start of the Iraq war. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Iraq should build security capacity as soon as possible

BRUSSELS, 31 Jan — Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said here Sunday that Iraq should build its capacity to provide security in the country as soon as possible.

In a statement issued immediately after Iraq's general elections, the NATO chief said: "They must also develop, as quickly as possible, the capacity to provide for their own security. The international community must do its full part to help."

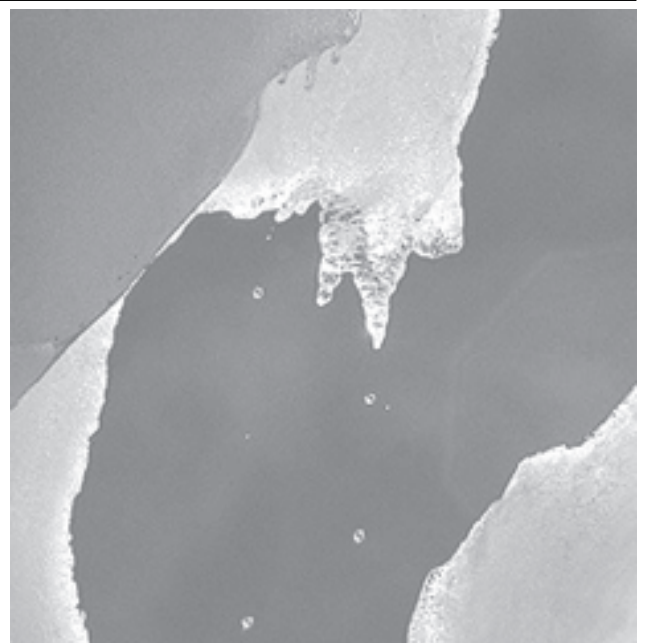
"NATO has already begun, by responding to the Iraqi request to train and equip Iraqi security forces, and the alliance will increase that support in the

coming months," he said.

On the general elections in Iraq, he said that millions of Iraqis demonstrated their determination to participate in building a new, democratic Iraq by casting their ballots Sunday. These elections should "lay the foundation for a brighter future for the country", a future of increasing peace and security, as a full part of the international family of nations. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Intellectuals, artists call for Denmark to pull its troops from Iraq

COPENHAGEN, 31 Jan — Around 300 intellectuals and artists, including film director Lars von Trier, called for Denmark to pull its troops from Iraq on Saturday on the eve of elections there and just days ahead of a Danish poll. The artists, whose call echoed a demand from a Muslim leader, urged the pullout of Denmark's about 500 troops in an advertisement in the newspaper *Politiken*, and called for a demonstration next week. — *MNA/Reuters*



Close-up of a melting glacier on 1 Feb, 2005. Scientists at a global warming conference say they see potential triggers for runaway climate change but admit that when and how these notional doomsdays may be unleashed are debatable or quite unknown. —INTERNET



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents documentary photo album and video tape to General Chaisit Shinawatra. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sees off Royal Thai Armed Forces Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra at the airport. — MNA

Thai Supreme Commander... (from page 1)

Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, Military Attaché Col Prissapa Suvanatat and officials. Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand Gen-

eral Chaisit Shinawatra and members of the goodwill delegation arrived at the airport at 9.45 am. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted General Chaisit Shinawatra at the special lounge of the airport. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented documentary

album and video tape to the General. Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Chaisit Shinawatra and party left for home and they were seen off by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party.

MNA

IDC doing utmost...

(from page 1)
Committee and the Work Committee deputy ministers and the vice mayor, officials of respective subcommittees and the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, the chairman of the Industrial Zone Supervisory Committees and members, chairmen of the Industrial Zone Management Committees and members, officials of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, industrialists and guests.

The Prime Minister in his speech said that the Industrial Development

more than 20 per cent annually in implementing the five-year plan.

However, the industrial sector contributes only over 10 per cent to the GDP of the nation. Continued efforts are thus to be made for increasing the rate of the industrial sector, he said.

The private sector is made up of many small scale industries, but constitutes the largest number of the factories and plants as well as the largest volume of output of the items. The private-run factories and mills make up more than 90 per cent in the nation, he said.

tries after forming the subcommittee for development of small and medium industries.

The Ministry of Cooperatives is to take measures for improvement of small industries based on the private industrial zones.

And it is to give encouragement to all the industrial zones depending on the financial power and standard for ensuring simultaneous development of the zones, he said.

He called on the subcommittees to take steps effectively for the development of the industrial zones through constant review of prevailing situations.

Now, modern foundry



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win hears a report by Deputy Minister Thura U Thuang Lwin on production of locomotives by Insein Locomotive Shed. — MNA

Now, modern foundry plants, forging shops, and forging machines are being constructed in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi Ayethaya industrial zones with the assistance of the government, and they will be put into service at the end of this April.

tion in the long run.

Overall, it is required to pave the correct way for industrial development through brilliant ideas, and only when the industrial sector makes progress at the highest rate in a short time, will it be able to shape the brighter future of the nation, he said.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister called for step-by-step upgrading of the industries, needed for the nation, through the powers of technology, innovation, diligence, perseverance and coordination.

(See page 7)

private mould & die workshop is being built in connection with production processes of the factories, he said.

It can be said that with the improving quality, the private industries are going to enjoy brighter future.

So, greater encouragement is needed to be able to change the production of power-tillers, small farm-used vehicles, motorcycles, buses and trucks into a firm import-substitute industry, he noted.

In the process, the State and the national industrialists are to continue to coordinate in unison, and to contribute towards the electronic industries, which are making progress.

Preparations are also to be made for improvement of the industrial research and dissemination of techniques and methods.

He pledged that the IDC will render necessary assistance for development of the industrial research in the interests of the na-

Deputy
Minister
Lt-Col
Khin
Maung
Kyaw.

MNA



Minister U Aung Thuang. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin. — MNA

Committee has exerted efforts and played an active role in translating the guidance of the Head of State into reality for development of the industrial sector since 2004-2005 fiscal year.

In that regard, success has been achieved to a certain degree, but there remained many things to accomplish, he noted.

The industrial sector has gained growth rate of

Therefore, it is incumbent upon all responsible persons to put the industrial sector on the development trend in terms of upgrading small and medium private industries with extended application of modern technologies and helping them to manufacture quality items, he stressed.

The IDC is doing its best to ensure development of the private indus-

plants, forging shops, and forging machines are being constructed in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi Ayethaya industrial zones with the assistance of the government, and they will be put into service at the end of this April.

Establishment of modern plants is a great impact on the drive for industrial development.

At the same time, a pri-

The 58th Anniversary Union Day objectives

- For all national races to safeguard the national policy— non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
- To keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people
- For all national people to defend and safeguard the Union for its perpetual existence
- To prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development, and
- For all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme

IDC doing utmost...

(from page 6)

IDC Secretary Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Chairman Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thung gave an account of tasks for industrial development, saying that during the period from 1995 to date the government has established a total of 18 industrial zones, which offer more than 150,000 job opportunities to the people. The industrial zones are manufacturing new items through innovative measures. So far, more than 84 per cent has been completed in build-

The mould and die making plant project is being built in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone.

The industrial zones are participating in the drive for changing diesel or petrol-engine cars into gas-engine ones, considering it as a national duty. Plans are under way for installation of gas-engines in 5,000 automobiles by the early 2005. With the all-round assistance, Yenangyoung Industrial Zone is now capable of producing motorcycles and three-wheel cycles, he said. Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development

Work Committee Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, on progress of construction of the mould and die making plant, and installation of gas-engines in automobiles.

In response, the Prime Minister gave instructions on coordination of the ministries for further effective implementation of the tasks for speedy development of the industrial zones.

Those in charge of respective industrial zones Minister U Aung Thung, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Minister for Science and Technology U Thung, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Minister for Commerce Brig-

ma Industrial Development Work Committee Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported on progress of building of the factories and plants in Mandalay,

ing modern plants and factories in Mandalay Industrial Zone, more than 91 per cent in Monywa Industrial Zone, and more than 99 per cent in Taunggyi Ayethaya Industrial Zone.

18 industrial zones offer more than 150,000 job opportunities.

Minister for Information tours Gangaw Township

YANGON, 2 Feb — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan gave a speech to over 1,800 rural people at Kan Village Basic Education High School in Gangaw Township on 26 January morning.

He accepted 300 USDA membership applications from Kan Village presented by the organizer. Next, he gave cash, gifts and textbooks stationery for Gangaw District and Township USDAs, Kan BEHS and other schools,

libraries and local people. Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspected Kan Village Affiliated BEPS and Kan Station Hospital.

Similarly, the minister met with local people in Hmwayle Village, in South Khayan Village and in North Khayan Village.

On 27 January, the minister inspected Thuta Mandaing Library in Gangaw Township and donated various kinds of books to officials.

In Kyaw Village of Gangaw Township, he joined local people. At 4.30 pm, he attended the ceremony to open Pyinnya Beikman village library in Mezayat Village of Pale Township.

During his inspection tour, USDA Secretariat Member Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met with local people and explained implementation of rural development tasks, public welfare tasks, emphasis placed on uplift of social,



Thai Supreme Commander General Chaisit Shinawatra accepts picture of Shwedagon as Dhammadana presented by an official.— MNA

Thai Supreme Commander and party visit Shwedagon

YANGON, 2 Feb — Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces of the Kingdom of Thailand General Chaisit Shinawatra and party, accompanied by Maj-Gen Than Htay of the Ministry of Defence, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhira Kaosal, Military Attaché Col Prissapa Suvanatal and officials, visited Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday.

The visiting Thai Supreme Commander and

party were welcomed by members of the board of trustees of the pagoda and explained the history of the pagoda and religious buildings.

The visiting Thai Supreme Commander and party paid homage to the Jade Buddha Image at the pagoda and offered flowers and lights to the Buddha images at Western Prayer Hall.

Next, the visiting Thai Supreme Commander signed in the visitors'

book of the pagoda and donated the cash to the funds of the pagoda. The members of board of trustees accepted the donations and presented the picture of the pagoda to the Thai Supreme Commander.

Afterwards, the visiting General and party paid homage to the pagoda at the auspicious place on the platform and viewed around the religious buildings at the pagoda.

MNA

Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported on the needs of re-

spective ministries to further deal with and to give encouragement to the industrial zones. Industrialists also reported on work done for industrial development and requirements. Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut and Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi presented sector-wise reports.

Next, the Prime Minister delivered concluding remarks.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister and party viewed the booths on research and technology for industrial development. They also observed hardwares and softwares at the booth of IT companies, and gave advice and made suggestions. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects...

(from page 16)

he joined departmental staff and local people. In Paingkyon, he saw over construction of Paingkyon Monastery and Parahita School, the building of Paingkyon BEHS. In addition, he viewed round temporary Paingkyon Station Hospital. On arrival at Hlaingbwe Township Hospital, he heard reports on construction of the 50-bed township hospital by officials. After giving necessary instructions to health staff and officials, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the hospital.

At Kyargale Village of Hpa-an Township, he attended the ceremony to inaugurate the Kyargale-Kyonphe-Zathabyin rural road. Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu presented commemorative pennants to Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung.

Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Col Khin Kyu formally opened the road. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went from Kyargale-Kyonphe-Zathabyin Road (Thanhle section) to (Khaya Atwin section). In Khaya Atwin Village, he paid homage to members of the Sangha from seven monasteries and supplicated on construction of the road. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party inspected wooden bridges along the road.

The road from Zathabyin Bridge to Kyargale Village via Eindu Village was 36 miles long in the past. Kyargale-Kyonphe-Zathabyin Road is 20 miles and five furlongs shorter than the former road. Therefore, the new road can contribute towards better transport for the local people and enhancement of education, health, social and regional development. — MNA



Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents K 100,000 for opening training courses of Gangaw District USDA to an official on 26 January.— MNA

MNA

Hundred fruits from a common stem—Our Union



A mini Union where nationalities including Kayin, Pa-O, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine and Shan are living in unity and amity, Kayin State lies in the south-eastern sector of Myanmar. With its population of 1,653,000, the population density 11,730-square-mile is 145 per square mile in Kayin State covering 11,730 sq miles.

the Attaran and the Gyaing.

At the ceremony to launch the Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an) held on 3 August 1997, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said, "It is not for the economic profits that a large amount of funds has been used to build the Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an), but for the development of Kayin State, and for the locals, suffering

backwardness the nation faced in the past, despite the riches in natural resources, with the power of the heightening development drive. The past backwardness was due to weakness in unity.

Thanks to the Government's endeavours, Kayin State has been achieving harmonious progress as a place where love and unity of the national races is prevailing. I will now present the situation of the state in 1988 and at present.

Agriculture

The fertile soil, the assistance provided by the Government, and the efforts of the local people have enabled Kayin State to see a sustainable development in agriculture. Thanks to five river pumping stations and small scale dams, the state can grow 60,000 more acres of crops and put 80,000 acres of land under multiple cropping.

Now the state can even grow nearly 120,000 acres of paddy in summer.

Table A

Subject	Per-acre yield— basket		
	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Land resource			
- sown acreage	666194	726662	60468
- acres of vacant and virgin land	370924	232964	-
Irrigation			
- dam, reservoir, lake, canal	22	23	1
- Water pumping station	-	5	5
- damming creeks	-	348	348
- Benefited acre	34202	95205	61003
Thriving double crops	19537	100469	80932
Extended paddy cultivation			
- acres of monsoon paddy	383069	431211	48142
- per acre yield*	42.97	54.61	11.64
- acres of summer paddy	-	119240	119240
- per acre yield*	-	70.00	70.00
- gross production	16019	31284	15265
Food sufficiency	-	119%	119%
- Beans and pulses (acre)	7809	66456	58647
- Sugarcane (acre)	2923	7459	4536
- Maize (acre)	44	6085	6041
- Rubber (acre)	9510	41911	32401
- Tea (acre)	670	918	248
- Pepper (acre)	352	2282	1930
- Coffee	2504	6923	4419
Edible Oil crop (acre)			
- Groundnut	16411	25172	8761
- Sesame	8867	20565	11698
- Sunflower	257	692	435

Livestock and fisheries

The Government is developing the livestock and fisheries sector together with agriculture. The state has doubled its livestock from 1,413,000 heads of animals in 1988 to 2,664,000 at present.

Fish-plus-paddy farming has been conducted on 240 acres of

shed areas to maintain the waterway systems of natural watercourses. Please see table (B) to know the state's forest conservation endeavours:

Road and transport

With the conviction — the development in roads and bridges will add strength to the nation — the Government has been developing the road and

Hpa-an road, Hpa-an-Kawkaeik-Myawady road, and Thandaungyi-Thandaung road. The state now has 216 miles of road including 138 miles of tarred roads.

The rail-cum-road Donthami Bridge linking Kayin and Mon states was inaugurated in 2002. The bridge is 600 feet long. The Myawady-Kawkaeik-

Table B

Subject	Square miles		
	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Reserved forest	1635	1635	-
Protected public forest	-	1578	1578
Wildlife area	115.48	115.48	-
Setting up of forest	400	7440	7040
- acres of economic plantation	400	5432	5032
- acres of village plantation	-	723	723
- acres of watershed plantation	-	1285	1285
- acres of Thitseint plantation	-	450	450

Kayin State is a land of plains, mountains and forests. In the east are the mountain ranges running from north to south, and plains are located in the west of the mountain ranges. Major rivers flowing in the state are the Thanlwin, the Thuangyin,

from various kinds of troubles caused by insurgency, to enjoy a better life."

It is the sincere goodwill of the Tatmadaw Government to built development infrastructures in all regions with ardent efforts as soon as it achieves peace and stability. The Government is gaining ground in overcoming the

In the past, summer paddy was not cultivated in the state. As the state can double its paddy production, it can now enjoy surplus food.

The table A shows the sustainable development in cultivating beans and pulses, edible oil crops, rubber and coffee, in addition to paddy:

Table D

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
post office	27	33	6
telegraph office	7	13	6
facsimile	1	22	21
computer telegraph	-	1	1
telephone service			
- telephone office	5	24	19
- number of line	764	3791	3027
- exchange	5	20	15
- direct line	643	3460	2817
- auto/carrier telephone	643	3231	2588
- auto radio	-	229	229
- telephone density*	0.65	2.20	1.55
microwave station	1	7	6
rural telephone exchange	-	4	4
e-mail/internet	-	1	1
local satellite station			
- DOMSAT	-	1	1
- VSAT	-	1	1
- iPSTAR	-	1	1

Table C

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Motor road	554/0	770/6	216/6
Bridge			
- above 180 feet long	8	13	5
- lower 180 feet long	117	263	146
Rail Transportation			
- miles	16.00	16.00	-
- rail track miles	16.75	16.75	-
- ton of cargo	-	92700	92700
- miles of cargo transport	-	14584.6	14584.6
- stations	6	6	-

land in the state. A total 120,000 fish fries were put into the paddy fields. The state has 274.09 acres of fish farms, up from 95.95 acres in 1988 or almost tripled. It has now 80 acres of prawn breeding ponds.

Forest conservation

Kayin State is protecting and conserving its forests. It has extended the areas of reserved forests, sanctuaries and protected public forests. As a public movement, the state has grown over 600,000 saplings. It has also set up village forest plantations for fuel and economic purposes in rural areas. It has also conserved the water-

transport sector of the state with greater momentum. In the past, there were no bridges across Thanlwin River. The Government commissioned into service the 2,252-foot Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an) on 3 August 1997. It also built the 2,900-foot Gyaing River Bridge (Zathabyin) in Hpa-an Township and 1,200-foot Gyaing River Bridge (Kawkaeik) in Kawkaeik Township.

In addition to the bridges, it has also built Mudon-Myawady road, Thaton-Myaingale-Bakap-Hpa-an road, Thaton-Myaingale-Kawkaeik road, Zathabyin-Eindu-

Hlaingkwet-Winkametharaw-Mudon road section and Myawady-Kawkaeik-Hpa-an-Thaton road section are inclusive in the Asian highways, ASEAN highways and other transnational heightways plus Mekong Basin Region highway that will pass through the nation for its development. The table C shows the development of the state's road and transport sector:

Communications

The table D indicates the development of communication sector in Kayin State:

(See page 10)

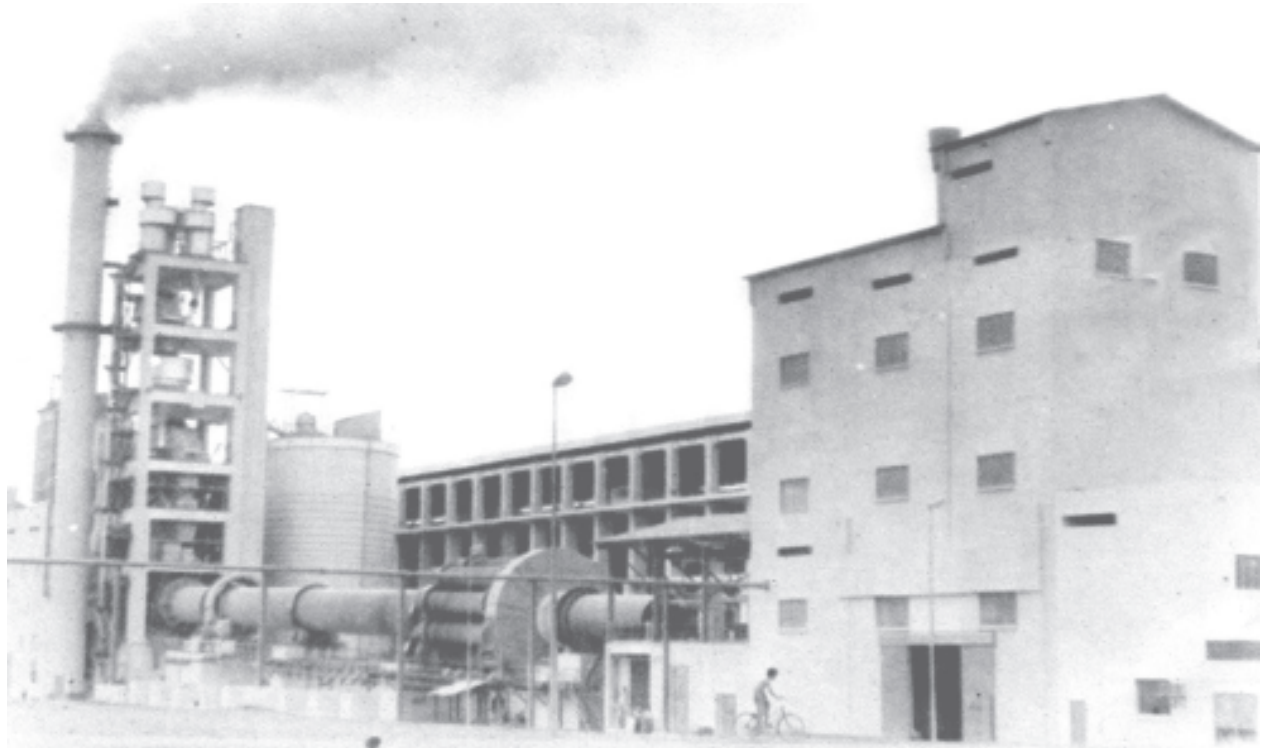


Development in Kayin State after 1988

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day

Hpa-an University

National race youth living in Kayin State are now able to pursue higher education in their own region as a university has been built in Hpa-an. — MYANMA ALIN



No-1 Cement Plant (Hpa-an) provides job opportunities to locals living in Kayin State. MYANMA ALIN



Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an) linking Myainggalay and Hpa-an in Kayin State was commissioned into service on 3 August, 1997.—MYANMA ALIN

Kayin State marching to...

(from page 8)

Electricity

The Government has been applying innovative means to fully tap the country's rich water resources for serving the interest of Myanmar and her

I will present the state's electricity sector with the table E.

Industries

The state now has 489 private industries, up from 409 in 1988. The number

At present, there are 146 high, middle and primary schools in Kayin State, and over 5,000 teachers. The number of students is over 200,000. In 1988, there was only one college in Kayin State. Now the state is one arts

Consumption unit (millions) *megawatt

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
maximum electricity consumption load*	10.274	178.882	168.608
	6.5	33	26.5
Increase of generating power			
- hydel power station	1	1	-
- project	-	2	2
- diesel-fired power station	24	34	10
present capacity of generator*	1.999	2.658	0.659
target capacity*	1.999	627.658	625.659

national races till posterity.

Kayin State had only one hydel power station in Papun before 1988. It was a 0.164-megawatt facility. The power consumption of the state then was only about 10 million units. The Tatmadaw Government built 10 diesel power stations and linked the electricity generated by them to the national grid. Thus, Kayin state's power consumption has increased to nearly 180 million units. But it is only one step of development drive. The Government is implementing two major hydel power plant projects in the state to significantly increase its power consumption. One

of cottage industries in the state is 110. Three new State-owned industries have been commissioned into services in the state to generate more job opportunities. The state already had six State-owned industries in the past.

Mining and minerals

Kayin State could not produce any mineral on commercial scale in the past. But in 2004-2005, it produced 3,000 metric tons of zinc, 44 metric tons of antimony, 6,142.65 metric tons of industrial-limestone for use in industries, 103,933.33 metric tons of iron ore and 39,845 metric tons of asbestos.

Education

The education policy of

and science university and one education college. In the past only a few hundred students pursued higher education. Now the number has increased fifty-folds.

Kayin State is now enjoying significant increase in the school enrolment rate and adult literacy rate while reducing the school dropout rate. The table F shows the readers the development of the state's education sector.

Science and technology

The State is making arrangements to increase the number of intellectuals as well as intelligentsia in Kayin State. Hpa-an, the capital of the state, now

Table H

***Kyats in millions**

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Road/bridge			
- mile of earth road	-	159	159
- mile of gravel road	-	229/2	229/2
- mile of tarred road	-	32/3	32/3
- maintenance	-	35/0	35/0
- bridge (l/s)	-	1/100	1/100
Health			
- hospital/dispensary	-	18	18
Education			
- BEPS, BEMS, BEHS	-	33	33
- number teachers	-	208	208
- number of students	-	10567	10567
Agriculture (office/station)			
- dam/canal	-	2	2
- waterworks	-	1	1
Farming			
- veterinary office	-	2	2
Energy			
- generator	-	18	18
- town/village, supplied with power	-	15	15
Public relations			
- TV retransmission station	-	6	6
Communication			
- post office	-	1	1
- telegraph office	-	5	5
- telephone	-	2	2
Expenditure (million)*		5626.13	5626.13
- development funds	-	2907.14	2907.14
- ministries	-	2718.99	2718.99

is the 25-megawatt Dayaing Creek (Paingkyon) Hydel Power Project and the other is the Hatgyi Hydel Power Project that will generate 400 megawatts in the first stage, and 200 megawatts in the second stage. Now,

the Government covers developing the education sector of all states and divisions and producing human resources. Kayin State is also producing brilliant human resources that will serve its interest in the future.

has a government computer college and a government technological college in addition to the arts and science university. The two colleges have already produced nearly 600 technicians to this date. A total of 116 teachers are giv-

Table F

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Basic education			
- number of schools	1149	1295	146
- multimedia classroom	-	42	42
- e-Learning Centre	-	18	18
- number of teachers	4116	5663	1547
- number of students	133777	219819	86042
- KG enrolment	66.28%	96.17%	29.89%
- adult literacy rate	59.15%	95.80%	36.65%
School dropout rate			
- primary school level	35.6%	14.08%	21.52%
- middle school level	43.86%	20.06%	23.80%
Higher education			
- arts & science university	-	1	1
- college	1	1	-
- education college	-	1	1
- e-Learning centre	-	19	19
- academic programmes	8	39	31
- number of teachers	47	173	126
- number of students	116	5639	5523
- Human resource development centre	-	1	1

Table G

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
upgrading of hospital health units	17	26	9
	50	58	8
health staff	480	814	334
- doctors	63	134	71
- nurses	94	199	105
- midwifery	220	283	63
- health assistant	28	38	10
- supervisor (1)/(2)	28	88	60
traditional medicine			
- traditional medicine hospital	-	1	1
- traditional medicine dispensary	4	9	5

ing lectures to 658 students at the two colleges.

Health

The Government's health care services also cover Kayin State. More hospitals have been opened and the existing ones upgraded. Under the 24-development zone project, Hpa-an has got a 200-bed hospital. Nine more hospitals and eight more health care centres have been opened in the state since 1988.

The Government has been appointing more health staff including specialists to the state. In addition to the existing midwifery school, a new nursing school has been opened in the state. One traditional medicine hospital and nine dispensaries are taking care of the health of locals in the state. The table G reflects the Government's goodwill towards Kayin State concerning the health sector:

Urban, rural development

With the belief — Towns will develop only with the rural develop-

ment — the Government has extended its development drive to cover all towns and villages in the state. The state now has 50 miles of urban tarred roads and 237 urban bridges.

Six towns now have clean water supply, and one more town will receive it under the project. A total of 391 waterworks have been erected in 248 villages for providing potable water to them. The state has seen the emergence of 1,084 miles (66 miles have been tarred) of new rural roads.

Border areas and national races development

Kayin State is covered by the Tatmadaw Government's border areas and national races development drive. The entire nation is seeing with pleasure the regional development in the state due to the harmonious efforts of the Government and the national race groups that have returned to the legal fold.

In addition to opening opportunities for local

youths to pursue arts and science subjects and computer science and technology of the higher learning, the Government has also opened a vocational training centre and a youth development training school in Hpa-an.

The Government is gaining success in warding off the evil legacies of the past. It is reinforcing new strength for development of border areas and national races. The table H shows the Government's endeavours.

Information and public relations

The information sector is distributing the news about the Government's endeavours to consolidate national solidarity, and to narrow the development gap between one region and another with the conviction — all the national people will join hands in the national development and modernization drive with goodwill and unity. The table I shows the state's drive towards reaching the golden land. (Translation: TMT)

Table I

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
- TV retransmission station	-	6	6
- IPRD offices	-	10	10
- IPRD libraries	6	10	4
- Dept libraries	-	1	1
- rural libraries	-	196	196
- e-Library	-	1	1

Entire people to take part in tasks for successful implementation of seven-point Road Map
Yangon East District USDA hails honours Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 2 Feb — Yangon East District Union Solidarity and Development Association organized the ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention at the sports ground in Laydauntkan Village of Yangon East District this morning.

Present on the occasion were Secretary of Yangon Division USDA U Aye Myint, Joint-Secretary U Tha Win and executives, secretaries, and members of Yangon East



USDA members and villagers of column No 2 marching to the sports ground to hail Union Day and to support the National Convention. — MNA



Yangon East District USDA Secretary U Tin Aung.—MNA



Dagon Myothit (East) Township USDA Secretary U Myint Khaing.MNA



Yangon East District USDA Executive U Ko Latt.—MNA



Yangon East District USDA Executive U San Maung.—MNA



Yangon East District holds ceremony to hail Union Day and support National Convention in Laydauntkan village, Thingangyun.—MNA

POEM

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Marching to new golden land of unity and amity

* Our nation, its resources
 Naturally they get in hand quickly
 Quickly distributed are teak and oil
 Precious gems, agricultural produce
 Many are they, and plentiful.

* Resources
 Rich and varied, Nation became independent
 However...

* After regaining independence
 One went his way, another his,
 There was turmoil
 They had their stakes, grudges
 No peace, several steps we were left behind
 Far from the golden land.

* To repay this debt of history
 Union citizens, in solidarity and capable
 Brethren of era that of one mind
 Satisfied and peaceful with equal strides
 Modern and developed, progressive and strong
 In earnest our nation
 Let us all lay the foundation for the New Nation.

U Aung Mon (M.A.) (Trs)

District and Tamway, South Okkalapa, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), (South), (North) and (East) Townships, Dawbon, Pazundaung, Botahtaung, Mingala Taungnyunt, North

East District MCWA Daw Khin Swe Oo and village elder U Myint Htoo of Laydauntkan Village. Dagon Myothit (South) Township USDA Joint-Secretary Daw Su Su Hlaing acted as MC and Dagon Myothit (North) Township USDA Executive Daw Thida Nwe as co-MC.

Those present saluted the Union Flag.

Next, Meeting Chairman District USDA Secretary U Tin Aung gave an opening speech.

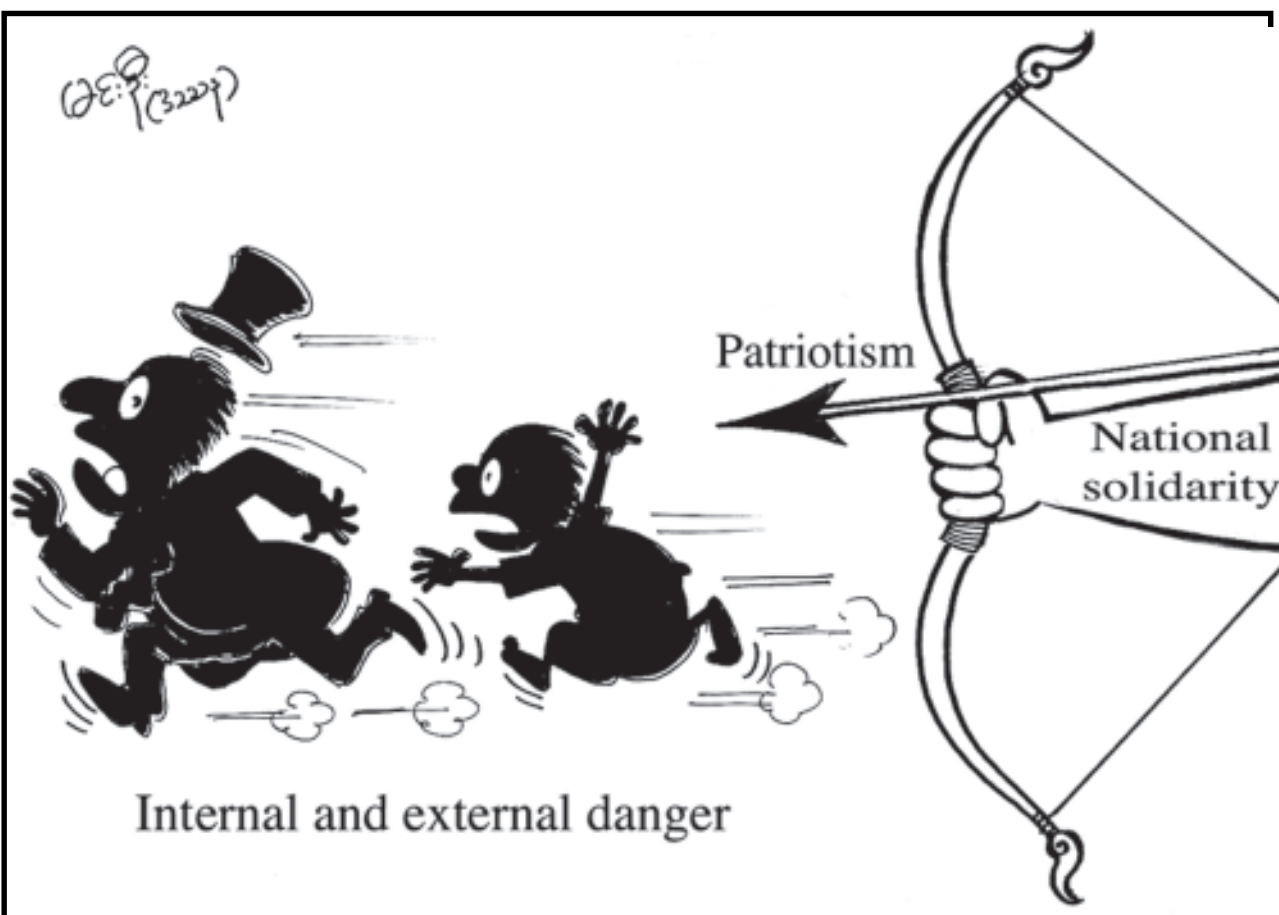
He said it was a significant day to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention which is important to the citizens who shape the future of the State. In the course of the history the country was a sovereign one where over 100 races lived together sharing weal and woe.

They lived in unity under mutual assistance for thousands of years. The colonialists annexed Myanmar after invading her three times during the 19th century.

They enslaved Myanmar over 100 years.

He said patriotic Myanmar national people fought against them at the risk of their lives. Despite making instigations among the people, national races were united. They built national solidarity with patriotism and

(See page 15)



Okkalapa, Yankin, Thakayta and Thingangyun Township USDAs, members of Myanmar War Veterans Organization, MAAF, MCWA, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades and local people totalling 2,500.

Two columns of USDA members and local people took positions at the sports ground.

Yangon East District USDA Secretary U Tin Aung presided over the rally together with members of the panel of chairmen: Major Tin Oo (Retd), chairman of Dagon Myothit (South) Township WVO, Chairperson of Yangon East District Organization for Women's Affairs Daw Mar Mar Thein, member of Yangon

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P.O.Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 3 February 2005.

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့် စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းနှင့် သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းတို့တွင် အသုံးပြုရန်လိုအပ်သော စက္ကူနှင့်ပုံနှိပ်လုပ်ငန်းသုံးပစ္စည်းများဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

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(ခ) Wipe On Aluminium Plate (745x635x0.24 mm)
(ဂ) Agfa Film
(ဃ) P/S Developer
(င) Rubber Blanket (676x545x1.95mm) (765x780x1.95 mm) (675x645x1.95 mm)

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(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at law, Thailand)
Dated. 03 February, 2005.

Czech Mily Int'l Winter Survival C'ships begin in Jeseniky

PRAGUE, 31 Jan — The Czech Military's International Winter Survival Championships 2005 began on Sunday in the Jeseniky mountains with soldiers from the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Great Britain and Slovakia taking part.

The soldiers will face moving in mountainous terrain, downhill skiing, a two-day technical race in overcoming cliffs and a relay race. The weather will also be a factor with temperatures well below zero and nearly two metres of snow on the ground.

MNA/Xinhua

MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED INVITATION TO TENDER Supply of Explosives and Related Services

Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Company Limited (MICCL) hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Supply of Explosives and Related Services for MICCL Mine Site, which is on the west bank of Monywa, Myanmar.

Interested companies may contact our office where a complete set of bidding documents can be obtained on payment of US \$ 300 from the following address during office hours between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Bids should be on company's letterhead and signed by the authorized person. Bids should be submitted in duplicate, in sealed envelopes addressed to:-

General Manager
Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Company Limited
70 (I), Bo Chein Street
Pyay Road, Hlaing Township
Yangon, Myanmar
(Phone: 951-514194/514195/514196, Fax: 951-514208)

Bids will be closed at 16:30 hours on 11th February 2005.
General Manager
Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper

Bus accident kills 25 in Colombia

BOGOTA, 31 Jan — A bus fell into a river in northwest Colombia, killing at least 25 people, the Civil Defence Department said on Saturday.

The accident occurred Friday night in San Luis, some 320 kilometres northwest of the capital Bogota. Rescuers from Medellin, 120 kilometres northwest of the venue of the accident, rushed to the scene and transported several injured passengers to hospitals.

MNA/Xinhua

OPEC producers agree to keep output limits on hold

VIENNA, 31 Jan — OPEC producers agreed on Sunday to keep output limits on hold, convinced that oil prices near 50 US dollars a barrel are not stifling world growth.

The Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries took little time to settle on no change in supply quotas, despite worries among consumer nations about inflated fuel costs.

Gone are the concerns that dominated in OPEC last year about the impact of rising crude prices on the economic growth that drives demand for its oil. With inflation in the world's big economic powers in check and low interest rates still generating above trend growth, cartel ministers see no reason for cheaper oil.

"Fifty dollars oil will not play a big role in slowing up growth of the

economy. Some analysts say even 60 US dollars oil will play a small role in affecting growth," said OPEC President Sheikh Ahmad al-Fahd al-Sabah.

"I am comfortable with the market between 45 US dollars and 55 US dollars," said Edmund Daukoru, Nigeria's Presidential Adviser on energy.

OPEC now appears ready to defend oil prices at a floor of about 40 US dollars a barrel for US crude, or 30 US dollars-35 US dollars for a reference basket of cartel crudes.

Ministers agreed to officially set aside their old 22 US dollars-28 US dollars range for the basket, set in March 2000, but are in no hurry to set a new target, saying prices are too volatile.

"We have to wait until the second quarter of this year to know exactly

where the price indicator will head," said Sheikh Ahmad. "But I believe that 35 US dollars is a suitable price as an average price for the OPEC basket of crudes."

"Somewhere between 30 US dollars-40 US dollars," said Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Zanganeh.

Economists agree there is little sign yet of an energy price shock, partly because the US dollar's decline on currency markets has protected non-dollar importers from the rise in dollar-denominated oil prices.

"Yes, oil prices are high but the US economy hasn't skipped a beat and the weaker dollar has insulated many growing economies from a shock," said Yasser Elguindi, analyst for Medley Global Advisers.

MNA/Reuters

Ugandan Attorney General defends death penalty

KAMPALA, 31 Jan — Ugandan Attorney-General Kiddu Makubuya has defended death penalty, saying that Uganda is not ready for the abolition of the death penalty.

A team of four state attorneys headed by Principal State Attorney Michael Chibita was quoted on Saturday by The New Vision newspaper as saying that the attorney general is against a petition to abolish the death penalty in the East African country.

Representing the attorney general, the team told the Constitutional Court that abolition demanded a long process and serious sensitization before it could be abolished.

The team said even in countries where the punishment was abolished, it was not done overnight, that it was after public debates had been held on this issue.

Over 400 condemned prisoners recently petitioned the court seeking to abolish the death pen-

alty, arguing that the punishment was cruel, inhuman and degrading. They said it was unconditional because it deprived them of the right to life.

The government team submitted that the death penalty was incorporated justifiably in the Constitution through the Constitutional Assembly, which was the voice of the 26 million Ugandans who approved it as a legitimate and appropriate punishment.

MAN/Xinhua



A visitor passes next to an art installation displayed during the First Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art in a park outside Moscow recently.

INTERNET

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Scientists say calling people “birdbrains” is a compliment

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb — Birds are not stupid and their brains are not primitive so it is about time the scientific world gave them full credit, experts said on Monday.

An international group of avian experts took on the slow-moving world of scientific nomenclature, calling for a new map of the avian brain that reflects its true structure.

The current system dates back 100 years and suggests a bird’s brain is mostly basal ganglia, and that this area controls primitive brain function and instinctive behaviour.

In fact neither is true — the bird brain more closely resembles human brains and even so, the basal ganglia is not a primitive region, said Erich Jarvis of Duke University in North Carolina, who led the study.

“Stop calling people birdbrains meaning stupid. Take it as a compliment,” Jarvis said.

Jarvis, who studies how birds learn vocalizations such as songbird songs and imitated speech in parrots, said their behaviour can be surprisingly complex.

They can use tools, they can use songs and imitate

human language to communicate and they can count.

“They can lie — you can teach a pigeon to do something that will have another pigeon get food for a reward. You can find a female pigeon that will pretend a reward for food is coming and then she eats it instead of her mate,” Jarvis said.

Jarvis said he is not only defending the intellect of birds.

“We should be able to get more insight into how the human brain works, too,” he said.

For instance, “primitive” regions of avian brains are actually sophisticated processing regions that similar to those in mammals, the group said.

“There is strong interest across neuroscience in using birds as models for learning and development, and migratory and social behaviour.” He said some birds have evolved cognitive abilities that are far more complex than in many mammals.

MNA/Reuters

Singapore’s unemployment rate drops in 4th quarter of 2004

SINGAPORE, 1 Feb— The unemployment rate in Singapore in the fourth quarter of last year was preliminarily estimated at 3.9 per cent, 1 percentage point lower than that of the corresponding period of 2003.

According to the figures released by the Ministry of Manpower (MoM) on Monday, the drop reflected the strongest quarterly employment increase of 27,500 in the past four years.

23,300 more workers found jobs in the services-producing industries in the last three months of 2004, while the manufacturing employment rose by 5,700 in the same period. A total of 66,200 employees added last year, which was much more than the 35,900 job losses over the preceding three years, brought Singapore’s employment level to a new high of 2.2 million as at the end of 2004.

The preliminary estimates also showed that 9,900 workers were retrenched last year, which marked a decline of 40 per cent as compared with the retrenchment of 16,400 in the previous year. — MNA/Xinhua

Adults with manic depression found to have been abused in childhood

LONDON, 1 Feb—Nearly half of patients suffering from manic depression, or bipolar disorder, may have been abused as children, scientists say in a report.

Emotional, physical and sexual abuse, or a combination of them, are linked with the condition, which causes dramatic, mood swings and changes in behaviour.

“Our results suggest that a history of severe childhood abuse is to be found in approximately half of adults with bipolar disorder,” said Dr Joseph Goldberg, of the Zucker Hillside Hospital in Glen Oaks, New York.

About a third of patients in his study, which is reported in the British *Journal of Psychiatry*, had suffered multiple forms

of abuse. Goldberg and his colleagues interviewed 100 patients who were being treated for manic depression about their childhood experience. Patients who had been abused suffered from bipolar disorder earlier and had more severe symptoms than other sufferers.

Sexual abuse was also linked to a higher risk of attempted suicide, according to the researchers.

Bipolar disorder usually develops in late adolescence or early adulthood. It involves recurrent episodes of mania and depression throughout life. More than 2 million Americans suffer from the ailment in any given year, according to the National Institute of Mental Health.—MNA/Reuters



Swans swim and feed bread left by people, in a lake with water clear of ice, near the village of Zhdanovichi on the outskirts of Minsk, on 1 Feb, 2005. Severe winter conditions have created problems for swans to find open water to swim in Belarus.—INTERNET

Overweight women twice as likely to die of breast cancer

WASHINGTON, 2 Feb— Women who are overweight when diagnosed with breast cancer or who become overweight after learning of their condition are more likely to die or have the disease come back, US researchers reported on Monday.

The effect is particularly strong among non-smokers, the team at Boston’s Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School found.

They found women who had never smoked and who were overweight were nearly twice as likely to die of breast cancer than nonsmokers who were normal weight.

And breast cancer patients who gained more than an average of 17 pounds (8 kilos) were 1.5 times more likely to have a cancer recurrence or to die, the researchers found.

Although other studies have linked fat mass with breast cancer risk, this one teased out more

and stronger detail by separating smokers, study leader Dr Candyce Kroenke said.

“Combining smokers and nonsmokers in analyses may mask the true relationship between weight and survival after a breast cancer diagnosis, since smoking is generally related to both lower levels of weight and a higher risk of death overall,” she said in a statement.

“Researchers have also speculated that obesity acts on cancer by raising the body’s levels of sex hormones such as estrogen, particularly in post-menopausal women,” she added.

MNA/Reuters

US researchers find new genes necessary to make embryo

LOS ANGELES, 1 Feb — US researchers reported Monday that they identified new genes necessary for embryonic development, stepping toward a complete map of which parts of the genome are required for embryonic development.

Appearing in the latest issue of journal *Genome Research*, the discovery by scientists at New York, Harvard and Yale Universities also probes into how genetic networks are built and how they could evolve.

The research team led by biologists studied the genome of the *Caenorhabditis elegans* (*C. elegans*), the first animal species whose genome was completely sequenced and a model organism to study how

embryos develop.

Using RNA interference (RNAi), a method for identifying the function of genes, the researchers almost double previous estimates of how many genes are required to make an embryo. Their study

focused on the genes expressed by the mother and imparted to the egg, ready to be used during the earliest stages after fertilization.

Scientists discovered that more than 150 additional genes are required to make an embryo beyond what was previously known, leading them to conclude that many more genes will be found in the future. They estimate that at least 2,600 genes are required for embryonic development in *C. elegans*, of which about 70 per cent are currently known.

The majority of genes required for embryogenesis in *C. elegans* have counterparts in humans whose roles are often unknown, scientists said.

MNA/Xinhua

Young Russian tourists jump in Red Square in Moscow, on 31 Jan, 2005. Muscovites enjoy frosty winter days with temperatures around minus 10 Celsius with frequent snowfalls after a warmer first half of winter.—INTERNET



Colombia reaches world youth soccer championships

MEXICO CITY, 2 Jan— Colombia booked its place at this year's world youth championships, beating Brazil 1-0 in the South American under-20 tournament on Sunday.

Hugo Rodallega scored the winner, his ninth goal in seven outings in the tournament, early in the second half to help the host become the first South American country to qualify with two matches to play.

Brazil's Diego de Souza and Colombia's Wason Renteria were sent off for fighting in the 71st minute.

Colombia has three wins from three matches in the six-team final stage.

Brazil is second with six points and needs one more to join Colombia in the Netherlands in June.

Argentina, held 0-0 by Uruguay, is third with five points followed by Chile (four), Uruguay (one) and Venezuela (naught).

Top four teams qualify for the world championships.

MNA/Xinhua



Arsenal's Robert Pires (L) is tackled by Manchester United's Mikael Silvestre during their Premiership football match at Highbury in London. Manchester United won 4-2.—INTERNET

Man U wins victory over Arsenal with 4-2

LONDON, 2 Feb— Manchester United inflicted probable terminal damage to Arsenal's title hopes with a 4-2 victory on a drama-filled night at Highbury on Tuesday.

The match, billed as a must-win game for both sides in their bid to try and stay in touch with rampant leaders Chelsea, lived up to weeks of hype with tempers simmering throughout a passionate duel.

Rival captains Patrick Vieira and Roy Keane traded angry words in the tunnel before the start and United defender Mikael Silvestre was sent off for head-butting Freddie Ljungberg after 68 minutes but by that stage the visitors had extinguished Arsenal's early fire.

Two second-half goals from Cristiano Ronaldo and a late effort from substitute John O'Shea turned the game on its head after Arsenal had edged a pulsating first half 2-1.

United's victory means they leapfrog Arsenal into second place, eight points behind Chelsea who travel to Blackburn Rovers on Wednesday. Champions Arsenal are two points further back and surely out of touch.

The Londoners, who had not lost at home in the League since May 2003, began in explosive style and rocked United back on their heels after eight minutes when Vieira headed in Thierry Henry's corner.

United were visibly rattled and both Gabriel Heinze and Ryan Giggs were booked by over-worked referee Graeme

Poll before Giggs equalized with an 18th-minute shot that took a deflection off of Ashley Cole.

Arsenal responded with veteran Dennis Bergkamp pulling the strings and the Dutchman put the Gunners back in front after 36 minutes with a clinical finish through keeper Roy Carroll's legs after an astute lay-off from Henry.

Wayne Rooney almost levelled, having his shot saved by Manuel Almunia, but his temper threatened to get the better of him as he was booked just before the break.

The match, and Arsenal's season, was turned on its head after 54 minutes when a galloping Ronaldo, a thorn in Arsenal's side all night, ran on to a Giggs pass on the left and arrowed a left-foot shot across Almunia to make it 2-2.

Four minutes later, Arsenal's Spanish goalkeeper handed United the lead for the first time. He was caught in two minds as he tried to close down Giggs racing down the right and the Welshman's chipped cross allowed Ronaldo to tap into an unguarded net.

United visibly grew in stature, and even Silvestre's moment of madness failed to worry them as Arsenal's attacks became increasingly desperate.

MNA/Reuters

FIFA to launch beach soccer World Cup

GENEVA, 2 Feb— FIFA planned to launch a beach soccer World Cup, with the first edition likely to be held in Brazil in May, the soccer's world governing body said on Monday.

Together with Spanish-based group Beach Soccer World Wide, FIFA has created a subsidiary known as FIFA Beach Soccer S.L. with offices in Barcelona to organize an annual beach soccer World Cup.

"Beach soccer is an immensely attractive and exciting variation of association football. Since being introduced just over a decade ago, the sport has grown steadily in terms of popularity and sophistication," said FIFA president Sepp Blatter.

"It is therefore absolutely logical for FIFA, the governing body of football, to extend its reach into beach soccer and we look forward to bringing all of the knowledge and expertise that FIFA has to improving beach soccer, whilst being careful to preserve the sense of spontaneity and fun that are essential to

the sport."

Luis Felipe Tavares, president of Beach Soccer World Wide, said: "We are delighted with this announcement. We have worked hard for many years to build up the reputation and quality of beach soccer.

"Now, by joining forces with FIFA to create the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup, we are ensuring that we are pushing the sport to the next level in terms of quality, recognition and prominence."

Twelve nations, from across FIFA's member confederations are expected to take part.

Beach soccer is played on a sand pitch 28 metres wide and 37 metres long, between two teams made up of 5 players. Each match is divided into three periods of 12 minutes each, with unlimited substitutions. — MNA/Xinhua

China loses "match of vengeance" to Germany at women Four-Nation soccer tournament

QUANZHOU (Fujian Province), 2 Feb— China lost to Germany 2-0 in a match dubbed by the Chinese local media "match of vengeance" here Tuesday at the women's Four-Nation soccer tournament.

Goals from Annike Krahn and Renate Lingor gave the world champions the first victory over China since the European side's 8-0 thrash of the Steel Roses in the opening round at the Athens Olympic Games.

Chinese caretaker head coach Wang Haiming said he would rather think the defeat valuable than frustrating.

"I am happy that my players showed so much spirit and courage against the world champions tonight, especially when there were so many youngsters in the squad," said Wang, whose national team called up seven players from the

world championship runners-up junior side.

"It doesn't matter that we lost the match because we have gained so much experience through the tournament," he added. "So I am actually in a good mood now despite the loss."

Germany head coach Tina Theune Meyer said it was a hard game for her players.

"China had more ball possession and many chances to score. We just converted the chances," she said.

"It was the hardest game of the tournament," she added.—MNA/Xinhua

Tom Huddlestone to be transferred to Tottenham

LONDON, 2 Feb— Tottenham Hotspur reached agreement with Derby County on Tuesday for the transfer of promising 18-year-old Tom Huddlestone to White Hart Lane at the end of the season.

The clubs have agreed a fee rising to 2.5 million pounds (4.71 million US dollars) for the England youth international, who can play in midfield or defence and will join Spurs in July.

"One of his greatest strengths is his passing, over short and long range. He's already the best in the country in his age group," said Tottenham's sporting director Frank Arnesen.

"He demonstrates great intelligence on the field and his awareness is so outstanding that he reads the game well," he told the Tottenham web site on Tuesday.

Nottingham-born Huddlestone, who only turned 18 in December, has already played 80 games for the Second Division team having burst onto the scene as a 16-year-old midfielder last season.

He was in the England squad that reached the semifinals of the European under-17 championships in 2003.

MNA/Reuters

Anelka, Bojinov take big-money moves as transfer window closed

LONDON, 2 Feb— French international Nicolas Anelka and Bulgarian teenager Valeri Bojinov made big-money moves on the final day of trading in the January transfer window on Monday.

Anelka tied up a seven million pound (13.17 million US dollars) switch from Manchester City to Turkey's Fenerbahce and Fiorentina bought Bulgarian striker Bojinov from Lecce for a fee reported by the Italian media to be 13 million euros (16.95 million US dollars).

If confirmed, the deal for 18-year-old Bojinov would be the biggest of a relatively quiet January transfer window.

In other moves finalized just before the midnight CET deadline, English club Tottenham Hotspur spent eight million pounds on second division Nottingham Forest pair Andy Reid, an Ireland international, and Michael Dawson.

Scotland midfielder Barry Ferguson returned to Rangers from Blackburn Rovers for a 4.5-million-pound fee that should be boosted by another half million on appearances, while Newcastle United's unsettled Wales striker Craig Bellamy went to their Glasgow rivals Celtic on loan until the end of the season.

MNA/Xinhua

Entire people to take part . . .

(from page 11)

Union spirit and demanded independence. National solidarity could be built firmly after holding Panglong conference on 12 February 1947.

That was why 12 February was designated as the Union Day. The day showed the solidarity of the national people and Myanmar regained her independence on 4 January 1948. He said the State Peace and Development Council government is making endeavours to enable the Union of Myanmar to keep abreast of international communities and it is also making efforts for emergence of a modern developed nation day and night.

He said it is important to draft the State Constitution. The government announced the seven-point Road Map on 30 August 2003. As a first step, the National Convention that had been adjourned reconvened from 17 May to 9 July 2004, he added. The National Convention will resume on 17 February. The National Convention will make a decision on establishment of democratic state. Only when the convention is successful, will a democratic State emerge. Therefore, all the people have to support the National Convention which is in progress aiming for emergence of a new demo-

cratic State. With the efforts of the government upholding the national policy of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty all-round development has been made in the country. The government's efforts are for emergence of a peaceful, modern discipline-flourishing democratic State which the people desire.

He urged the entire people to take part in the tasks for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map with patriotism, the Union spirit and national solidarity spirit.

Executive of Yangon East District USDA U Ko Ko Latt said that Myanmar people had made lots of sacrifices to regain independence. The Union Day falls on observed on 12 February this year with the following five objectives: — for all national races to safeguard the national policy-non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty

— to keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people

— for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union spirit for its perpetual existence

— to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development and

— for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven point future polity programme.

All-round development undertakings of the Panglong, where the Union Spirit was conceived, in southern Shan State, are under way at present. Panglong region now has better roads and education facilities. The Panglong University, Panglong Government Computer College and Loilem Hospital stand as symbols of regional development. The USDA strives to cement Union Spirit in hailing the Union Day.

Executive of Yangon East District USDA U San Maung said that the association has already made a resolve to play a role in



Daw Su Su Hlaing and Daw Thida Nwe — MNA

developing rural areas. The Yangon East District USDA has laid down a work programme to materialize the objectives and future programmes of the USDA Annual General Meeting 2004. It has laid 2,983 feet of pipelines to supply drinking water for Pyayegon ward in Tarmway Township. In South Okkalapa Township, the association has

tared 15 streets, sunk five tube-wells, erected 53 hand-pumps and built two sports grounds. Its accomplishments in Dagon (Seikkan) Township are drilling of two tube-wells. The association also paved roads, built water tanks, laid pipelines and sunk tube-wells in Dagon (North), Dawbon, Pazundaung, Bohtataung, Mingala Taungnyunt North Okkalapa, Yankin and Thingangyun townships. In addition, it has also built drains, launched public health care movements and anti-dengue fever campaigns, conducted free school education courses and vocational education courses, renovated schools and held sports events in towns and villages. It will extend its public welfare activities and continue to implement the five rural tasks with might and main.

The association has already contributed K 17 million for constructing roads, K 9 million for sinking tube-wells and K 6 million for the education sector in the district. At the meeting, the association presented K 15 million for all-round development of the district.

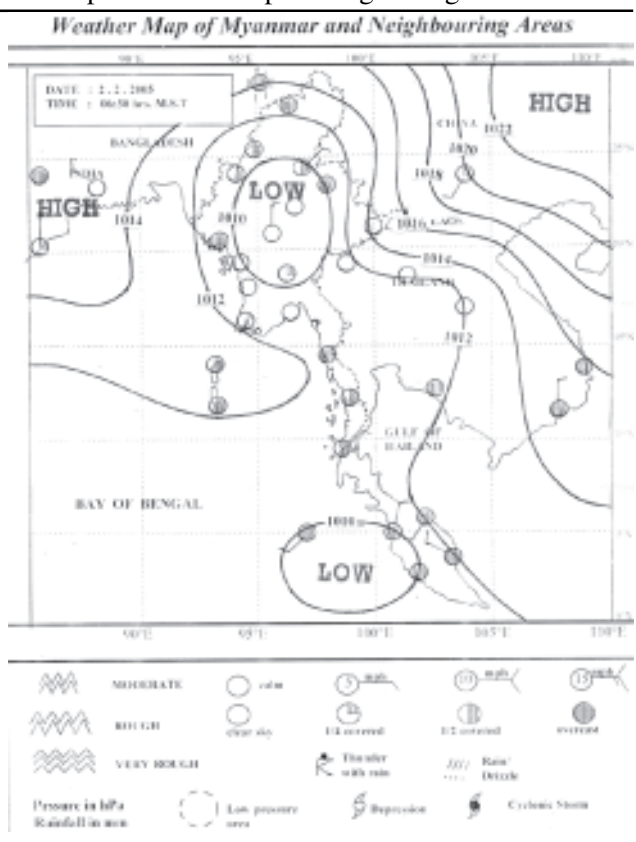
Secretary of Dagon (East) Township U Myint Khaing said that the National Convention will resume at Nyaungnapin Camp in Yangon Division, on 17 February. The delegates of the Convention



Yangon East District Executive Daw Aye Aye Myint. — MNA

has been laying down basic principles to draw a constitution, that is essential for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic state. The USDA supported the National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map. It also made a profound declaration to oppose and ward off all attempts to disturb the National Convention. The seven-point Road Map is

the future goal and the national policy desired by the people. The USDA is pleased to take part in the regional development and public welfare activities in the district. The members have already pledged to actively play a role in the interest of the people. The participants unanimously approved the decisions made by the meeting, which ended with chanting of slogans.—MNA



WEATHER

Wednesday, 2 February, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the light rain has been isolated in upper Sagaing Division and weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (4°C) below normal in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawdy Divisions and Kachin State and Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Namhsam and Pinlaung (5°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 1-2-2005 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 2-2-2005 was 64°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 2-2-2005 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 1-2-2005 was (8.3) hours approx. Rainfalls on 2-2-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from Northeast at (11:15) hours MST on 1-2-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 3-2-2005: Possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and weather will be generally fair in the remaining states and divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of isolated light rain in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 3-2-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-2-2005: Fair weather.

Press conference on Myanmar Open Golf Tournament 2005 held

YANGON, 2 Feb— The press conference on holding the Myanmar Open Golf Tournament 2005 was held at Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this afternoon.

MPGA and MGF President U Win Hlaing explained the purpose of holding the tournament.

Managing Director Mr Arend Ng of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd explained assistance to be provided to the tournament. Next, officials briefed those present on arrangements for the tournaments. Later, MPGA and MGF President U Win Hlaing, Mr Arend Ng and officials answered the queries raised by journalists and officials.

Also present on the occasion were MGF General Secretary U Aung Kyi, President of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club U Sao Kai Hpa and members and guests. The tournament will be held from 24 to 27 February at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingon. Out of total price amount US\$ 200,000, winners will be awarded US\$ 32,300 for the first prize, US\$ 22,260 for second and US\$ 12,400 for third.

Myanmar PGA, Myanmar Golf Federation and Asian Tour Ltd together with Octagon and Han Event Management will organize the tournament. The main sponsor will be Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd and co-sponsors MAI, Srixon, Canon, Max Myanmar Co Ltd, Sedona Hotel, Yangon Golf Club and Myanmar Brewery Ltd. — MNA

Mr. K Ranga @ U Joseph
Age 81
National Health Laboratory
Deacon. Immanuel Telugu Baptist Church
 Son of late Mr. K. Kotia + Mrs. Saubagyam of No.27 Su Paung Ein Ya, Htupayone ward 1, Thakayta Township, devoted husband of Mrs. Esther Mary, beloved father of Rev. Peter Joseph (Pastor, Immanuel Telugu Baptist Church) + Ms. Julie, U John Joseph, (U Victor Joseph), Daw Margaret Joseph, U H.X. David + Daw Elizabeth Joseph, U Paul Joseph, beloved grandfather of Ann + David Alaspa, Oliver, Diana, Daphene, Alan and great grandfather of Isabella Alaspa passed away at 6:13 am on 2-2-2005, Tuesday at Academy Clinic.
 Funeral service will be conducted at Immanuel Baptist Church, 411 Maha Bandoola Street at 10 am and thence to Christian Cemetery at Yayway on 4-2-2005.
Bereaved Family

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

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects development tasks in Kayin State

YANGON, 2 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Col Khin Kyu and officials, on 30 January, arrived at Kamamaung jetty in Papun Township via Myainggyingu special region through Hpa-an Shwegun Road.



Lt-Gen Maung Bo meets service personnel, members of social organizations and locals in Pyaingkyon, Kayin State. — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected the combined office in Kamamaung and Kamamaung Hospital. At Kamamaung Basic Education High School, he met departmental personnel and local people. They proceeded to Paingkyon through Myainggyingu-Shwegun-Hlaingbwe-Paingkyon Road. At the hall in Paingkyon Police Station, (See page 7)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attends BEHS (Central Level) Extempore Talks

YANGON, 2 Feb — Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005 Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attended the Basic Education High and Middle School (Central Level) Extempore Talks Contest to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day at the hall of Yankin Education College this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman

of the Management Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, member of the Leading Committee Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi and officials.

Chairman of the Work Committee for Observance of the University/College/Institute Professional Level and Basic Education Level Literary, Arts and Extempore Talks Competitions Deputy

Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min gave a speech. Chairman of Organizing Sub-committee for Extempore Talks Contest Director-General U Bo Win of Education Planning and Training Department explained the rules of the contest and marking system.

After the contest, Ma Phyu Wint Thaw of Latha BEHS No 2 won the first prize, Maung Soe Paing of Mottama BEHS of Paung Township, second, and Ma Yadana Myo Win of Magway BEHS No 2, third, in the basic education high school (central level).

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min presented prizes to first, second and third winners. Afterwards, the Deputy Minister and party posed for a documentary photo with the students.

The basic education middle school (central level) contest will be held tomorrow.

MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win watches 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative Basic Education High & Middle School (Central Level) Extempore Talks Contest.—MNA

INSIDE

Thanks to the Government's endeavours, Kayin State has been achieving harmonious progress as a place where love and unity of the national races is prevailing.

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THIHA AUNG

Drilling of new test wells urged

YANGON, 2 Feb — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspected seismic survey work of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise in Kawhmu and Kungyangon townships, Yangon Division, today.

Officials briefed the minister on progress of work, and drilling of

Sabagyisan test wells No 1 and No 2. The Minister spoke of the need to complete seismic survey work before the onset of monsoon, to keep data systematically and to drill more test wells.

He also heard a report on seismic survey work, Kungyangon Township in Yangon Division,

and Dedaye Township in Ayeyawady Division, and the drilling of a test well in Dedaye.

The minister urged them to extend the seismic survey and drilling work systematically and to drill new test wells in Nyaungdon, Maubin and Dedaye regions after surveying their geological conditions. — MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects seismic survey work. — MNA