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Saturday, 5 February 2005

The Union of Myanmar— home to various national races

Our country, the Union of Myanmar, is home to various national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine, Shan and so on residing together sharing joys and sorrows in friendship for many years countable by the thousand.

The national brethren, throughout history, have resided together with the Union Spirit inherent in them and put up resistance unitedly against any danger that befell the nation as the saying goes, blood is thicker than water.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
 (From the message sent to the 51st Anniversary Union Day)

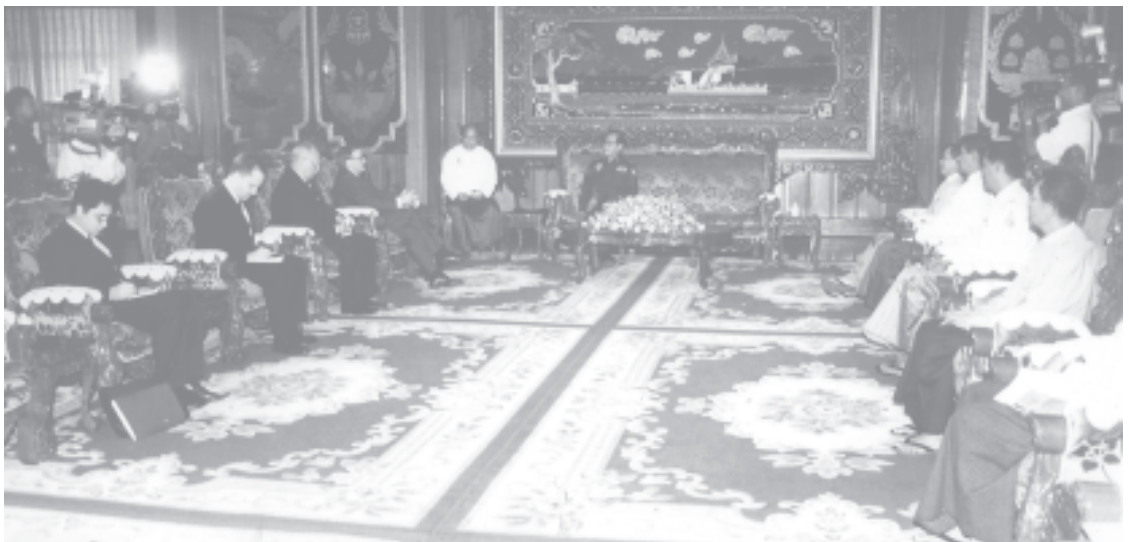


PM Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Russian Federation Deputy Minister

YANGON, 4 Feb — Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win received Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr Alexander Yu Alekseev at the hall of Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta here at 2 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Ministers U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, Director-General at the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Director-General of the Political Department U Thaug Tun and Russian Federation Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov and officials of the Embassy.

MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Russian Deputy Minister Mr Alexander Yu Alekseev and party. —MNA

Only when National Convention is completed successfully, will a new State Constitution emerge Bago District hails Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 4 Feb—A mass rally to hail Union Day and support the National Convention took place at the sports ground in Minywa model village, Thanatpin Township, Bago District, Bago Division, this morning. It was attended by secretaries, joint-secretaries, executives, organizers and members of USDAs of Bago District, townships, wards and villages, officials, members of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Red Cross Society and Auxiliary Fire Brigade, students and local residents totalling more than 9,000.

Bago District USDA Secretary U Aung Soe

chaired the meeting together with Thanatpin Township MCWA President Daw Htay Htay, Thanatpin Township Organization for Women's Affairs member Daw Khin Thein, Thanatpin Township WVO Chairman U Than Ngwe and village elder U Aye Win of Minywa model village, while Thanatpin Township USDA Executive Daw Wai Wai Aung acted as MC and Thanatpin Township USDA Executive Daw The Myat Wai, co-MC.

The meeting chairman in his speech said that since yore, Myanmar has stood tall among the international community with own monarchs and sovereignty alongside fine cultural traditions. However, Myanmar came under three aggressive wars waged

by the British colonialists, and was under alien subjugation for more than 100 years.

Myanmar had to sacrifice many lives, blood and sweat of its people to regain independence. The invaders drove a wedge and sowed discord and hatred

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INSIDE

Alongside the mountain ranges reaching up to 1,500 feet in elevation, are the vast plains on which Thanlwin, Sittoung, Bilin, Attaran, Gyaing and Ye rivers flow.

(Page 8)

THIHA AUNG

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 5 February, 2005

Counter the malevolent intentions with veracity

The government, since its assumption of the State duty, has pinned hope on the establishment of a modern and developed nation. It is also making all-out efforts to realize the goal after laying down Our Three Main National Causes as a national policy, to which every citizen should adhere.

In this process, top priority has been given to stability, the enforcement of law and order, robust economic growth, and the development of human resources. As part of the efforts to carry out the first phase of the seven-point Road Map, the government has committed itself to the successful holding of the National Convention so as to ensure a smooth transition to a discipline-flourishing, modern and developed democratic nation.

At a time when combined efforts are to be exerted on the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy as desired by the people, it is however found that there surface some accusations and allegations against Myanmar to make the world take a dim view of the country.

The pessimists are hatching wicked schemes to lure the United Nations Organization into taking action against the country and bringing her to the limelight of the world body on the pretext of democracy and human rights.

The Committee for Prevention of Recruitment of Minors for Armed Forces held its fourth coordination meeting at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthar on 3 February this year. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of the Committee and also Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein said "some big powers will keep on making accusations against Myanmar in various spheres so long as the destructive elements bearing a grudge towards the country remain in existence. And it is therefore needed to rebut all the baseless accusations to eliminate misunderstanding between the international community and the country".

Now, harmonious endeavours between the government and national people have resulted in the prevalence of peace and stability across the country.

The entire national people are now enjoying the taste. Concerted efforts are to be made to refute the false allegations and accusations, so the international community will realize the prevailing trends of development and realistic undertakings.

All in all, it is necessary for the organizations concerned and the entire national people to make thorough refutation to all fabrications and to expose the real development and genuine endeavours to the international community.



ASEAN RADIO QUIZ: The Myanma Radio held ASEAN Radio Quiz at its office on 2-2-2005. Photo shows prize winners in the contest. — 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 inspects pearl culture centres in Taninthayi Division

YANGON, 4 Feb — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint on 28 January morning met with the commander of Coastal Region Command in Myeik, Taninthayi Division and discussed matters on pearl culture and development of mining sector. In the afternoon, the minister inspected development of Maligyun and culture of oysters with the long line system at the pearl culture centre.



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint inspects the breeding of pearl oysters. — MINES

On 29 January morning, the minister arrived at Donepaleaw where officials of Myanmar Atlantic Co reported to him on process of culture of oysters with the long line system.

The minister gave instructions on making strenuous efforts in accord with the objectives, production of quality pearls and placing emphasis on environmental conservation. In the afternoon of 30 January, the minister arrived at Domel Island and inspected process of pearl culture and gave in-

structions on extended production of quality pearl and distribution of higher techniques to Myanmar technicians. At the Zinyawgyun, the minister inspected producing of pearl from oysters and gave instructions to officials.

On 31 January morning, the minister met with staff of Myanma Pearl Enterprise at Laleyardana Hall on Pale Island and gave instructions on meeting the target of production of 100,000 pieces of pearl,

worksite safety, placing emphasis on education, health and social affairs of staff and practice of reward and penalty system. Next, the minister presented cash towards medical funds at the dispensary and cash and stationery for teachers and student at the basic education high school.

On 1 February morning, the minister and party paid homage to the presiding Sayadaw of the Pale Island Centre monastery and offered alms to

him. Next, the minister met the USDA members and gave instructions on successful realization of the seven-point Road Map. After inspecting the pearl centre of Myanmar Adaman Pearl Co, the minister and party arrived in Kawthoung.

On 2 February morning, the minister inspected mineral exploration in Taninthayi Division and met staff of the Ministry of Mines and gave instructions.

MNA

Hotels & Tourism Minister inspects MSM, MCC

YANGON, 4 Feb — Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, accompanied by officials, looked into Myanmar Shopping Mall on Sule Pagoda Road, here, this morning.

Managing Director of Htoo Trading Company Ltd U Teza and officials reported to the minister on the display in the shopping mall. The minister gave instructions on the arrangements for sale promotion.

Afterwards, the minister and party proceeded to Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road. He was conducted round by In-charge of the centre U Min Aung of Yangon City Development Committee. Next, the minister inspected the hall of MCC, shops and car parking. — MNA



CASH DONATED: Dr U Swe Myint and family of Bahan Township, donated K 100,000 to the funds of Hninzigon Home of the Aged recently. — H

Advanced and basic professional courses opened at MICT Park

YANGON, 4 Feb — Advanced ICT Professional Training Course-4 and Basic ICT Professional Training Course-6 co-organized by Myanmar Computer Federation (MCF) and Myanmar Economic and Management Institute (MEMI) were opened at MICT Park in Hline Township at 9.30 am today. President of MCF U Thein Oo and Co-chairman of MEMI Professor of the Institute of Economics (Management Department) Daw Nu Nu Yin made speeches. Altogether 24 trainees are attending the advanced course and 36 trainees the basic course. — MNA

Culture Minister receives Israeli Ambassador

YANGON, 4 Feb — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung received Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mrs Ruth Schatz this morning at the ministry on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Director-General of the Archaeology Department U Nyunt Han, Director-General of the Fine Arts Department U Kyaw Win, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute U Myint Kyaing, Rector of the University of Culture (Yangon) U Tin Soe and departmental officials.

MNA

Hole in one

YANGON, 4 Feb — Mr Lee Jeong Ho scored an ace from 187 yards at the 8th hole Pandy Course, City Golf Resort, on 31 January morning. His partners were Mr Hyung Jae Won and Mr Hyung Jae Ho. — MNA



Thai music fan, Pariya Dharmajiva, 20, waits for her friends before attending the MTV Asia Aid show in Bangkok on 3 February, 2005.—INTERNET



Chinese Vice-President meets leaders of Caribbean countries

KINGSTON, 3 Feb— China hopes to further tighten friendship and cooperation via the China-Caribbean Economic and Trade Cooperation Forum with the Caribbean countries, said Vice-President Zeng Qinghong here Wednesday.

Zeng said this in meetings, on separate occasions, with leaders of Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican, Cuba, Suriname and Barbados, who are here to attend the opening ceremony of the first Ministerial Meeting of the China-Caribbean Forum that opened here earlier Wednesday. This is in the fundamental

interests of the two sides, he said, adding it will have positive impact on promoting the South-South cooperation.

Zeng said the Chinese side is convinced that the forum will play a positive role in enhancing China-Caribbean cooperation with efforts of all parties concerned. — MNA/Xinhua

Singaporean Minister urges local companies to adapt themselves

SINGAPORE, 3 Feb— Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang on Wednesday urged local companies to adapt themselves to the trend of globalization while maintaining a strong home base.

Speaking at the International Enterprise Forum 2005, Lim asked Singapore businesses to overcome three major challenges in order to compete more vigorously in overseas markets.

"First, we must expand our export of services. Second, as more Singapore companies venture overseas, we must be able to cope with the cultural diversity of the different markets. Third, we must be able to manage global talents," Lim said.

He added that local companies should partner one another to share risks and pool limited resources so as to compete abroad in services sectors, especially in transportation and logistics.

Lim stressed the importance of China, India and the Southeast Asia region to Singapore's economic growth and advised local companies to develop creative products and services to meet the needs of different markets. Lim also suggested that Singapore-based firms take advantage of varied sources of knowledge and talent from different parts of the world to generate innovation and opportunities.

To avoid the "hollowing out" of its home base, Lim said, Singapore should shift to more productive and higher-value activities and maintain itself an attractive outsourcing destination.

MNA/Xinhua

China launches satellite TV service in Asian region

BEIJING, 3 Feb— China launched its satellite television service in Asia on Tuesday, marking another step pushing its television programming into the international market.

"The launch aims to meet the growing demand of overseas Chinese for Chinese-language programmes and open a showcase to China for the English-speaking audience in the region," said Li Jian, president of the China International TV Corp.

The Great Wall TV Package, featuring 11 channels including CCTV-4, CCTV-9, CCTV-Chinese Opera channel, Beijing TV, Shanghai TV in English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Min dialect are now available in Vietnam, Thailand, South Korea, Myanmar, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. —MNA/Xinhua

G-20 meet in India to chalk out WTO strategy

NEW DELHI, 3 Feb— India will host a meeting of the Group-20 countries March 18 to chalk out a common strategy ahead of the World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial meet in Hong Kong in December, the *Indo-Asian News Service (IANS)* reported Tuesday.

G-20 is a group of WTO member countries on agriculture. The decision to host the meeting follows "a consensus to this effect among members at the meeting of the G-20 held in Davos on 29 Jan", IANS quoted Commerce and Industry Minister Kamal Nath as saying. Ministers of the

participating countries suggested that besides focusing on agriculture, the G-20 discussions could also cover other areas of interest such as non-agriculture market access and services, he said.

Several G-20 countries like Pakistan, Chile, South Africa and others have strongly supported the

proposal.

Kamal Nath said it had also been decided to hold a meeting of the G-33 (a group of WTO member countries that are pushing for special products, special safeguard mechanism and market access) in New Delhi on 19 March.

MNA/Xinhua

Two policemen dead, 36 missing after attack in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb— Two Iraqi policemen were killed, 14 wounded and at least 36 were missing after an ambush while they were on their way to Baghdad from southern Iraq on Thursday, police said.

They said the policemen had been travelling from Diwaniya, 112 miles south of Baghdad, to the capital to collect new vehicles when they were ambushed.

Officials in Diwaniya confirmed that a large group of policemen had left the town to travel to Baghdad.

US forces sealed off the site of the ambush, near the Abu Ghraib area on Baghdad's western fringes.

Internet

SAARC summit postponed

ISLAMABAD, 3 Feb— Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesman Masood Khan said on Wednesday that the 13th South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit was postponed.

Masood Khan, who was in Dhaka to represent Pakistan in the SAARC officials' meeting to review agenda for the summit, told the local Geo television that the summit of the seven-member SAARC will be rescheduled.

Under the SAARC charter the summit cannot be held if a member country refuses to attend.

"We have received information that Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will not be able to travel to Dhaka for the summit," he said.

"Pakistan being the SAARC Chairman and Bangladesh as the host are holding consultations following the Indian decision," the Pakistani spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua

Two Marines among 28 killed in Iraq as lull ends

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb— As officials released partial returns on Thursday from Sunday's elections, guerillas shattered a brief period of calm with attacks across Iraq that killed at least 28 people in a 36-hour period.

On a road near the northern city of Kirkuk, guerillas stopped a convoy of Iraqi army recruits Wednesday night, forced a dozen of them to lie on the road and shot them in the head. The attackers then ran over the soldiers with an automobile, said Salih Sabawi, a local farmer who said he ran to the scene after hearing gunfire. Two US Marines died Thursday in separate incidents in Anbar province, and guerillas staged an ambush on a road south of Baghdad, killing two policemen, wounding 14 and leaving at least 16 missing, the *Associated Press* reported.

Internet



British soldiers set up a roadblock outside the southern Iraqi town of Safwan recently. Seven British soldiers are to be charged with the murder of an Iraqi civilian in a further blow to the reputation of the country's armed forces.—INTERNET

Indonesian fishery industry to grow in 2005

JAKARTA, 2 Feb— The Indonesian fishery industry is expected to grow significantly this year as the government plans to capitalize on current fishery resources and protect local fishermen from foreign expansion.

Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Freddy Numberi was quoted Tuesday by the *Jakarta Post* as saying that the local fishery industry would be worth over 100 trillion rupiah (11 billion US dollars) this year, or about 5.5 per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

At present, the value of the local fishery industry remains low at about 46.6 trillion rupiah, or 2.21 per cent of the GDP.

"We hope the industry can grow larger and create more employment as we have devised a number of strategies to help revitalize it," Freddy said.

One of the strategies is to gradu-

ally reduce the number of foreign fishing vessels operating in Indonesian waters and to prevent illegal fishing, the retired Navy admiral added.

At present, 705 registered foreign fishing vessels are operating in Indonesian waters, with some 302 vessels from Thailand, 286 from China and 117 from the Philippines.

The ministry will also reduce the number of local and foreign fishing vessels operating in the northern and eastern Java Sea, due to a shortage of resources and for fish to propagate.

The government will instead encourage fishing vessels to operate in the Arafura Sea and the South China Sea.

MNA/Xinhua

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China to make its first state information-oriented strategy

BELING, 2 Feb — A senior Chinese official said here Tuesday that China will make its first state information-oriented strategy this year.

The strategy would be published before the end of the year, said Zhao Xiaofan with the State Council Informatization Office.

Zhao said his office would initiate the drafting of a regulation on publicizing government information.

"The regulation would be delivered to the State Council for deliberation and is likely to be issued within the year," said Zhao.

In 2005, the Informatization Office will also work on legislation to create a good environment for informatization, including creating laws dealing with information safety and the protection of minors online.

China will continue to promote online government forums and information, e-commerce and development of information resources, Zhao said.

MNA/Xinhua

Nissan Motor Co to invest \$420m in Britain

TOKYO/LONDON, 2 Feb— Nissan Motor Co will invest 223 million pounds (420 million US dollars) at its Sunderland, Britain plant to build a new, small crossover vehicle there starting December 2006, Japan's second-biggest car maker said on Tuesday.

The part-minivan, part-hatchback model based on the Qashqai (pronounced "cash-kye") concept unveiled in Geneva last year is the second new model in six months that Nissan has said it would manufacture at the Sunderland plant.

Nissan, owned 44 per cent by France's Renault SA, said the move would add 200 jobs to the 4,100-strong workforce.

Initial production of the unnamed model will be around 130,000 units a year, bringing the factory's total annual production to 400,000 units. The vehicle, which was designed and developed in Britain, will hit showrooms in 2007.

The Sunderland plant, in northeast Britain, can build a maximum 500,000 vehicles a year in three shifts, and now builds the Micra and the Primera sedan in two shifts. It will start production of the Micra C+C in autumn 2005. Nissan said last September it would also build a new compact multi-purpose vehicle based on the Tone show car at the plant, starting January 2006.—MNA/Reuters



A British soldier from the Royal Dragon Guards stands guard at the entrance to the port in the southern Iraqi city of Umm Qasr recently.—INTERNET



A Chinese man arranging decorations for the coming Spring Festival at a park in Beijing, China, on 3 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

Vietnam to host international bird flu meeting

HANOI, 2 Feb— Experts from some 20 countries and international organizations will discuss new measures to control bird flu in a meeting to be held in Vietnam in late February, a United Nations (UN) official told *Xinhua* on Tuesday.

The meeting, to be financially sponsored by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Organization for Animal Health, will take place on February 23-25 in Ho Chi Minh City, said

Anton Rychener, FAO chief representative in Vietnam. Experts from the World Health Organization and such countries as Thailand, China, Cambodia, the United States, Canada and India will dis-

cuss new measures to cope with bird flu, evaluate the old ones implemented by affected countries over the past 12 months, and review scientific advances in research into the disease, he said.—MNA/Xinhua

Documents reveal US condoned Iraq oil smuggling

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb— Documents obtained by CNN reveal the United States knew about, and even condoned, embargo-breaking oil sales by Saddam Hussein's regime, and did so to shore up alliances with Iraq's neighbours.

The oil trade with countries such as Turkey and Jordan appears to have been an open secret inside the US government and the United Nations for years.

The unclassified State Department documents sent to congressional committees with oversight of US foreign policy divulge that the United States deemed such sales to be in the "national interest," even though they generated billions of dollars in unmonitored revenue for Saddam's regime.

The trade also generated a needed source of oil and commerce for Iraq's major trading partners, Turkey and Jor-

dan. "It was in the national security interest, because we depended on the stability in Turkey and the stability in Jordan in order to encircle Saddam Hussein," Edward Walker, a former assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, told CNN when asked about the memo documents.

"We had a great amount of cooperation with the Jordanians on the intelligence side, and with the Turks as well, so we were getting value out of the relationship," said Walker, who served in both the Clinton and Bush administrations.

Internet

Bangkok subway reopens after collision

BANGKOK, 2 Feb— The Bangkok subway reopened on Tuesday morning with authorities hoping the number of travellers will be back to pre-collision levels within a week.

The underground public commuting system was shutdown for two weeks after an empty train ran into a loaded passenger train on 17 January. The accident caused almost 200 people injured.

Investigation concluded that the accident was caused by avoidable human error.

Passenger volume was expected to be down about 30 per cent in days ahead, but the number would rise again within weeks because the system a most convenient form of travel, Transport Minister Suriya Jungreangkiet was quoted by the newspaper *The Nation* as saying.

In a bid to boost public confidence in the Bangkok subway, the Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Monday travelled by the system with Cabinet ministers and a group of celebrities.

Despite concerns of public refraining from the underground train, the subway reopened with a certain number of passengers.

MNA/Xinhua

China, Jamaica forge friendly partnership of common development

KINGSTON, 3 Feb— China and Jamaica decided on Tuesday to establish friendly partnership of common development.

The announcement came following a meeting between visiting Chinese Vice-President Zeng Qinghong and Jamaican Governor-General Howard Felix Hanlan Cooke.

The two sides also declared that Jamaica recognizes the full market economy status of China, which in return lists Jamaica as a tourism destination for its citizens.

Zeng noted that since the two countries forged diplomatic ties 30-plus years ago, bilateral relations have been developed steadily and contacts at various levels have been frequent.

China is satisfied with the development of the relations, Zeng said, noting that bilateral cooperation is fruitful in the political, economic and cultural sectors and in international affairs.

China appreciated Jamaica's adherence to the one-China policy on the Taiwan issue, Zeng said, adding that China is ready to join hands with Jamaica to enrich the contents of the friendly partnership of common development.

Cooke, for his part, said the friendly bilateral ties have benefitted the two peoples and Jamaica hopes that this relationship will become better and closer.

Also on Tuesday, Zeng held talks with Jamaican Prime Minister Percival Noel James Patterson. Zeng called for efforts from both sides to expand economic and trade cooperation and further promote bilateral partnership. The Chinese Government encourages Chinese companies to conduct various forms of economic and trade cooperation with Jamaica, Zeng said.

MNA/Xinhua

PSC hails Philippines-China cooperation on training

MANILA, 3 Feb — The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) Wednesday hailed that the recent Philippine-China Sports Cooperation meeting made a huge success.

PSC officer-in-charge William "Butch" Ramirez, who went to Beijing last week with First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and former PSC chairman Butch Tuason to meet with Chinese sports officials, said that China has agreed to receive Filipino athletes and coaches in 10 focus sports for specialized training.

The sports include athletics, archery, badminton, gymnastics, shooting, swimming, table tennis, volleyball, weightlifting and wushu.

Ramirez said Filipinos will be sent to different part of China for the training, including Xiamen where those from volleyball and wushu will be sent.

Meanwhile, Chinese coaches and experts will be brought to the Philippines to lend their expertise to their local counterparts, he added. — MNA/Xinhua

Senior CPC official meets Albanian guests

BEIJING, 3 Feb — Wang Jiarui, a senior Communist Party of China (CPC) official, met here Tuesday with Ilir Zela, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Albanian Parliament and member of the Political Bureau of the Socialist Party of Albania, and other Albanian guests.

Wang, head of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, gave a positive appraisal of the smooth growth of Sino-Albanian relations. The CPC attaches great importance to the friendly ties with the

Socialist Party of Albania, and is willing to enhance party exchanges and cooperation in various fields so as to push forward Sino-Albanian relations, he said.

Zela said the Socialist Party of Albania is willing to go on enhancing friendly exchanges with the CPC. —MNA/Xinhua

Chinese art attracts more overseas galleries

BEIJING, 3 Feb— The increasing numbers of Chinese art collectors and their growing purchasing power are attracting more attention in the world's art market and many foreign galleries and art institutions have applied to participate in an art exposition slated for May in the Chinese capital.

"The enthusiasm of some world-famous galleries for this exposition is almost beyond our expectation," said Dong Mengyang, chief executive of the Second Annual China International Gallery Exposition (CIGE). "This shows their confidence in the Chinese art market."

The four-day exposition, beginning 2 May, is under full preparation after last year's success.

Participants are

mainly galleries from China, Japan and South Korea, including Court Yard Gallery, Shanghart Gallery, Elite Gallery and Hiromi Yoshii. The number of galleries from America, Italy and Germany has also increased.

"The booths are almost fully booked and to guarantee the good quality of the fair, we have to balance the number of galleries in different countries," Dong said.

Some South Korea

galleries feel they are strongly dependent on the Chinese market and they need events like the CIGE to promote and exchange, Dong said, adding, "The Chinese art market is entering the mainstream of the international art trade."

At the First Annual China International Gallery Exposition last year, artwork was sold for 10 million yuan (1.2 million US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua



Japanese kindergarten kids pelt an 'ogre' with beans at the Zojoji temple in Tokyo on 3 Feb 2005. The bean-scattering ceremony was held to celebrate the upcoming arrival of spring and to drive out bad luck.—INTERNET

Nepali King unveils new Cabinet

KATHMANDU, 3 Feb — Nepal's King Gyanendra announced the lineup of a new Council of Ministers, or Cabinet, Wednesday morning.

Members of the new Cabinet are listed as follows:

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Ramesh Nath Pandey;

Minister for Education and Sports: Radha Krishna Mainali;

Minister for General Administration: Krishna Lal Thakali;

Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation: Buddhi Raj Bajracharya;

Minister for Women, Children and Social Welfare: Mrs Durga Shrestha;

Minister for Information and Communications: Tanka Dhakal;

Minister for Home and Law, Justice and Parlia-

mentary Affairs: Dan Bahadur Shahi;

Minister for Local Development: Khadga Bahadur GC;

Minister for Labour and Transport Management: Ram Narayan Singh;

Minister for Finance: Madhukar Shumsher JB Rana. — MNA/Xinhua

UN takes action against top Iraq oil scam suspect

BAGHDAD, 3 Feb — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has ordered disciplinary action against the head of the UN oil-for-food programme in Iraq, who was sharply criticised in an investigation that accused him of a "grave conflict of interest" and "undermining the integrity" of the UN.

The investigation report said oil-for-food chief Benon Sevan solicited oil allocations from Saddam Hussein's regime on behalf of a trading company between 1998 and 2001, and it raised concerns he may have received kickbacks for the help.

Based on the report, Annan has decided to discipline Sevan and another UN official, Joseph

Stephanides, who was chief of the UN Sanctions Branch, said Mark Malloch Brown, Annan's new chief of staff.

Brown said the type of disciplinary action would be announced early next week but gave no details.

In its report released yesterday, the investigation led by former US Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker accused Stephanides of "tainting"

bidding for an oil-for-food contract. Stephanides now heads the Security Council Affairs Division in the UN Department of Political Affairs.

Allegations of corruption in the oil-for-food programme—which allowed sanctions-bound Iraq to sell oil to buy humanitarian supplies—have raised steady criticism from members of the US Congress.—Internet



Chinese workers prepare lantern decorations in Beijing on 4 Feb 2005. China will usher in the Year of the Rooster on 9 Feb, 2005.

INTERNET

Preparatory work being ...

(from page 16)
national races included in 633 delegates of national races and they are from various states and divisions. They all are delegates with a well-established reputation in their respective regions. As the delegates are arriving on 15 Febru-

for ensuring messing rooms, meals, sports facilities, entertainment and welfare shops for the delegates.

The work committee is to fully compile matters to be presented at the ongoing National Convention. Systematic measures are to be taken

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



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects the preparation at the meeting hall for group-wise discussions. — MNA

ary, the management committee is to make arrangements to be able to meet them at airports, ports, bus terminals and railway stations.

Arrangements are to be made in advance

since discussions are focused on legislation, executive and jurisdiction, the three branches of the State power.

Officials concerned are to cooperate with departments that

contribute to the National Convention and supervise the use of funds, minimising loss and wastage and practising thrift, in accord with the guidance of the Head of State.

As there have been destructive elements with ulterior motives who are jeopardising the National Convention, the first and the most important step of the seven-point Road Map being implemented by the government for

the emergence of a peaceful modern developed democratic nation, it is needed to have a security awareness.

The commission and the respective committees are to make integrated and well-coordinated efforts for the successful holding of the National Convention.

Afterwards, Chairman of the Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe reported on work carried out by panel of alternative chairmen and the work committee since the National Convention was temporarily adjourned and arrangements for the ongoing work of the National Convention.

Next, Chairman of the Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung reported on renovation of Pyidaungshu Hall and

meeting halls, preparations in hostels and messing rooms, transport and renovation of signboards.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the commission chairman.

After the meeting, Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Chairman of NCCMC Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and committee members and officials inspected preparations being made for the delegates.

After giving necessary instructions to officials, Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein left Nyaungnapin Camp in the evening.

MNA

Yangon South District USDA honours Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 4 Feb — Yangon South District USDA held the ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention, in Kunmoedein model village in Kayan Township this morning.

U Lwin Oo, Secretary of Yangon South District USDA, presided over the rally together with members of the panel of chairmen.

Those present sa-

luted the State Flag. Next, Meeting Chairman U Lwin Oo spoke on the occasion. Afterwards, Dr Thein Zaw Myint, Secretary of Twantay Township USDA, discussed honouring the Union Day and Yangon South District USDA Executive Daw Moe Moe Ei, in support of the National Convention. Yangon South District USDA Executive U Tin Lin reported on matters con-

cerning rural development tasks in the district. Kayan Township USDA Secretary U Myint Oo seconded the motions tabled by three representatives. The Meeting Chairman sought approvals of those present for honouring the Union Day and supporting the National Convention and rural development tasks. The ceremony ended with chants of the slogans.

MNA



NCC Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe. — MNA



NCC Management Committee Chairman Maj-Gen Lun Maung. — MNA



Mass rally in progress at Kunmoedein village, Kayan Township, Yangon South District. — MN

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than oversees development of Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 4 Feb — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence arrived at Bo Myat Tun Bridge in Nyaungdon Township yesterday morning.

Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials welcomed him.

At the bridge, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects the 200-ton Pulp Mill Project (Thabaung). — MNA

reports by officials on flow of water in Ayeyawady River and maintenance of the bridge. Accompanied by the commander and officials, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected thriving summer paddy plantation in Kyaungbangan Village, Patheingyi Township. Patheingyi Township has completed cultivation of 32,503 acres of summer paddy against the target of 63,640 acres in 2004-2005. Out of 1,731,545 targeted acres in 2004-2005, Ayeyawady Division has put 919,523 acres of land under summer paddy cultivation. The division has cultivated 1,522,941 acres of pulses and beans against the target of 1,424,760 acres, 89,341 acres of fruits and vegetables against that of 66,992 acres, 82,021 acres of chili against that of 55,000 acres. And, 352,194 acres of edible oil crops and 131,919 acres of maize have been grown.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected repair of Thanlyetsoon-Hlaygyi section on Patheingyi-Thabaung Road. At the site of 2000-ton Pulp Mill Project (Thabaung), he met with officials of the mill. The project site is located near Hlaygyit Village of Thabaung Township. The Government has signed the agreement together with China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation (MCC) on 31 August 2000. The project started on 1 November 2001. Test run of the mill was carried out on 1 July 2004 and it will be opened soon.

Next, they attended the ceremony to open the multimedia teaching centre at Thabaung BEHS. On arrival at Thabaung Township Hospital, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected the wards and comforted the patients. In the afternoon, they attended opening ceremony of the new building at Uto BEPS in Patheingyi Township, donated by Max Myanmar Co Ltd.

After the ceremony, Director U Soe Tint and U Ohn Kyaw of Max Myanmar Co Ltd presented K 10 million for the education sector of Ayeyawady Division and K 10 million for Tatmadaw families of regiments and units. The school building, 60 feet long and 36 feet wide, was constructed at a cost of K 12.5 million. — MNA

Sagaing District holds rally in honour of Union Day, support of NC

YANGON, 4 Feb — Sagaing District Union Solidarity and Development Association held a mass rally to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention at Wampye Village in Myinmu Township, Sagaing Division, yesterday morning.

Secretary of Sagaing District USDA U Htay Aung presided over the meeting. After announcing the start of the ceremony, those present saluted the State Flag.

Next, the meeting chairman made an opening speech. Afterwards, Daw Cho Cho Win of Sagaing Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association presented a report on honouring the Union Day, U Myint Aung of Myanmar War Veterans Organization supporting the National Convention and Executive of Myaung Township USDA Daw Myint Myint San on the rural development tasks in Sagaing District and future tasks.

Next, the meeting chairman sought the approval of the participants, after which the rally ended with the chanting of slogans. — MNA

Only when National Convention is completed...

(from page 1)

among the national races with the intention of undermining national unity, culminating in the Panglong Agreement, covering all parts of the nation was signed with the unanimous approval of the entire people. Therefore, the 12th of February 1947, on which the agreement was signed, has been designated as Union Day and the day has been celebrated annually after laying down objectives.

After its assumption of the State duties, the Tatmadaw held the National Convention for the emergence of a perma-

nent State Constitution. But, the NC was adjourned temporarily in 1996 for various certain reasons. The government adopted the State's seven-point Road Map and reconvened the NC on 17 May 2004. Only when the NC is completed successfully, will a new State Constitution emerge. In this regard, the onus is on the entire national people to realize the goal of transforming the nation into a modern developed democratic one.

In conclusion, he called for discussions on honouring Union Day and supporting the Na-

tional Convention.

Thanatpin Township Joint-Secretary U Ko Ko put forward a motion, calling for hailing Union Day.

Next, Bago Township Executive Daw Moe Moe Khaing proposed a motion, calling for support of the National Convention.

Afterwards, Bago District Executive U Kyaw Htwe Oo gave an account of rural development tasks being implemented in Bago District.

Bago District Joint-Secretary U Kyaw Kyaw Naing handed over the documents on tasks carried out by USDAs at different levels to staff officer of Thanatpin Township Development



Members of the USDA, service personnel and local residents marching to the mass rally. — MNA

Affairs Committee U Myint Wai; documents on education tasks to Thanatpin Township Education Officer U Kyaw Win; and K 8 million for implementation

of rural development tasks to Thanatpin Township Secretary U Po Zaw. Thanatpin Township Executive seconded the motions tabled by the three representatives.

The meeting chairman sought the approval of those present, and announced it. The rally came to an end later that morning with the chanting of slogans. —MNA



Bago District holds ceremony to hail Union Day and support the National Convention. — MNA

Hundred fruits from a common stem—Our Union



Residing in harmony with Mons and Bamars in the Mon State are the Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Pa-O, Rakhine and Shan national races. A union within the Union, the 4,749-square-mile Mon State has a population of

oment Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe stated, **“The time is ripe for all to march hand in hand, with steadfast and strong resolve, to reach a well-rounded modern**

Table A

Subject	Gross production— basket (thousand)		
	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Land resource			
- sown acreage	969516	1102980	133464
- acres of vacant and virgin land	258804	152754	-
Irrigation			
- dam, lake, reservoir, canal	76	86	10
- river water pumping work	-	13	13
- damming creeks	-	3452	3452
- Benefited acre	149760	590713	440953
Thriving double crops	48009	196142	148133
Extended paddy cultivation			
- acres of monsoon paddy	606442	701600	95158
- per acre yield*	55.00	66.97	11.97
- acres of summer paddy	-	100500	100500
- per acre yield*	-	77.74	77.74
- gross production	33146	51830	18684
Food sufficiency	-	123%	123%
- Beans and pulses (acre)	6816	81360	74544
- Rubber (acre)	76505	235418	158913
- Oil palm (acre)	1201	1631	430
- Tea (acre)	-	72	72
- Pepper (acre)	127	14770	14643
Edible Oil crop (acre)			
- Groundnut	14705	22405	7700
- Sesame	4085	5472	1387
- Sunflower	12339	13323	984

about 2,822,000 and its population density is 596 persons per square mile.

Alongside the mountain ranges reaching up to 1,500 feet in elevation, are the vast plains on which Thanlwin, Sittoung, Bilin, Attaran, Gyaing and Ye rivers flow.

There are also coastal plains on the banks of Thanlwin River and Sittoung River mouths. The mountain ranges including Zingyaik and Taungnyo ranges are running from north to south in the state.

In his message to the 75th Anniversary National Day in 1995, Chairman of the State Peace and Devel-

opment Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe stated, **“The time is ripe for all to march hand in hand, with steadfast and strong resolve, to reach a well-rounded modern**

opment Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe stated, **“The time is ripe for all to march hand in hand, with steadfast and strong resolve, to reach a well-rounded modern**

Table B

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Reserved forest*	732	787	55
Protected public forest*	-	62	62
Natural area*	9.24	69.56	60.32
Setting up of forest	4100	27545	23445
- acres of commercial plantation	100	5805	5705
- acres of village plantation	-	2700	2700
- acres of raw industrial plantation	4000	14000	10000
- acres of watershed plantation	-	5040	5040
- acres of Thitseint plantation	-	300	300

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Mon State marching to new golden land of unity and amity

Thiha Aung

Table C

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Motor road	424/0	431/0	7/0
- tar road	352/0	377/3	25/3
Bridge			
- above 180 feet long	3	9	6
- lower 180 feet long	127	198	71
Rail Transportation			
- miles	195.51	210.42	14.91
- miles of rail truck	252.30	268.61	16.31
- number of passenger	2065600	2202400	136800
- miles of passenger transport	162535.7	166963.1	4427.4
- tons of cargo	185500	218300	32800
- miles of cargo transport	19185.7	28556.4	9370.7
- station	47	55	8

catching up with world nations will have to work in unity, with Union Spirit as the foundation.

Thanks to the ardent participation of the people, the Government is gaining more ground in launching its development drive covering all the states and divisions on

Per-acre yield— basket

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Land resource			
- sown acreage	969516	1102980	133464
- acres of vacant and virgin land	258804	152754	-
Irrigation			
- dam, lake, reservoir, canal	76	86	10
- river water pumping work	-	13	13
- damming creeks	-	3452	3452
- Benefited acre	149760	590713	440953
Thriving double crops	48009	196142	148133
Extended paddy cultivation			
- acres of monsoon paddy	606442	701600	95158
- per acre yield*	55.00	66.97	11.97
- acres of summer paddy	-	100500	100500
- per acre yield*	-	77.74	77.74
- gross production	33146	51830	18684
Food sufficiency	-	123%	123%
- Beans and pulses (acre)	6816	81360	74544
- Rubber (acre)	76505	235418	158913
- Oil palm (acre)	1201	1631	430
- Tea (acre)	-	72	72
- Pepper (acre)	127	14770	14643
Edible Oil crop (acre)			
- Groundnut	14705	22405	7700
- Sesame	4085	5472	1387
- Sunflower	12339	13323	984

self-reliant efforts, without taking any foreign assistance. Now, I will present the developments of Mon State.

Agriculture

The Government is reclaiming more land and cultivating more crops in Mon State, where agriculture is the base of its economy.

Ardent implementation of irrigation projects to introduce year-round cultivation system has added nearly 450,000 more acres in the state, which in the past had only about 150,000 irrigated acres. The outcome of the project is the emergence of nearly 200,000 acres of double-cropping farms.

In 1988, there were only Kazaing Dam, benefiting 300 acres in Bilin Township, and Phanon Sluice Gate irrigating 290 acres in Kyaikmaraw Township. The Tatmadaw

Government has built Azin and Winphanon dams in Mudon Township, Wapa Dam and Zaikkaye and Kyonhtaw sluice gates in Thaton Township, Shwenattaung Dam in Mawlamyine Township, and Bilin Dam in Bilin Township, and the facilities are irrigating over 60,000 acres of land.

Paddy production in Mon State has exceeded the local demand thanks to the cultivation of over 100,000 acres of summer paddy in addition to monsoon paddy.

Kadaik Dam, with

from Attaran, Bilin, and Gyaing rivers for irrigating nearly 600,000 acres of crops in Mon State, which had not a single river water pumping project in 1988. Two more river pumping stations are under construction. Apart from paddy, beans and pulses sown acreage is increasing in the state, and all-round assistance of the Government has tripled rubber sown acreage to 235,000 acres. Likewise, pepper cultivation has increased over 100 times.

The Table A offers readers to study the agricultural development of Mon State during the time of the Tatmadaw Government.

Livestock and fisheries

Mon State has seen 200 per cent increase in the livestock and fishery sector. It now raises nearly 4 million heads of livestock, up from 1.6 million in the past. The state now has 507 acres of fish farms, up from 239 acres in 1988, and is breeding 230,000 fish in 463 acres

Table D

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
post office	58	63	5
telegraph office	16	18	2
facsimile	1	37	36
computer telegraph	-	10	10
telephone service			
- telephone office	11	29	18
- number of line	2526	8551	6025
- exchange	11	21	10
- direct line	2401	7959	5558
- auto/carrier telephone	2401	7739	5338
- radio telephone	-	220	220
- telephone density*	1.29	3.00	1.71
microwave station	9	10	1
rural telephone exchange	-	8	8
e-mail/internet	-	2	2

*(1000 person)

Consumption unit (millions)

Table E

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
electricity consumption	36.984	135.829	98.845
maximum load*	12.800	25.100	12.300
Increase of generating power			
- hydel power station	1	1	-
- boiler power station	2	2	-
- natural gas power station	1	1	-
- diesel power station	42	10	grid added
present capacity of generator*	54.193	82.799	28.606

*Square miles

10,000-acre irrigation capacity, in Paung Township and Katon Sluice Gate, which will irrigate 20,000 acres of crops, are under construction at present in the state, and the Hsandawtaung Dam is in the planning stage.

Eleven units of water-works are pumping water

of paddy fields. Hatchery industry is producing over seven million fish fries. In the past, its capacity was only about 200,000.

The state is raising prawn in 926.33 acres of farms. In the past prawn breeding in the state was even hard to imagine.

(See page 10)



Development in Mon State after 1988

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day



Padonmar Soap Factory built in Paung Township creates many job opportunities for local people living in Thaton District, Mon State.
MYANMA ALIN

Winphanon Dam built by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Mudon Township, Mon State benefits 13,000 acres of farmland.
MYANMA ALIN



Chainchaung Bridge linking Bilin Township and Zokthok village in Mon State contributes much towards better transportation.

MYANMA ALIN



Ye Bridge with the length of 857 feet was built by Myanma Railways in Ye Township is rail-cum-road facility.— MYANMA ALIN

Mon State marching to...

(from page 8)

Forest conservation

The area of reserved forests, protected public forests and wildlife parks

Table F

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Uplift of industrial power			
- industrial zone (Mawlamyine)	-	1	1
- industries	-	158	158
- private factories	1535	2221	686
- cottage industries	-	390	390
State-owned factories	29	33	4

*Square miles

is increasing. Kyaikhtyoe wildlife sanctuary has emerged in Kyaikto Township and Kelatha wildlife sanctuary, in Bilin Township. The state has seen 700 per cent increase in forest plantations, and in the meantime it has grown over four million saplings during the time of the Tatmadaw Government thanks to the public participation. The mass movement in the past could grow only about 100,000 saplings in 1988.

The Table B indicates the development of forest conservation and plantation in the state.

Road and transport sector

Mon State is upgrading the existing roads including the Myainggale-Zathabyin-Mawlamyine road and increasing the number of bridges for ensuring smooth and secure transport to a greater degree. In the past, the state had only three over 180-foot bridges — the 200-foot Khawa Creek Bridge, the 470-foot Ye Creek Bridge, and the 648-foot Bilin Creek Bridge. The Government has built the 180-foot Winphanon Bridge, the 180-foot Deepadaw Bridge, the 190-foot Kwamyaik Bridge and the 180-foot Thebyu Creek Bridge.

The Government put into service the 1,420-foot Attaran River Bridge on Mawlamyine-Zathabyin-Hpa-an road in Mawlamyine Township on 26 March 1998. The facility is covered by the State's special projects. It is also building two 180-foot bridges — one is Ninth-Mile Bridge on Yangon-Myeik road in Ye Township, and the other is Kyotan Bridge on Yangon-Mawlamyine road — and the 2,393-foot Sittoung River Bridge (Mokpalin) on Yangon-Mawlamyine road in Bilin Township.

The Tatmadaw is also building new trans-regional railroads and new

opment of the communication facilities in the whole nation, and the Table D shows the communication development of the state.

Electricity
The government is effectively harnessing the

Table G

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Basic education			
- number of schools	1205	1394	189
- multimedia classroom	-	149	149
- e-Learning Centre	-	25	25
- number of teachers	8619	11367	2748
- number of students	258892	339168	80276
- KG enrolment	71.42%	98.71%	27.29%
- adult literacy rate	79.18%	92.10%	12.92%
School dropout rate			
- primary school level	39.99%	13.44%	26.55%
- middle school level	40.80%	16.30%	24.50%
Higher education			
- arts & science university	1	1	-
- college	-	1	1
- education college	1	1	-
- e-Learning Centre	-	26	26
- academic programmes	31	65	34
- number of teachers	317	387	70
- number of students	7256	23376	16120
- Human resource development centre	-	1	1

State in January 2002.

Ye-Dawei Railroad connecting the state and Taninthayi Division was inaugurated on 26 March 1998 to further enhance friendship among the national races and regional economy. The 102.38-mile Ye-Dawei Rail road section line includes 111.99 miles of railroads and 23 railway stations. The 850-foot rail-cum-road Ye Bridge on the railroad was commissioned into service on 25 November 2003 in Mon State.

In addition, a magnificent bridge and a symbol of the people and the Tatmadaw's construction ability and unity will emerge in Mon State soon. It is no other than the 11,575-foot (over two miles long) rail-cum-road Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), the longest and most impressive bridge in Myanmar and a milestone in the road transport sector of Mon State and the Union itself.

Bordering Bago Division, Kayin State and Taninthayi Division, Mon State is a place where the Asian and ASEAN highways will pass through. Please study the Table C

for road and transport sector in the state.

Communications

The government is ensuring a harmonious devel-

opment of the communication facilities in the whole nation, and the Table D shows the communication development of the state.

Industrial sector
The Government is increasing the power output of the state as well as its industrial production. It is introducing industries to the regions which had less industries and laying sound foundations in the regions with better industrial base. In this way, it is building an agro-based industrial nation.

Mawlamyine Industrial Zone is included in the 19 industrial zones the nation

Table I

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
upgrading of hospital health units	20	28	8
health staff	73	82	9
- doctors	756	1171	415
- nurses	121	190	69
- health staff	166	295	133
- midwifery	60	69	9
- health assistant-1	325	451	126
- health assistant	-	10	10
- supervisor (1)/(2)	47	61	14
- supervisor (1)/(2)	27	78	51
Traditonal medicine			
- traditional medicine hospital	-	1	1
- traditional medicine dispensary	4	12	8

State-owned factories are manufacturing goods. The Table F will tell you about the industrial development in Mon State.

Mining and mineral resources

Harmonious development of the state includes the mining and mineral sector. The four new gold mines established after 1988 have produced 76.40 troy ounces of gold to this date. The state has produced 393.10 metric tons of limestone, 55.42 tons of slate, 191.11 metric tons of granite and 133.42 metric tons of asbestos. Plans are under way to mine a newly found lead and tungsten mixed deposit.

have been opened in the state and 2,748 more teachers have been appointed. The state's primary school enrolment rate is nearly cent per cent. In 1988, the state had only one arts and science university in Mawlamyine. The Government has opened one arts and science college and one education college in the state, which sees 400 per cent increase in the number of higher education students.

Table G has the data about the education development in Mon State.

Science and technology

Mon State is producing scientists and intelligentsia needed in establishing an agro-based industrial nation. Mawlamyine, covered by the 24-development zone project, now has a government technological college and a government computer college.

Mon State has produced 4,654 technocrats during the time of the Government. The two colleges have 163 teachers and 1,523 students. The Table H indicates the progress of science and technology in the state.

Health

Thanks to the improvement in public education, the people of

(See page 15)

*Kyats in millions

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Road/bridge			
- mile of earth road	-	198/6	198/6
- mile of gravel road	-	87/5	87/5
- mile of tarred road	-	7/2	7/2
- bridge (big/small)	-	7/31	7/31
Health			
- hospital/dispensary	-	5	5
Education			
- BEPS, BEMS, BEHS	-	18	18
- number teachers	-	364	364
- number of students	-	12320	12320
Agricultural station			
- canal	-	4	4
-	-	1	1
Energy			
- generator	-	1	1
- town supplied with power	-	1	1
Public relations			
- TV retransmission station	-	3	3
Communication			
- telegraph work	-	2	2
Expenditure (million)*			
- development funds	-	2778.08	2778.08
- ministries	-	921.89	921.89
-	-	1856.19	1856.19

Table J

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Government Technological College (Mawlamyine)	-	1	1
- number of course	4	7	3
- number of teachers	50	142	92
- number of students (graduate)	247	4402	4155
- number of present student	-	1098	1098
Government Computer College (Mawlamyine)	-	1	1
- number of course	-	6	6
- number of teachers	-	21	21
- number of students (graduate)	-	252	252
- number of present student	-	425	425

water resources of the regions for their all-round progress. Apart from irrigation, dams are being built to generate power, which has been contributed to the national grid to supply power to all regions fair and square. Like in all other states and divisions power generation and consumption are increasing in Mon State, and the Table E has detailed data about the electricity sector.

has set up. There is more room for the private and cottage industries to develop in the state, and 33

Education
The education indicators are improving according to the rate of population increase in the state. A total of 189 new schools

Education
The education indicators are improving according to the rate of population increase in the state. A total of 189 new schools

Lt-Gen Maung Bo on inspection tour of regional development in Mon State

YANGON, 4 Feb — Accompanied by Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, left Ye on 1 February morning.

They proceeded to the combined office of Lamaing Town General Administration Department and inspected departmental offices.

At Lamaing Hospital, Lt-Gen Maung Bo oversaw units of the hospital and gave instructions on setting up the medical trust-fund for the hospital. On arrival at Lamaing BEHS, they viewed classrooms and inspected construction of the school building.

Next, they went to Thanbyuzayat BEHS No 2 and attended the cer-



Lt-Gen Maung Bo views the study of the students at the multimedia classrooms of No 2 BEHS in Thanbyuzayat, Mon State. — MNA

emony to open the multimedia classrooms. Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the multimedia classrooms and viewed round it.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung delivered an opening address. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented teaching aid to the headmistress. Similarly, wellwishers donated cash for school development to

the headmistress. Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party posed for documentary photo with teachers, members of the school board of trustees and students.

They continued their inspection tour of Mudon and arrived at the 1,000 acres of summer crops special zone. After looking into the paddy strains, Lt-Gen Maung Bo

instructed officials and local people to extend cultivation of paddy to meet the target of 1 million acres of monsoon paddy. Out of 701,600 acres of monsoon paddy, Mon State has harvested 701,400 acres. The state has put 49,164 acres of land under summer paddy, 61,686 acres under pulses and beans and 25,017 acres under edible oil in 2004-2005. — MNA

Ceremony to honour Union Day, support National Convention held in Mohnyin District

YANGON, 4 Feb — A total of 3,500 USDA members and local people from Mohnyin,

Mogaung and Phakant Townships participated in the discussions honouring the Union Day and sup-

porting the National Convention organized by Mohnyin District USDA in Pinbaw Village of

Mogaung Township on 1 February.

Mohnyin District USDA Secretary U San Lin presided over the ceremony. All the participants saluted the State Flag.

On the occasion, Phakant Township USDA Executive U En Farong Gam submitted reports on honouring the Union Day. Mogaung Township MCWA Chairperson Dr Mi Than Nu Yin briefed them on supporting the National Convention. Mohnyin District USDA Executive U Phyo Si discussed tasks of rural development.

Next, Mohnyin Township USDA Execu-

tive U Lamaing presented K 1.8 million for rural water supply task to Mohnyin Township Development Affairs Committee Assistant Director U Win Naing. U Yin Haing of Haing G Yam Co Ltd of Phakant donated K 23 million for construction of tarred road, bridge, station hospital, operation theater and delivery room in Namti Village of Mogaung Township to Mogaung Township USDA Secretary U Myint Tun. Similarly, Mohnyin District USDA Executive U Mya Ohn handed over

K 12 million for construction of the building at Haungpa Affiliated BEHS in Phakant Township to Secretary of Phakant Township USDA U Sai Thein Tun.

Later, Joint-Secretary of Mogaung Township USDA U Tin Htay seconded the motions of three representatives.

Later, the Meeting Chairman sought approval of the participants in honouring the Union Day, in the support of the National Convention and rural development tasks.

MNA



The mass rally in progress in Pinbaw village, Mogaung Township, Mohnyin District, Kachin State. — MNA

Union Day honoured, National Convention supported in Mandalay District

YANGON, 4 Feb — A ceremony was held in Yaykyipauk village, Amarapura township, Mandalay District, this morning to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention, attended by members of USDAs and local people numbering to more than 12,500.

Mandalay District USDA Secretary U Thaug Wai chaired the ceremony along with Amarapura Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Hla Hla Htay, WAO member Daw Mya Mya Aung and WVO Chairman U Thein Aung and townselder U Than Swe, Amarapura Township USDA Executive Daw Hnin Shwe Sin emceed the ceremony, and member Daw May Thuza Win acted as co-MC. After the presid-

ing chairman announced the start of the ceremony, those present saluted the State Flag. Next, the chairman spoke on the occasion.

Afterwards, Mandalay District USDA Executive Daw Wai Wai Mya Soe, Pyigyitagon Township USDA Executive U Maung Maung and Mandalay District USDA Executive U Than Tun Oo tabled their motions, calling on those present to commemorate the Union Day and support the National Convention and rural development tasks being implemented in the district.

Later, the presiding chairman passed resolutions after seeking approval from those present, and the ceremony came to a close with the chanting of slogans. — MNA



Mandalay District holds ceremony to hail Union Day and support the National Convention. — MNA

POEM

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Toward Victory at the Winning Post

- * Throughout the Union land
With eye on the New Nation
People who are Patriots
Are supporting
The Constitution
In unison we get together
Thinking of peace in the future
Toward success of the Convention
We look forward.
- * As the rays of peace go shimmering
Our significant Myanmar nation
With true brethren citizens
In solidarity throughout the Union
Blood brothers congregate
No secession from the Union
Not to let go of hands held firm
For our Union to be modern
With brothers in song of amity
Let's all hail it.
- * The auspicious Union Day
We hail in commemoration
The seven-step Road Map
Is noble and let it be successful
Only if we get together and safeguard it
Will the nation be peaceful and stable
Each must do his duty
So as to be dutiful
To take this victory to the winning post
Making equal strides in unity
We the people, let us commemorate.

Tekkatho Tin Kha (Trs)

210,000 ideas for Beijing Olympic slogan

BEIJING, 3 Feb — A call for public suggestions for a slogan for the Beijing 2008 Olympics has drawn 210,000 entries from around the world by the 31 January deadline, officials said here on Tuesday.

The Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2008 Olympics (BOCOG) said in a Press release that they will wade through the entries and try to pick a winning slogan in a few months.

Most of the entries are in Chinese, while the rest are in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese, etc.

The call for a motto was started on January 1 and entries are to be judged on how well they reflect Beijing's notion of "Green Olympics", "High-tech Olympics" and "Human's Olympics".

No prize money will be awarded to winners, BOCOG said earlier.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (371)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR Voy No (371) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/EAGLE CORPORATION
Phone No:256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (545)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT Voy No (545) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
Phone: 256908/378316/376797

GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF FORESTRY MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE

DATED. 2-2-2005

SEALED TENDER NO. 02/ 2004-2005(MUSE)

MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WILL HOLD A SEALED TENDER SALE AS FOLLOWS.

COMMODITY	: TEAK CONVERSIONS
QUANTITY	: ABOUT (1600) TONS
DATE	: 14-2-2005 (MONDAY)
TIME	: (12:00) NOON
PLACE	: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, MUSE, DISTRICT FOREST DEPARTMENT, MUSE.
EARNEST MONEY	: US\$ 10000

PLEASE CONTACT THE MARKETING UNIT (2) OF THE EXPORT MARKETING AND MILLING DEPARTMENT OF THE MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV "MAWLAMYINE" VOY NO ML 115/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "MAWLAMYINE" Voy No ML 115/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 5.2.05 and will be berthing on about 6-2-2005 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from vessel.

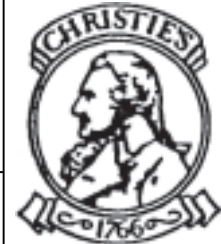
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE
Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

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Win Mu Tin, M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L. for Christie Manson & Woods Limited, P.O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 5 February 2005

Italian Health Minister calls for efforts against child obesity

ROME, 3 Feb — Fresh from victory in his war on public smoking, Italian Health Minister Girolamo Sirchia on Wednesday planted himself at the forefront of a new battle against obesity.

Sirchia, who has obtained a high profile in the public eye by spearheading a smoking ban, expressed particular concern about child obesity levels in Italy and indicated that the first step in his latest campaign would be to cut food advertising on the telly.

The 71-year-old minister told a food and diet conference here that TV food advertising were "ex-

cessive, obsessive and distortive "and that this was "not ethical".

He said children were being left to watch TV on their own and that they are consequently "fed food adverts at all hours of the day".

"This is why we have this child obesity problem in Italy," said Sirchia, a haematologist and transplant expert. Sirchia said child obesity had reached "pandemic" proportions in the industrialized world and said food companies had a "moral and ethical duty" to help combat the problem.

"We must work together to stop economic

development from becoming a public health problem," he said.

"We have to work with parents and schools and establish a code of behaviour with regard to advertising... We are an intelligent population but we are still quite ignorant when it comes to what makes a good, healthy diet," he said.

In December, doctors told an international paediatric conference that Italy now has a higher number of overweight children than any other European nation.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနမှ ပို့ဆောင်ရေးနှင့် ဆက်သွယ်ရေး ဝန်ထုတ်ဝေရေး လုပ်ငန်းနှင့် သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်း လုပ်ငန်းတို့တွင် အသုံးပြုရန် လိုအပ်သော စက္ကန့်ပုံနှိပ်လုပ်ငန်း သုံးစွဲရန် များဝယ်ယူရန် တင်ပြအပ်ကြောင်း

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- (က) သတင်းစာစက္ကန့် (၂၈ ၂/၂) (၃၀) (၃၄)
- (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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Kuwait Parlt approves law against illegal weapons

KUWAIT CITY, 3 Feb — The National Assembly of Kuwait on Tuesday unanimously approved a draft law on search for and seizure of illegal weapons which is to be effective for two years, the Kuwait News Agency reported.

The new law, proposed by the government to fight against terror, was approved at a National Assembly session held to discuss the security situation.

The law grants the

general prosecutor or a deputy to issue search warrants on private homes as well as public and private areas and transportation.

Those who hand over illegal weapons to the authorities within three months of putting the law into effect would be exempted from the set penalties.

The law will come into effect as of the date of its announcement through the official gazette.

It also obliges con-

cerned authorities to boost control over land, Marine and air ports to curb smuggling of illegal weapons and ammunition.

Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah thanked the assembly for approving a draft law, saying that terrorism would be fought not only with weapons but with trying to gain the hearts and minds of the youth who might be at risk of turning to terrorist actions.

MNA/Xinhua

Listening to music at bedtime best way to get restful night

LONDON, 3 Feb — Having trouble sleeping? Don't bother with a cup of cocoa or counting sheep — listening to music at bedtime is the way to get a restful night, Taiwanese researchers have found.

In a paper published in the February issue of the Journal of Advanced Nursing, a team from Taiwan's Tzu Chi University said they studied the sleep patterns of 60 people aged

between 60 and 83 who had difficulty sleeping.

Half were given relaxing music to listen to for 45 minutes at bedtime and half were given no help to sleep.

The team found that those who listened to a selection of soft, slow music experienced physical changes that aided restful sleep, such as lower heart and respiratory rates.

MNA/Reuter

Beijing police break Internet gambling case

BEIJING, 3 Feb — Amid a nationwide crackdown on illegal gambling, Beijing police have recently broken an Internet gambling case, seizing more than 235 million yuan (28.4 million US dollars) and three suspects, Wednesday's Beijing News reported.

Another suspect, surnamed Huang, believed to be a leader of the gambling ring, remains at large.

MNA/Xinhua

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Pope John Paul hospitalized

VATICAN CITY, 3 Feb—Pope John Paul was rushed to hospital with breathing difficulties on Tuesday night after about of influenza suddenly worsened.

The Vatican said the 84-year-old Pope had suffered an acute attack of laryngospasm, a blockage of air to the lungs, and needed urgent medical attention. The frail leader of the Roman Catholic Church, who is also afflicted by Parkinson's disease, was taken to the Gemelli Hospital in an ambulance but the Vatican said his condition did not warrant him being placed in the intensive care unit.

"The flu condition that has afflicted the Holy Father for the past three days deteriorated tonight with an acute laryngospasm. For this reason, it was decided to urgently take the Pope to the Gemelli Hospital," a statement said.—MNA/Reuters

NASA X-ray telescope finds missing cosmic matter

LOS ANGELES, 4 Feb— The Chandra X-ray Observatory of US space agency NASA has found the best evidence yet that a vast cosmic web of hot gas contains the long-sought missing matter, scientists reported on Wednesday.

In their latest study, researchers led by Fabrizio Nicastro at the Harvard-Smithsonian Centre for Astrophysics said the Chandra X-ray Observatory has discovered two huge intergalactic clouds of such hot gas. Their paper will appear Thursday in the journal *Nature*.

Various measurements give a good estimate of the mass-density of the baryons, namely the neutrons and protons that make up the nuclei of atoms and ions, in the Universe 10 billion years ago.

However, sometime during the last 10 billion years a large fraction of the baryons have gone missing.

"An inventory of all the baryons in stars and gas inside and outside of

galaxies accounts for just over half the baryons that existed shortly after the Big Bang," Nicastro explained, "now we have found the likely hiding place of the missing baryons".

Computer simulations of the formation of galaxies and galaxy clusters have indicated that the missing baryons might be contained in an extremely diffuse web-like system of gas clouds from which galaxies and clusters of galaxies formed, researchers said.

ies and galaxy clusters have indicated that the missing baryons might be contained in an extremely diffuse web-like system of gas clouds from which galaxies and clusters of galaxies formed, researchers said.

MNA/Xinhua

Icy roads kill five in Germany

BERLIN, 3 Feb—Heavy snowfall turned traffic into chaos in southern and western Germany on Tuesday, killing at least five people and wounding dozens of others. According to reports reaching here, more than 170 road accidents occurred alone in Bavaria, as snowfall, as heavy as half a metre in some areas, swept across the state.

Besides Bavaria, road traffic accidents were also reported in the states of Rheinland-Pfalz, Niedersachsen and Nordrhein-Westfalen.

In those states, traffic jams lasted several kilometres due to accidents and difficulties caused by snowfall. Flights were cancelled or delayed at the Munich Airport, one of the busiest in southern Germany, while passengers were also stranded on high-speed trains between Frankfurt and Munich.

MNA/Xinhua

Species of animals face extinction due to global warming

EXETER (England), 3 Feb—Whole species of animals from frogs to leopards, living in vulnerable areas and with nowhere else to go, face extinction due to global warming, scientists said on Wednesday.

And the faster the temperature rises the worse it gets.

Steve Schneider from Stanford University, California, said there was clear proof that species were reacting to the 0.7 degrees Centigrade warming of the atmosphere that had already taken place over the past century.

"This is a harbinger — nature is already responding," he told reporters at a meeting on climate change. "There is a direct threat to the viability of many species on the planet."

The complication with rapid change was not only the need to speed up the rate of adaptation, mostly

through moving territory, but that at the margins, like at the poles or high up in mountains, there was nowhere to go and human settlements may lie in the way.

"The only way rapid climate change can affect species is through extinctions," Schneider said.—MNA/Reuters

Radioactive iodine can wipe out usually fatal form of cancer

BOSTON, 3 Feb—A single dose of antibodies laced with radioactive iodine can wipe out a usually fatal form of cancer in the lymphatic system, researchers reported on Wednesday.

A new treatment for advanced-stage follicular lymphoma known as the Bexxar therapeutic regimen was found to shrink tumours in 95 per cent of patients, researchers said. And it took a fraction of the time of traditional chemotherapy with fewer side effects.

The non-Hodgkins

lymphoma affects about 60,000 people in the United States and is not considered curable using traditional treatments. Even when patients initially respond to treatment, the disease almost always comes back and becomes more difficult to treat.

Lymphoma is a cancer

that affects immune cells in the lymphatic system, which helps filter out germs and is important in fighting disease.

The Bexxar treatment is already approved for people with follicular lymphoma once conventional chemotherapy has failed.

The study, published in

this week's *New England Journal of Medicine*, was designed to see if the treatment should be given as a first line of attack.

Lead study author Mark Kaminski of the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Centre said the results rival any treatment for follicular lymphoma, in-

cluding chemotherapy. The Bexxar therapy takes about a week to complete compared to many months for chemotherapy regimens.

"This (antibody) drug has been primarily relegated by most clinicians as a last-ditch effort," Kaminski told *Reuters*.

MNA/Reuters



Comedian Judy Tenuta arrives at the 2005 Funny Ladies We Love Awards in West Hollywood, California, on 2 Feb, 2005. —INTERNET



A chimpanzee is seen at a zoo in New Delhi on 1 Feb, 2005. Chimpanzees, also called chimps, are the common name for two species namely the Common Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) and the Pygmy Chimpanzee (*Pan paniscus*).—INTERNET

Research finds effects of cell phone use on driving

WASHINGTON, 3 Feb—Drivers who talk on cell phones end up driving like elderly people, with slower reaction times and a tendency to miss what is right in front of them, US researchers said on Wednesday.

Even when they used "hands-free" devices, young drivers who normally have the quickest reflexes drove like 70-year-olds, the team at the University of Utah found.

"If you want to act old really fast, then talk on a cell phone while driving," said Frank Drews, an assistant professor of psychology who worked on the study.

"If you put a 20-year-old driver behind the wheel with a cell phone, their reaction times are the same as a 70-year-old driver who is not using a

cell phone," added David Strayer, a psychology professor who lead the study and who has been studying the effects of cell phone use on driving for years.

Writing in the journal *Human Factors*, Strayer's team said they tested people aged 65 to 74 against drivers aged 18 to 25.

Preliminary tests showed older people were slower in processing information, which is normal and expected.

Then the volunteers used a driving simulator with dashboard instru-

ments, a steering wheel and brake and gas pedals, surrounded by three screens showing freeway scenes and traffic.

An image showed a car in front repeatedly hitting its brakes.

Each volunteer drove four simulated 10-mile freeway trips lasting about 10 minutes each, talking on a cell phone with a research assistant during half the trips and driving without talking the other times.

Only hands-free devices were used.

The older drivers hit

the brakes more slowly to avoid the car in front, tended to hit the brakes twice, took longer to regain speed and had a greater following distance.

Cell phone use made older people drive even worse and younger drivers act like elderly drivers. "Once drivers on cell phones hit the brakes, it takes them longer to get back into the normal flow of traffic," Strayer said. "The net result is they are impeding the overall flow of traffic."

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Real Betis defeat Gamenet 4-3

MADRID, 3 Feb— Real Betis ended Third Division Gamenet's heroic King's Cup run on Wednesday with a thrilling 4-3 home win to book their place in the semifinals 6-5 on aggregate.

Betis looked on course for an easy victory after quick-fire strikes from Fernando and David Ruvas put them 2-0 up but giant-killers Gamenet scored three second-half goals to set up a nail-biting finale. Trailing 2-0 at the break, midfielder Miki Albert put Gamenet back in their tie against Betis when he turned the ball in from close range after Aaron Bueno had cut a fine pass across the face of the goal.

The home side restored their advantage just before the hour was up, in -form Brazilian striker Ricardo Oliveira volleying into the top corner after an attempted clearance dropped into his path.

Gamenet were not going to give up without a fight, however, and substitute Ruben Blaya kept their hopes alive when he poked home from a metre out after Betis keeper Pedro Contreras had spilled a free kick. —MNA/Reuters

AC Milan crush Messina 4-1

ROME, 3 Feb— AC Milan cut Juventus' lead at the top of Serie A to five points when they won 4-1 at Messina and Juve lost 1-0 at home to Sampdoria on Wednesday.

Juventus' second Serie A defeat of the season left them on 50 points from 22 matches with champions Milan on 45 from the same number of games played.

Inter Milan held on to third place with a 1-0 home win over bottom club Atalanta. Fourth-placed Udinese ended a run of three defeats with a comfortable 3-0 victory against Chievo Verona.

Juventus' smooth progress at the top faltered as Sampdoria midfielder Aimo Diana grabbed the only goal with the simplest of tap-ins after 33 minutes at the Delle Alpi stadium.

Juve found themselves battling against a well-organized Sampdoria side inspired by a superb individual performance from goalkeeper Francesco Antonioli.

The leaders almost grabbed an early advantage, when David Trezeguet narrowly failed to connect with a ball that rolled across the face of the visitors' goal.

Though second best in open play, Sampdoria took full advantage from a free kick when Aimo Diana was presented with a goal after Cristian Zenoni's header rebounded off the bar.

Juve piled on the pressure after the break but could not find a way past

Antonioli, who tipped a Trezeguet shot round his post and then twice denied Zlatan Ibrahimovic from close range to preserve his side's lead. —MNA/Reuters

Campbell will be sidelined for two weeks

LONDON, 4 Feb— Arsenal defender Sol Campbell will be sidelined for two weeks after sustaining an ankle injury in the 4-2 defeat by bitter rivals Manchester United on Tuesday.

The England centre back will miss games against Aston Villa and Crystal Palace as well as the international friendly against the Netherlands at Villa Park on February 9. Campbell, who gave away possession to give United the chance to score their opening goal, limped off in the 79th minute with a twisted ankle.

"Sol's injury leaves us short in defence," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said on Thursday. "I don't know exactly what I will do yet but I have a bit more time to think about it."

With Kolo Toure serving the last of a three-game ban and Philippe Senderos injured, Justin Hoyte could play in central defence at Villa alongside Pascal Cygan. —MNA/Reuters

Caen shock Monaco to step into League Cup final

PARIS, 4 Feb— Caen stunned 10-man Monaco 3-1 on Wednesday to reach the final of the French League Cup versus Strasbourg.

Monaco coach Didier Deschamps paid the price for fielding a second-string team without strikers Javier Saviola and Mohamed Kallon, midfielders Lucas Bernardi and goalkeeper Flavio Roma.

Caen's win was secured with first-half goals by Sebastien Mazure and Reynald Lemaitre. The team lying 16th in the First Division league standings scored their third goal in the 53rd minute when Cyrille Watier slotted home a penalty. Monaco goalkeeper Fabien Audard was sent off in the 65th minute for a foul on Watier and the penalty converted by Emmanuel Adebayor seven minutes from time

was merely a consolation for last season's Champions League runners-up.

On Tuesday, a second-half goal by midfielder Alexander Farnerud put

Strasbourg through to the final with a 1-0 victory over St. Etienne.

The final will be played on April 30 at the Stade de France. —MNA/Xinhua



Monaco's forward Senegalese Souleymane Camara (L) vies with Caen's defender Nicolas Seube (R) during their French League Cup semi final football match at Malherbe stadium in Caen. Caen stunned Monaco 3-1. —INTERNET

Athletic Bilbao beat Valladolid 1-0 in King Cup

MADRID, 4 Feb— A Fran Yeste penalty gave Athletic Bilbao a 1-0 win at Second Division Valladolid on Thursday that earned the Basque side a place in the King's Cup semifinals alongside Real Betis and Osasuna.

The midfielder sent Valladolid keeper Francisco Lledo the wrong way with his perfectly struck 74th-minute spot kick to put his side through 4-2 on aggregate after Joseba Etxeberria had been brought down in the area.

Betis booked their place in the semis on Wednesday when they ended Third Division Gamenet's heroic Cup run with a thrilling 4-3 home win to progress 6-5 on aggregate.

And Osasuna reached the last four for the second time in three seasons after a 3-1 win at home to Sevilla allowed them to turn round a first-leg deficit and seal a 4-3 aggregate victory over the Andalusians.

The final member of the semifinal quartet will not be known until February 16 when Atletico Madrid and Numancia play their second-leg match.

Atletico ground out a 0-0 draw at Numancia in Wednesday's rescheduled first leg that was postponed after the original fixture

was called off because of a frozen pitch.

Bilbao, who held a narrow 3-2 lead after last week's first leg, took no risks against Second Division opponents in the first half as they kept plenty of men behind the ball and looked to play on the break.

Valladolid, who disposed of Real Madrid in the last round, pushed hard but were constantly frustrated by the well

organized Bilbao defence and the closest they came to breaking the deadlock was a sliced shot by Alvaro Anton in the opening minute. It was the visitors, accompanied by close to 5,000 travelling fans, who enjoyed the best chance of the half when Etxeberria raced clear after beating the offside trap only to see his angled shot bobble wide of the far post in the 28th minute.

MNA/Reuters



Valladolid's Alvaro Caballero (R) battles for the ball with Athletic Bilbao's Aritz Solabarrieta during their Kings Cup quarter-final second leg soccer match, at Valladolid's Jose Zorrilla stadium, on 3 Feb, 2005. Athletic Bilbao won 1-0.

INTERNET

Brazil qualify for World Youth C'ship

ARMENIA (Colombia), 4 Feb— Brazil sneaked an injury-time winner against Chile to qualify for the World Youth Championship and Argentina joined them after holding hosts Colombia 1-1 in the South American Under-20 championship.

Colombia, who had already qualified for the finals in the Netherlands in June, opened the scoring on Wednesday with Hugo Rodallega, the tournament's top scorer, converting an 11th minute penalty for his 10th goal in eight games.

Argentina equalized when Ezequiel Garay scored direct from a free kick in the 27th minute.

Brazil striker Rafael Sobs also scored from a free kick in the 92nd minute as they beat Chile 2-1 in Manizales. Evandro had put the Brazilians ahead

with a controversial penalty in the 52nd minute, Juan Lorca equalizing with seven minutes left. With one round of matches to play, Colombia, who were backed by a noisy 30,000 crowd, lead the six-team final round with 10 points from four games. Brazil are second with nine, followed by Argentina (6), Chile and Uruguay (4) and Venezuela (0).

Chile and Uruguay face each other in their last match to decide who takes the fourth South American spot on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

Heineken Classic golf tournament

SYDNEY, 4 Feb— Australian Peter Lonard and South African Trevor Immelman fired matching six-under-par rounds to share the early clubhouse lead on the opening day of the Heineken Classic at Royal Melbourne on Thursday.

Winner of the Australian Open and Australian PGA titles in November and December, Lonard collected three birdies on the front nine and another three coming back in a flawless round of 65.

Immelman played the back nine first on a wet and windy day and went out in just 29 after making six birdies in seven holes.

The 25-year-old picked up another two shots on the way home to reach eight-under-par but a double-bogey at the par-three eighth hole saw him drop back to six-under.

Englishman Steve Webster joined them at six-under after 12 holes but slipped back to five-under with a bogey

at 14 to trail by a shot with Australian Brad Lamb and Colombian Camilo Vilegas, who were also still on the course.

South African Ernie Els, chasing his fourth successive win in Australia's richest golf tournament, shot a course-record 60 in the first round last year but could only manage a one-over-par 72 this time around.

The world number three made three birdies in four holes on the way home but spoiled his card with four bogeys.

Thursday's tee off times were delayed by two and a half hours to allow tournament organizers to clean up after the course was drenched by 24 hours of heavy rain.

MNA/Reuters

Mon State marching to...

(from page 10)

Mon State are enjoying good health. The Government has built seven station hospitals, upgraded two 16-bed hospitals to 25-bed facilities and constructed a new 50-bed hospital in the state, which now has 28 hospitals including a 300-bed

and built one traditional medicine hospital. The number of traditional medicine dispensaries has reached 12. The state in running a nursing school and a midwifery school. Please see Table I to know the education development of the state.

rural roads have emerged in the state.

As 157 miles of new urban roads have been built their total number at present has reached 396 miles and three furlongs, including 151 miles and seven furlongs of tarred roads. The number of urban bridges is 850. Of the ten towns projected to instal water

present, up from 97 miles and two furlongs in 1988. The number of its rural bridges has reached 528. The village clean water supply project has covered 784 villages, and up to now, 550 units of waterworks have completed in 388 villages.

Border areas and national races development

The developments in Mon State include the significant progress of a new sector opened by the Government to further cement national unity and foster Union Spirit.

The border areas and national races development project involves the task of promoting the socio-economy of the national race families which have returned to the legal fold. A domestic science school is training youths of border areas to earn their living.

The Table J shows the Government's goodwill to ensure peace and progress of all the people of Mon State including those who have returned to the legal fold.

Information and public relations

The information sector is playing a key role in helping improve the knowledge of the people and vitalize their patriotism and Union Spirit. I would like to present the Table K for the read-

ers to know the government's goodwill endeavours and the sound results of development of the whole Union is achieving at present in the march towards a golden land of unity and amity.

(Translation: TMT+TTA)

Table K

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
- TV retransmission station	1	4	3
- IPRD offices	-	11	11
- IPRD libraries	5	11	6
- departmental libraries	-	1	1
- rural libraries	-	548	548
- e-library	-	9	9

facility and a 100-bed facility.

It has also built two more rural health centres, two new regional health centres, appointed 415 more health staff

Urban and rural development

The prospering urban and rural areas in Mon State are enjoying greater progress than in 1988. Networks of urban and

supply system, seven now have plumbing.

Mon State has 625 miles and five furlongs of rural roads including 87 miles and six furlongs of tarred roads at



Booths of the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road are being renovated to conduct the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day commemorative exhibition.—MNA



Saturday, 5 February View on today:

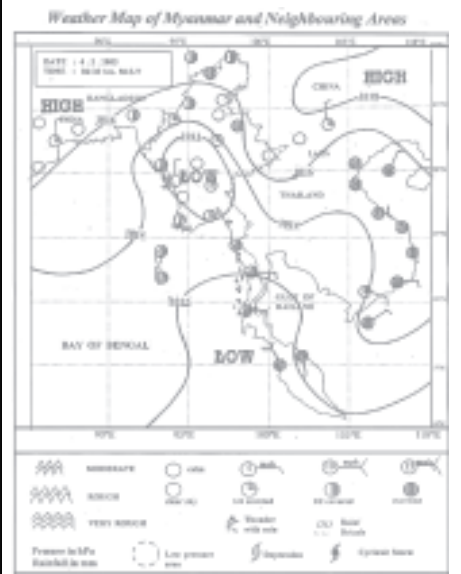
- 7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am 5. အတီးဖြင့်ပွဲ
- 8:05 am 6. Musical Programme
- 8:15 am 7. (၅၈) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ဆောင်ရာနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအခမ်းအပွဲ
- 8:25 am 8. စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းပုထိုးလုံးတံတား
- 8:30 am 9. International news
- 8:45 am 10. Grammar made easy
- 11:00 am 1. Martial song

- 11:15 am 2. Musical Programme
- 11:30 am 3. News
- 11:40 am 4. Round-up of the Week's TV Local News
- 12:10 pm 5. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ပန်းမေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၈)
- 12:10 pm 6. "အရုဏ်ဘိုဏ် ပုံရိပ်များ" ကျော်ရဲအောင်၊ မေသန္တာဘိုဏ်၊ သင်းသင်းယုလှိုင်၊ ခါရီကီတာ-မောင်ဝတ္ထု
- 1:45 pm 7. International news
- 2:50 pm 8. ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ရွှေရတနာ (၅၀) မြောက် ပြည့်နှစ် နှစ်တိုင်တိုင် ပြည့်ဆောင်ရာနှစ် အမျိုးသား (အလွတ်တန်း) ဘောလုံး ဖြိုင်ပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအခမ်းအပွဲ (ပထမအကြိမ်လှည့်)
- 4:45 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:55 pm 3. အဝေးသင် တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးဖြူ) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
- 5:10 pm 4. (၅၈) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ဆောင်ရာနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအခမ်းအပွဲ
- 5:25 pm 5. Games for children
- 5:50 pm 6. ဒုတိယအကြိမ်အမှတ်တမ်းကဏ္ဍ: ရေးအထိမ်းအမှတ်နေ့ဆွေးနွေးခန်း
- 6:05 pm 7. Discovery
- 6:15 pm 8. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံ ဂုဏ်ပြုပေး
- 6:30 pm 9. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 10. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ကြီးသွယ်တဲ့လင်းရိုင်ငယ်" (အပိုင်း-၅၁)
- 7:35 pm 12. (၅၈) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ဆောင်ရာနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအခမ်းအပွဲ
- 13. ပြည့်ဆောင်ရာနှစ်ဇာတ် မပြတ် ရင်းသန် မိုင်မာရန်မှာ ဒိုဝန်တာ "သခင်ပွင့်လန်းခမ်း" နားဝေစည် ရရှိတိုက်ပွဲ
- 8:00 pm 14. News
- 15. International news
- 16. Weather report
- 17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်သံသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၅)
- 18. The next day's programme



Saturday, 5 February Tune in today:

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Judy Judy Judy Perspectives
- 8:40 am Music: Will you be there
- 8:45 am National news/Slogan
- 9:05 am Music: Rose in my heart
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:15 am Music: Sha La La
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch Time Music -Keep it together -Hands -I just fall in love again
- 9:00 pm ASEAN Review -Songs/News
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Myanma culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt -Pyidaungsu: A living reality Part I
- 9:30 pm Souvenirs -Moonlight and roses
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



WEATHER

Friday, 4 February, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) below normal in Shan State, (6°C) below normal in Chin State and (3°C) above normal in Mon State, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and about normal in remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haha (0°C), Namsam (2°C), Lashio and Pinlaung (5°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 3-2-2005 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 4-2-2005 was 62°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 4-2-2005 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 3-2-2005 was (6.9) hours approx. Rainfalls on 4-2-2005 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 8 mph from Northwest at (10:30) hours MST on 3-2-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in South Andaman Sea and generally fair in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 5-2-2005:** Except for the possibility of isolated light rain in the Kachin State, weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Slight increase of night temperature in Lower Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-2-2005:** Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-2-2005:** Fair weather. **Weather outlook for first weekend of february 2005:** During the coming weekend weather will be generally fair in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

Earthquake report

(Issued at 11:30 hours MST on Today) An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.3) Richter Scale with its epicenter about (400) miles North of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (02) hrs (43) min (20) sec MST on 4th February, 2005.

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

Preparatory work being carried out sector-wise

NC Convening Commission, Work Committee, Management Committee meet

YANGON, 4 Feb—The work coordination meeting No 2/2005 of the National Convention Convening Commission, the National Convention Convening Work Committee and the National Convention Convening Management Committee took place at the Pyidaungshu Hall of Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division at 3 pm today with an address by Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were members of NCCC, Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe and work committee members, Chairman of NCCMC Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and management committee members,

Joint-Secretary-2 of NCCC Director-General

of Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein acted as MC.

In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that it had already been announced the National Convention to resume on 17 February; that preparatory work for the convention is being carried out sector-wise and it has been completed to a certain degree; that discussions are to be made at the meeting to fulfil the requirements; that arrangements are being made to fill in for the delegates who are not able to attend the convention on health grounds and delegates who have passed away; and that invitations had been sent to 1,086 delegates.

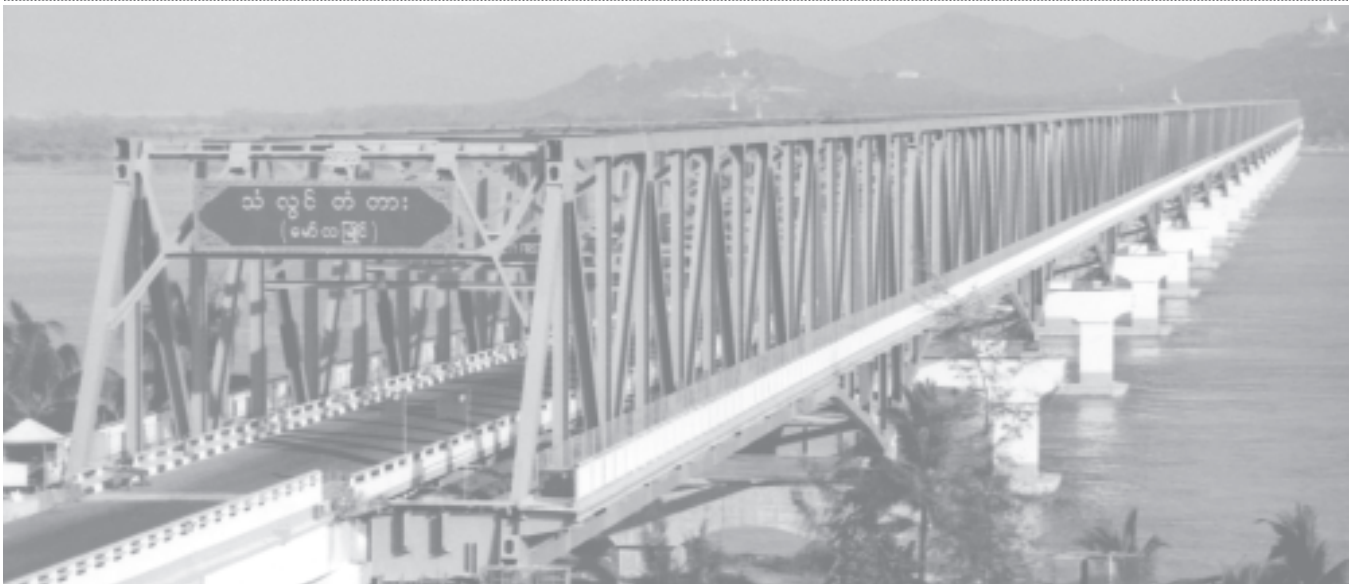
The delegates to the National Convention are educated and well-experienced persons. Various
(See page 6)



Chairman of the NCC Commission Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses the work coordination meeting No 2/2005. — MNA



Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), the longest, the largest, and most valuable one of its kind in history of Myanmar



Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) across Thanlwin River in Mawlamyine Township, Mon State. The 11,575-foot-long (over two miles) bridge is a rail-cum-road facility.