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Towards perpetual flourishing of Union Spirit

The State Peace and Development Council has taken lessons from history in which the national strength was derived from national unity, and national weakness and backwardness were the result of the loss of national solidarity. It has laid down the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty and has been strengthening national unity, with the national re-consolidation and the perpetual flourishing of Union Spirit as the objective.



Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
 (From the message sent to the 57th Anniversary Union Day)

Senior General Than Shwe inspects Mawlamyine Railway Station Project, Padomma Soap Factory

YANGON, 8 Feb— Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by SPDC members General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Mon State PDC Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, ministers, senior military officers, and officials of the SPDC Office, inspected the Mawlamyine Railway Station Project in Mawlamyine yesterday.

They were welcomed there by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister U Pe Than and officials.

Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on the site chosen for the construction of the approach railroad to the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), tasks being carried out sector-wise by Public Works and the Myanma Railways, the construction of the ASEAN standard railroad, work progress, and the building of the Mawlamyine Railway Station; and Construction Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun, on completion in building 62 out of 179 pillars of the approach road.

In response, the Senior General provided as-

sistance for the project, and gave guidance on the speedy implementation of the construction tasks by the Ministry of Rail Transportation and the Ministry of Construction for speedy completion of



Senior General Than Shwe observes production process at the Padomma Soap Factory. — MNA



the station, the approach road and the railroad, and arrangements for ensuring smooth transport for the people to be able to travel by train from Yangon to Dawei within 12 hours.

Next, the Senior General observed the blueprint of the station and approach roads, the construction of the station, stockpiling of the materials for the project, and progress of laying rails.

So far, 4.25 out of 6.19 miles of the earthworks of two approach roads to the bridge have been completed, and six out of 15 bridges on the approach roads have been constructed.

(See page 6)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 9 February, 2005

Keep on working in concert to raise momentum of development

The government of Myanmar is fulfilling all the requirements in economic, social and transport sectors for peace, stability and development of the Union and at the same time paving the way for the emergence of a discipline- flourishing democracy in accordance with the historical background of the nation and traditions and culture of its people.

It is obvious that the political, economic and social conditions of present-day Myanmar, compared with those before 1988, has made remarkable strides. It is not only because the Tatmadaw Government, never losing sight of interests of the nation and the people, has always systematically implemented the carefully-drawn plans but also the entire national people have always cooperated with the government in all the national endeavours.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, in his meeting with responsible personnel in Mon and Kayin States on 5 February, said that the government was fulfilling all the requirements for the development of various regions in the Union and that only with regional development would national development be possible and so it was necessary to put our energies into all regional and national endeavours. In striving for the development of the nation, we should do so on a self-help basis. Moreover, government employees should always be in oneness with the people and dedicate themselves to rural and regional development tasks for higher living standard of the people.

As agriculture is the mainstay of the national economy, it is necessary to strive for the development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. With all-round development of economic sectors the national economy will become a reality and per capita income will rise. Per capita income was 1940 kyats in 1988 but it has now risen to 160,000 kyats.

While the government is making constant efforts for continued social and economic progress of the nation, we would like to call on all those responsible and the entire national people to work in concert with the government to raise the momentum of development.

Inma-Inngu earth road in Thegon Township opened

YANGON, 8 Feb—As a gesture of hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day, the Inma-Inngu earth road in Inma Village, Thegon Township, Bago Division, was opened on 5 February morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by Joint Commissioner of Bago Division General Administration Department U Pe Thant, Deputy Commissioner of Pyay District GAD U Ba Win and departmental officials, social organizations and local people.

Joint Commissioner U Pe Thant made a speech on the occasion and Deputy Commissioner U Ba Win reported on measures taken for opening of the road.

Next, Joint Commissioner U Pe Thant, Deputy Commissioner U Ba Win and Inma Village USDA member U Aung Than Kyaw formally opened the road.

The two-mile long road was built at a cost of K 2.2 million—K 1 million contributed by the people and K 1.2 million by the government.—MNA

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

Coord meeting on production development held

YANGON, 8 Feb — A coordination meeting on production development of Cottage Industries Department under the Ministry of Cooperatives was held at the CID (Headquarters) in North Okkalapa Township yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min and directors-general and officials of related cooperatives societies.

After delivering an address on the occasion, the minister arrived at Garment Factory owned by Innerer Asia Co and inspected its functions and gave necessary instructions. Next, he looked into materials manufactured by the CID to be used in rice mill. The meeting continued in the afternoon. Director-General of the CID U Sein Than delivered an address.

MNA

IPRD marks its 14th anniversary

YANGON, 8 Feb—The Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information celebrated its 14th anniversary at the head office on Pansodan Street here this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister U Thein Sein, departmental heads, officials, staff and guests.

The minister delivered a speech on the occasion, and presented gifts to the outstanding departments and service personnel.



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents gift to an outstanding employee.—MNA

After the ceremony, the minister, the deputy minister and officials had a cordial conversation with the staff.

MNA

Rural development affairs inspected in Magway Div



Director-General Col Myo Myint views the sinking of a tube-well. — H

YANGON, 8 Feb — Director-General Col Myo Myint of Development Affairs Department under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs together with officials concerned inspected tasks for sinking tube-well to get potable water in various townships in Magway Division.

First, they went to Thabyasan (North) village tube-well sunk by Magway Township Development Affairs Committee and inspected pumping water there. The tube-well has a depth of 640 feet and produces 2500 gallons of water per hour. Similarly, they checked tasks for sinking a tube well in Hnawkan village carried out by Yenangyoung Township Development Affairs Committee.

Next, they inspected a tube well in Latpanpin village carried out by Yezagy Township DAC, ones in Ywakon village and Kyaukphu village by Myine Township DAC.

Afterwards, the director-general met with officials concerned in Pakokku, Seikphyu, Pauk and Yezagy townships and urged them to finish the tasks in time.

MNA

Pyay road to be closed during Union Day ceremony

YANGON, 8 Feb — Authorities concerned have already announced that Pyay road between Ahlon and Shin Saw Pu Streets will be temporarily closed to traffic from 6 am to 9 am while the 58th Anniversary Union Day is being held on 12 February. — MNA

UMFCCI President's Trophy Golf Tournament held

YANGON, 8 Feb — The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry held its fourth president's trophy golf tournament and prize presentation ceremony in Panhlaing Golf Course on 6 February morning. Altogether 160 golfers took part in the tournament.

The prize presentation ceremony was held at Yuzana Hotel at 7 pm on that day. During the ceremony, President of UMFCCI U Win Myint delivered an address and Chairman of Sports Committee U Tun Aung (Taw Win Tun Company) explained the purpose to hold the tournament. Next, officials presented prizes to winners. Wellwishers rendering assistance to the tournament were presented certificates of honour.

MNA



Adviser U Aung Ko Win presents prize to a winner. — H



A Chinese musician plays the drum during a ceremony to start the Chinese New Year celebrations in a park in Beijing on 8 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET



Wen Jiabao's New year address highlights building a harmonious society

BELING, 8 Feb— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao highlighted on Monday the task of building a harmonious society in his address to a gathering in celebration of the Lunar New Year.

At the gathering presided over by Chinese President Hu Jintao, Wen extended festival greetings to people of all ethnic groups in China, reviewed China's significant achievements in 2004, and listed the tasks for 2005.

The premier vowed to build a harmonious

society featuring democracy, the rule of law, equity, justice, sincerity, amity, and vitality, saying this strategic task reflects the common aspiration of the Chinese people who are building a better life.

Such a harmonious society will give full scope

to people's intelligence and creativity, enable all the people to share the social wealth created in reform and development, and forge an ever closer relationship between the people and government, and result in lasting stability and unity, Wen said.

MNA/Xinhua

HK citizens urged to join city-wide cleaning for Lunar New Year

HONG KONG, 7 Feb — Hong Kong Director of Home Affairs Pamela Tan on Sunday called on the public to join forces with government in the cleaning operation and maintaining environmental hygiene to prevent diseases.

To welcome the Year of the Rooster with a clean environment, cleaning operations have been taking place in 18 districts since last week. Participating in one of these cleaning activities in the Central and Western district Sunday afternoon, Tan cheered volunteers as they carried out cleaning work in a tenement building. She also helped distribute cleaning materials to the residents living nearby.

Tan expressed her gratitude to some 5,000 volunteers, including district councillors, District Clean Hong Kong Committee members, district hygiene squads and Mutual Aid Committee members, for their ardent support in the year-end clean-ups.—MNA/Xinhua

China launches ecological improvement for Tarim River

URUMQI, 7 Feb— China is endeavouring to put an end to the ecological degradation of its longest inland river, the Tarim, in western Xinjiang, since the central government launched a comprehensive ecological control programme for the Tarim in 2001, at a cost of approximately 10.7 billion yuan (1.3 billion US dollars).

Called as the "mother river" by ethnic people in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, the 1,321-kilometre Tarim boasts water resources of 42.9 billion cubic metres. Its valley covers an area of 1.02 million square kilometres. Over the past 2,000 years, vibrant cultures, including the Silk Road, the Loulan Kingdom, or Kroraina, and the Niya Kingdom, thrived along the Tarim. In recent five decades, the river valley achieved an unprecedented economic growth. It has become an important production base for cotton,

fruit, oil and petrochemicals.

In the late 20th Century, however, the Tarim River Valley began to experience ecological deterioration, eventually prompting government action. The programme hopes to see significant results within 10 years. The 10.7 billion yuan will go to nine major projects, which are scheduled for completion in 2008. The projects involve underground water development, waterway harnessing and ecological restoration and conservation, according to regional government officials.—MNA/Xinhua

Earthquake jolts Nicobar Island

HONG KONG, 7 Feb— An earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter Scale hit the area near the Nicobar Island, India, at 1:41 am Hong Kong Time Sunday (1741 GMT Saturday).

According to the Hong Kong Observatory Sunday, the epicenter was initially determined to be in the vicinity of the Nicobar Island about 340 kilometres north-northwest of Banda Aceh, Indonesia.

MNA/Xinhua

Road accidents claim 17 in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 Feb— Seventeen people died in road accidents across Malaysia on Saturday, raising to 50 the number killed on the road since "the Attitude Action" went into operation four days ago, according to an official statement on Sunday.

Malaysia Police Headquarters' Public Relations Unit head Mohamad Daud said in the statement that the 17 deaths occurred in 14 fatal accidents that were reported throughout the country.

Six of the deaths occurred on federal roads, five on urban roads, and two each on state roads, highways and other roads, he said. He also said that 847 road accidents were recorded Saturday whereby urban roads had the highest number of 406 followed by federal roads (185), state roads (151), highways (67) and other roads (38).—MNA/Xinhua

32 killed in Iraq attacks as suicide bombers target police

MOSUL, 7 Feb— At least 23 people were killed on Monday when a suicide bomber lured a group of Iraqi policemen into a trap in Mosul and another blew up a car alongside would-be police recruits in Baquba.

Another nine Iraqis, including an eight-year-old child, died in other attacks, security sources said.

It was the deadliest day for security forces in Iraq since the 30 January elections, which Washington said delivered a blow to the country's insurgency.

Militants loyal to Iraq's

most wanted man, Islamic insurgent bastion of Mosul when the bomber struck, said police. "The bomber was wearing a long coat. He called the young men over to him to gather around him and he set off the bomb," said Colonel Saad Aziz.

Policemen were waiting to collect their wages at the main hospital in the northern Sunni

insurgent bastion of Mosul when the bomber struck, said police. "The bomber was wearing a long coat. He called the young men over to him to gather around him and he set off the bomb," said Colonel Saad Aziz.

The victims included police who were due to be paid in the Mosul hospital complex. The relatively high wage is one reason the police have been able to find a steady stream of recruits despite the guerilla threat.—Internet

Martin says Canada has no plans to send troops to Iraq

OTTAWA, 7 Feb — Ottawa has no intention of sending Canadian troops to Iraq, Prime Minister Paul Martin said Monday.

Published reports have suggested that the United States wants Canada to send a small group of soldiers to Iraq, triggering questions in the House of Commons.

NDP leader Jack Layton demanded during question period that Martin hold a vote in the

House before troops might be sent.

But Martin went one better, saying no vote was necessary because no soldiers would be committed to the troubled Middle East nation.

"We refused to send Canadian troops to Iraq two years ago. That

decision stands," Martin told the Commons.

"Canadian troops will not be going to Iraq."

The issue of foreign troops serving in Iraq is expected to be on the agenda when Martin travels to Brussels later this month for a NATO summit.—Internet



A US soldier from the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment secures a street during a patrol in a residential area, in the restive northern Iraqi city of Mosul, 370km of Baghdad, on 7 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

Convention already laid down 104 basic principles to draw constitution that firmly guarantees flourishing of Union Spirit and non-disintegration of Union



Members of social organizations and locals marching to the mass rally. — MNA

YANGON, 8 Feb — Local people, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and other social organizations and departmental personnel hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention at a meeting held at Kawtparan model village in Mudon Township, Mawlamyine District, Mon State, on 6 February.

Speaking on the occasion, Meeting Chairman Mawlamyine District USDA Secretary Dr Toe Toe Aung said that this year's February has two significant days — the Union Day will be observed on 12 and National Convention will resume on 17 of this month. Myanmar people held the Panglong Conference on 12 February 1947 to strengthen national unity for regaining independence. The National Convention has been held to draft a constitution an essential requirement for the nation. Eight categories of delegates — delegates of political parties, delegates of representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel — have been attending the convention. The Convention has already laid down the 104 basic principles to draw a constitution that firmly guarantees the

flourishing of Union Spirit and non-disintegration of the Union. Thus all will have to strive for the success of the National Convention.

Mudon Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association member Daw Hla Htaik Maw said that since many years ago Myanmar races have been living in unity sharing joys and sorrows together. Thanks to the vision and farsightedness of the national leaders, Myanmar regained her independence with national unity. But the colonialist legacy had left behind armed conflicts in the nation that lasted for over 40 years. Thus, all should take the lessons of backwardness. All will have to lay sound foundations of unity to foster Union Spirit and strengthen national unity. The nation has used K 60,279 million — K 30,856 million from the border areas development funds and K 29,422 million from the respective ministries.

Member of Mudon Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Than Shwe Sin Htaik tabled a motion hailing the National Convention. She said the National Convention is a conference where fundamental principles for drafting the constitution are discussed in order to shape genuine discipline-flourishing democratic state.

The State Peace and Development Council laid down the seven-point

Road Map and the National Convention that has been adjourned since 1996 resumed on 17 May 2004.



Members of the panel of chairmen at the meeting in Mawlamyine District.—MNA

school and sinking of a tube well to Village PDC Chairmen U Shwe Tin and U Thauang Nyein.

Later, the presiding chairman passed resolutions of the rally after seeking the approval of

those present, and the rally came to an end with the chanting of slogans.

MNA



Mass rally in progress at Kawtparan model village, Mudon Township, Mawlamyine District . — MNA

She emphatically supported the forthcoming the National Convention to be held on 17 February.

Next, Executive of Mawlamyine District USDA Daw Thin Thin Mon reported on measures undertaken for rural development in the district.

Executive U Min Lun Aung of Mawlamyine District USDA seconded the motions of three delegates.

Executive U Thet Htwe of Mawlamyine District USDA presented K 1.5 million for renovation of primary school to Chairman of Kamaoak Village Peace and Development Council U Maw Myint.

Executive Dr Aung Kyaw Tun presented K 500,000 each for renovation of Wekali primary

Katha District hails Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 8 Feb — A ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention was held at Kyaukhtongyi village in Katha Township, Katha District, Sagaing Division, on 6 February.

Meeting Chairman Katha District USDA Secretary U Soe Soe gave a speech. Katha District USDA Executive Daw Myint Myint Thein discussed matters in support of Union Day, Katha Township Maternal and

Child Welfare Association Executive Daw Win Win in support of the National Convention and Wuntho Township USDA Joint Secretary U Soe Paing in support of the rural development tasks.

Katha Township USDA Secretary U Khin Maung Lwin seconded the three motions.

USDA members of Katha, Kawlin, Htigayint, Pinlebu, Banmauk, Wuntho and Indaw townships in Katha District, lo-

cal authorities, departmental personnel, members of Maternal Child Welfare Association, organizations for Women's Affairs, Red Cross, fire brigades and War Veterans Organization and local people numbering over 3,500 attending the meeting unanimously hailed the Union Day, and supported the National Convention and rural development task.

The meeting concluded with chanting of slogans. — MNA



Mawlamyine District Secretary Dr Toe Toe Aung. — MNA



Daw Aye Aye Myo and Daw Thet Hnin Wai. — MNA



Katha District holds mass rally at Kyaukhtongyi village, Katha Township, Katha District. — MNA

Holding of National Convention, first step of seven-point Road Map, in progress

YANGON, 8 Feb — Local people, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and other social organizations, departmental personnel and local authorities totalling over 2,000 hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention at Ramtralo model village in Falam Township, Falam District, Chin State, on 4 February.

Meeting Chairman Secretary of Falam District USDA U Tam Aung said that 12 February was set the Union Day after national races had signed the Panglong Agreement, making a declaration to

regain independence of the entire Union without discriminating between any regions. The holding of the National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map, is in the process. He also explained the developments in Chin State.

Falam Township USDA member Daw Van Lian Kywe tabled a motion hailing the Union Day. Next, Executive of Falam Township USDA U Kaw Liang Tang discussed in on support of the National Convention. He called for safeguarding the perpetuation of the Union. Afterwards, member of Falam Township USDA U



Falam District Secretary U Tam Aung speaks at the mass rally. — MNA



Za Tang spoke at length on rural development tasks and undertakings. Well-wishers presented cash for construction of roads, furniture for basic education



Falam Township Member Daw Ban Hlyan Kywe. — MNA



Falam Township Executive U Kawl Hlyan Htan. — MNA



Daw Ne Oak and Daw Htaung Naing Par. — MNA



Members of the panel of chairmen at the meeting in Falam District. — MNA

schools, renovation of the schools, construction of hydel electric power station and a computer to officials concerned. Next, Executive of Haka Township USDA Daw Swee man Tarl tabled a motion hailing the Union Day and the National Convention. The Chairman passed

resolutions of the rally after seeking the approval of those present, and the rally

came to an end with the chanting of slogans. — MNA

Langkho District hails Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 7 Feb— Langkho District held a mass rally to hail Union Day and support the National Convention at the Town Hall of Langkho Township, Langkho District, Shan State on 6 February morning.

Present on the occasion were secretaries and members of USDA from the district, townships and villages, members of War Veterans Organizations, Women's Affairs Committees, Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades and others numbering 650.

Secretary of Langkho District USDA U Sai San Win presided over the meeting together with Langkho Township WVO Chairman U Than Nyunt, Langkho District Women's Affairs Committee Chairperson Daw

Tin Tin Ohn, Joint Secretary of Langkho District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Hnin Yi and U Sai Hsan of Langkho.

Langkho Township USDA Executive Daw Nan Moe Khan acted as MC and Maukmai Township USDA Executive Daw Ei Thanda Maung

as co-MC.

Those present on the occasion saluted the State Flag.

Next, Secretary of Langkho District USDA U Sai San Win made a speech.

Matters on honouring the Union Day, supporting the National Convention, and regional development tasks were pre-

sented.

Later, Langkho District USDA Joint Secretary U Sai Kyaw Htay seconded the three motions.

The meeting hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention.

The meeting came to an end with the chanting of slogans.—MNA



Langkho District holds mass rally to hail Union Day and support National Convention. — MNA

Poem

Union Day Flag

- * At dawn
The red Victory Flag, flutters in the breeze
It lilt and titillates my heart.
- * Even though we fell into the mire of slavehood
We repulsed, strove to be free
What was once gold mosaic became firewood
But that firewood turned into a conflagration
Consumed itself and scared the intruder
For regaining Independence, life and blood
Were sacrificed and we didn't give in
The Flag bears testimony.
- * Moreover, blood brothers, true kin
Got together, held hands firm
And to regain, our Independence
Unflinching, to be in solidarity
The Flag gave us guidance
- * O, citizens all, beware
The old cat, with short tail
As is said, will consume the fat and eat the meat
The mad colonialist, who once befriended us
Who found it sweet to eat and tasty when swallowed
Still finds the thought salivating
To divide our nation, throughout
Still wants to turn things around, divide
Look and make sure you discern, surmise
to learn
Be on the ready
Noble Road Map, the Seven Steps
Have been laid down, to traverse along
With good intention, and vow
Let's go before the flag.
Let's bow in tribute.
- * O, at dawn
The red Victory Flag, flutters in the breeze
It lilt and titillates my heart.

Khun Ye Thway (Ayethayar) (Trs)

Senior General Than Shwe inspects Mawlamyine . . .

(from page 1)

The area of the station is 4,000 feet long and 1,000 feet wide with 19 railroads. On completion, the station will be 288 feet long and 110 feet wide and up to now, 75 per cent of the construction has finished.

The Senior General viewed the work progress and proceeded to Padomma Soap Factory near Thebyugon village in Paung Township. Lt-Gen Tin Aye gave an account of the purpose of the establishment of the factory, the area and the cost of the construction of the factory, annual profit, kinds of the products, and distribution of the items.

The Senior General gave guidance, saying that steps are to be taken for the items to gain a firm foothold in the markets, and for production of a variety of quality soap. Means and ways are to be sought for manufacturing a wide range of export-quality soap, and distribution of the goods in local market at reasonable prices.

In conclusion, the Senior General called for systematic sharing of duties for greater achievement.

Next, they viewed the production process at the factory which was put into service on 23-3-2003.

In the afternoon, the Senior General inspected progress of Mudon. The Senior General arrived back here via Mawlamyine.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen



Senior General Than Shwe makings cash donations to the funds of the Kyaikthalan Pagoda.

(News on page 16)— MNA

Htay Oo, who accompanied the Senior General, on 6 February inspected the Perennial Crops Research Division under the Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise near Phar-ak village, Mawlamyine Township.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan on 6 February inspected Mawlamyine District Information and Public Relations Department. The min-

ister also held a meeting with the staff. After that, he visited the TV retransmission station in Mawlamyine.

Similarly, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt inspected the chosen site for construction of a vocational training centre for women, and the arrangements for conducting the courses. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe hears a report presented by Lt-Gen Tin Aye at the Padomma Soap Factory near Thebyugon village, Paung Township. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe inspects progress in construction of Mawlamyine Railway Station and laying rails. — MNA

Regional development undertakings viewed in Kawthoung District

YANGON, 8 Feb—Central Panel of Patrons of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Member Tainthayi Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Coastal Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and MWVO Central Organizing Committee member Minister for Livestock and Fishery Brig-Gen Maung Thein held a meeting with Kawthoung WVO members in Kawthoung on 4 February, and presented K 2 million for setting up a fund of District WVO.

On the morning of 5 February, the commander and the minister inspected the jetty of the Golden Panda Co in Ayeyeiknein ward in Kawthoung. They

visited Pyidawaye Pagoda in Annawa ward and offered alms to Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Aungchantha Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panñasami. They inspected the environs of the statue of King Bayintnaung and the view point, and Kawthoung People's Hospital.

They met service personnel, townsenders, and members of social organizations in Maryan village, Khamaukkyi, Kawthoung District. K 3 million donated by the State, K 1 million by the commander and the minister, and K 2 million by the wellwishers for construction of a Maryan affiliated basic education middle school to were presented the headmistress and an official.

Then, they viewed Parchan jetty and dealt with conservation of Parchan preserved forest and security measures and looked into the site for construction of the school.

On 6 February, they inspected the cold storage of Annawa Soe Co Ltd in Wahgyun village in Bokpyin Township, Wahgyun post-primary school and self-reliant library.

In the afternoon, they viewed the construction of the archway of Myeik Maha Siddhijaya Pagoda, the ordination hall, and the Myeik Sasana Beikman. The minister accepted K 1 million donated by U Chin Teik-Daw Than Sein of Daweizu ward in Myeik.

MNA

58th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition...

(from page 16)

and Development Affairs, Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Construction and present political and social developments. They were displayed with the aids of photos and painting.

Computer quiz and language lab contests will also be held daily. Prizes will be given to basic education schools.

The exhibition will open to the public daily from 9 am to 5 pm at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall till 16 February. —MNA

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein formally opens the Union Day exhibition.

MNA



Chairman of Union Day Organizing Management Committee meets Union Day representatives

YANGON, 8 Feb—Chairman of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Organizing Management Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe met members of national race cultural troupes from states and divisions and representatives of Union Solidarity and Development Association, who are here to attend the 58th Anniversary Union Day ceremony and dinner at No 1 Transit Centre on Bayintnaung Road a 4 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Management Committee and officials.

On the occasion, Chairman of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Organizing Management Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe greeted members of national race cultural troupes from states and divisions and representatives of Union Solidarity and Development Association individually and left the venue in the evening.—MNA

Union Day delegates tour Yangon

YANGON, 8 Feb—The members of cultural troupes of the national races and the Union Solidarity and Development Association from States and Divisions made an excursion tour of Yangon today.

They are the 58th Anniversary Union Day delegates on a visit here to attend the 58th Anniversary Union Day commemorative dinner.

They visited the Memorial to Fallen Heroes and laid a wreath and paid tribute to the fallen heroes.

Next, they visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and made cash donations to the pagoda funds. — MNA

Myeik District commemorates Union Day, hails National Convention



Myeik District holds mass rally in honour of Union Day and support of National Convention. — MNA



The column of Kyunsu Township marching to the mass rally. MNA

YANGON, 8 Feb—A mass rally to commemorate Union Day and support the National Convention took place at Kyweku model village in Myeik Township, Myeik District, Taninthayi Division, yesterday morning.

It was attended by Division USDA Secretary U Kyaw Kyaw Htay, secretaries, executives, and members of USDAs of Myeik District and townships, townsenders, members of Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association,

Red Cross Society and auxiliary fire brigade and locals numbering more than 2,700.

Myeik District Secretary Dr Kyaw Hsan chaired the meeting together with District WVO Chairman U Thein Soe, District MCWA President Dr San San, District Organization for Women's Affairs Daw Swe Swe and townselder U Hla Win of Sandawut village-tract. District Executive Daw Aye Aye Min emceed the rally together with Myeik Township Executive Daw Nilar Myint.

The meeting chairman delivered a speech.

Palaw Township Secretary U Aung Myint tabled a motion, calling for honouring of Union Day. Kyunsu Township Secretary U Win Shein tabled a motion, calling for supporting the National Convention. Taninthayi Township Secretary U Htin Paw proposed a motion, calling for rural development tasks being carried out in Myeik District. Myeik Township Secretary U Moe Myint seconded the motions. The meeting chairman sought the approval of the attendees. Those presented chanted the slogans, and it brought the meeting to an end. — MNA



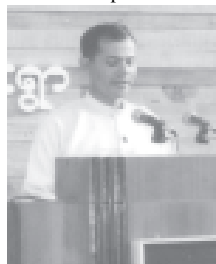
Myeik District Secretary Dr Kyaw Hsan. MNA



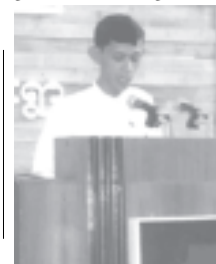
Myeik Township Secretary U Moe Myint. MNA



Palaw Township Secretary U Aung Myint. MNA



Taninthayi Township Secretary U Htin Paw. MNA



Kyunsu Township Secretary U Win Shein. MNA



Daw Aye Aye Min and Daw Nilar Myint. MNA

Hundred fruits from a common stem—Our Union



The Union of Myanmar is formed with seven states and seven divisions, in which, all the national races are living in weal or woe.

It is their family spirit of amity, sympathy, helpfulness, mutual reliance, understanding, forbearance and mutual interest that has made the nationalities to live in firm unity without having any regional or ideological discrimination.

It is a loveable Myanmar character that comes out from the family spirit reflecting the Union which is like a stem with 100 fruits.

At the graduation of the 47th Intake of Defence Services Academy, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of De-

Table B

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Extended livestock breeding (1=100,000)	10.12	32.45	22.33
Extended acres of fish and prawn breeding			
- acres of fish farming	-	226.13	226.13
- prawn breeding	-	935.21	935.21

General Than Shwe said, "All the national races born of the same stock of ancestors have been living through thick and thin in our nation. It has been so long since all the national races have been enjoying equal rights as citizens right from birth. All the national races are loyal to the State, and have friendly and good nature, which are also characteristics of the Myanmar race."

The Tatmadaw always serves the interest of the Union with loyalty. It views the nation's future with sincerity.

With generosity, it is exerting all its efforts for

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Taninthayi Division marching to new golden land of unity and amity

Thiha Aung

Table C (Square mile)

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Reserved forest*	4500	4526	26
Protected public forest*	-	357	357
Natural area*	18.99	2234.38	2215.39
Setting up of forest (acre)	600	9795	9195
- acres of commercial plantation	600	7875	7275
- acres of village plantation	-	1770	1770
- acres of watershed plantation	-	150	150
acres of Thitseint plantation	-	300	300
Tree planting of community movement	0.01	4.52	4.51

progress of all the states and divisions. And with goodwill, it is erasing all doubts among the nationalities and is leading them on the correct way.

At the ceremony to put Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) the largest and most magnificent one

wished to build the bridge that is an auspicious facility benefiting both the region and the nation. But it could not build the facility sooner because of many difficulties, especially the financial and technological constraints, that made it waited for an

acquiring the technology and ability to build such a large bridge.

"Whatever difficulties the nation is facing, the united strength, and the strength, which comes out from the firm community peace and stability and the rule of law, are of vital importance for the nation. And the two strengths will enable the nation to overcome all kinds of difficulties it is facing."

Division is the southernmost region of the Union. On its 16,736-square-mile territory live Bamar, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan and Salon national races. Forming a union within the Union, the division has a population of about 1,537,000 and, on average, 92 persons are living in every square mile of the region.

Generally, it can be said a mountainous region, for, the mountain ranges with elevations reaching up to nearly 3,000 feet stand as a long wall alongside the thin stretch of plains facing the Andaman's Sea in the west. Of the many rivers, Dawei, Taninthayi and Lenya rivers are famous. The coastal sea is dotted with many islands.

Agriculture

In the past, Taninthayi Division's economy relied mainly on rubber plantations. But now, its agricultural patterns have totally changed. Thanks to the assistance provided by the government, it is cultivating other species of crops that grow well in the division that is now producing adequate amount of rice for its population.

Over 100,000 acres of land have been reclaimed, and waterworks

Table A
Per acre yield (basket)
Gross production (basket) (thousand)

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Land resource			
- sown acreage	536904	676860	139956
- acres of vacant and virgin land	926194	763929	-
Irrigation			
- dam, lake, reservoir, canal	1	3	2
- completed works	1	2	1
- tasks under implementation	-	1	1
- river water pumping tasks	-	4	4
- completed works	-	2	2
- tasks to be done	-	2	2
- damming creeks	-	2167	2167
- Benefited acre	257	91701	91444
Thriving double crops	3925	37201	33276
Extended paddy cultivation			
- acres of monsoon paddy	193317	322589	129272
- per acre yield*	55.18	65.35	10.17
- acres of summer paddy	-	30100	30100
- per acre yield*	-	65.81	65.81
- gross production	10282	22736	12454
- food sufficiency	-	100%	100%
beans and pulses (acre)	-	6532	6532
progress in rubber plantation	88449	108147	19698
progress in oil palm plantation	16878	135825	118947
progress in pepper plantation	54	20923	20869

Table D

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Railways			
- miles	-	87.47	87.47
- miles of railroad	-	95.68	95.68
- passenger	-	35500	35500
- miles of passenger transport	-	1894.4	1894.4
- tons of cargo	-	4400	4400
- miles cargo transport	-	186.9	186.9
- stations	-	20	20
Airways			
- Airports	4	5	1
- above 5000 ft runway	2	4	2
- under 5000 ft runway	2	1	upgrading
Water transport			
- jetty (internal)	7	11	4
Motor road extension (mile)	397/0	689/2	292/2
- tarred road	213/0	410/5	197/5
- gravel road	5/0	205/4	200/4
Bridge			
- above 180 feet long	8	15	7
- lower 180 feet long	142	198	56

in Myanmar, into service, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said, "Since years ago, the Government has

Table E

post office	29	43	14
telegraph office	9	20	11
facsimile	-	31	31
computer telegraph	-	2	2
telephone service			
- telephone office	6	29	23
- number of line	530	5666	5136
- exchange	6	23	17
- direct line	469	4762	4293
- auto/carrier telephone	469	4708	4239
- auto radio telephone	-	54	54
- telephone density*	0.48	3.22	2.74
microwave station	2	9	7
rural telephone exchange	-	6	6
local satellite station			
- VSAT	-	2	2
- iPSTAR	-	6	6

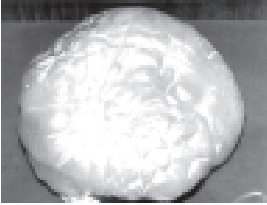
auto-telephone exchange extension (under implementation) Myeik - number of line-2000

opportunely. "Now, the national economy has developed to a certain degree, and the nation has been gaining more and more expertise after building small, medium and large bridges step by step till

The developments of Taninthayi Division stand witness to the fact that with the two strengths, the Tatmadaw manages to build grand bridges one after another in the nation. **Taninthayi Division** Bordering Mon State in the north, Taninthayi

and small scale dams are irrigating over 90,000 acres of crops. Yinwa Dam has been built in Kawthoung Township, and Anyabya Dam is being built in Dawei Township to irrigate 3,200 acres of crops.

(See page 10)



Development in Taninthayi Division after 1988



New 200-bed general hospital in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.
MYANMA ALIN



The rig at block No-1 of Yadana gas field seen offshore Taninthayi coast.
MYANMA ALIN

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day



Oil palm plantations are established in Kawthoung Township, Taninthayi Division for ensuring local edible oil sufficiency.
MYANMA ALIN

Kyweku-Kyaukpya bridge is 3612 feet long and it lies in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.
MYANMA ALIN



Taninthayi Division marching to...

(from page 8)

The Government has been implementing projects to turn Chin State into a major tea-growing region, Rakhine State into a major pepper-growing region, Mon State into a major rubber-growing region, Sagaing division into the rice bowl of upper Myanmar, and Taninthayi Division into an oil bowl. It is laying down long-term plans to meet the domestic edible oil demand, and has put

the Head of State has given guidance, saying, "Failure to protect and conserve the natural resources will be followed by ill effects in the long run. Destruction of forest resources will lead to destruction of land and water resources. Thus, it is important for all of us to conserve and protect them for long-term interest, instead of viewing only the short-term interest."

In accord with the

reachability from other states and divisions. There is now easy access by road from Putao in the northern point of the Union to Kawthoung in Taninthayi Division at the southern tip.

Dawei-Myeik-Thanthayi-Bokpyin-Kawthoung road has become an all-weather facility. The division now has over 689 miles of motor roads including over 410 miles of tarred roads. The present length of roads is 292 miles and two furlongs

Table F *Megawatt Unit (Million)

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
electricity consumption	3.502	6.616	3.114
maximum load*	4.567	8.718	4.151
Increase of generating power			
- implemented project	1	3	2
- implementing project	-	3	3
- diesel power plant	23	38	15
present capacity of generator*	7.612	14.531	6.919
future capacity of generator*	7.612	659.531	651.919

over 100,000 acres of land under oil palm in the Taninthayi Division to this date.

Emerging together with the development in oil palm cultivation of the division is the national entrepreneurs' tradition of adhering to the Government's policy and responding to its goodwill. Vast oil palm farms of the national entrepreneurs are emerging along the Union Highway in the division. Thus, the division will have an abundant supply of edible oil and rice and also natural gas from offshore drilling blocks. Rubber and pepper plantations are also being extended in the division. Table A has more.

Livestock and fisheries

The Government has been distributing quality strains, feedstuff and medicines and disseminating techniques to develop the meat and fish sector of the division. Because of the inclusion of the animal disease prevention project in the drive to promote the sector, the division's current meat production has increased three times greater than that of the past. Coastal and deep-sea fishing industry of the region is also gaining progress with greater momentum. Please see Table B to know the exact data.

Forest conservation

Concerning the for-

Table G

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Upgrading industrial power			
- Myeik Industrial Zone	-	1	1
- works	-	19	19
- private industries	331	820	489
- cottage industries	-	72	72
State-owned industries	14	12	transfer

guidance, greater efforts are being made to conserve and protect the division's forest resources for their everlasting existence. Over 2,000 square miles of wildlife parks have been set up in the region. Table C shows the development of forest plantation and conservation in the division with the participation of the local people.

Road transport

Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division were called backward coastal regions in the past due to their geographical conditions. Both are thin stretches of land lying between the mountain ranges and the sea. Thus, they lacked development in the past.

The Tatmadaw Government has been able to beautify and develop all regions whether their geographical conditions are of the same type or not. It is building roads and bridges in every region.

The Government is like a gardener nurturing every plant in the garden to become beautiful with blossoming flowers. Thanks to a network of roads and bridges, the division now is easily

thriving in a garden called the Union. Table E indicates the development of the communication sector of the division where the national brethren have been living in unity.

Electricity

Although it is rich in land and water resources, Taninthayi Division was like an ordinary flower without any hue throughout the past eras, as there was no one to develop the region.

Table H

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Yedagun oil field (offshore)	-	1	1
- Gaspipeline (mile)	-	208.15	208.15
- crude oil production (barrel)	-	2792723	2792723
- gas production (cubic feet)	-	102293.85	102293.85

longer than that of the past.

In addition to the Union Highway passing through the division, 14 over-180 bridges have emerged in it. Of them seven have been covered by special projects. The famous bridges in the division are: the 500-foot Winwa Bridge in Thayetchaung Township, the 500-foot Palauk Bridge and the 600-foot Palaw Bridge in Palaw Township, the 3,612-foot Kywegu-Kyaukphya Bridge and the 810-foot Pathoung Bridge in Myeik Township, the 1,360-foot Taninthayi Bridge in Taninthayi Township, and 860-foot Lenya-Mandaing Bridge in Bokpyin Township. The railroad which ended in Ye in Mon State in the past has been extended to Dawei in the division that is 102.38 miles from Ye. Ye-Dawei railroad was launched in March 1998. Airports in Kawthoung and Myeik have been upgraded to

Table I

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Basic education			
- number of schools	962	1132	170
- multimedia classroom	-	51	51
- e-Learning Centre	-	19	19
- number of teachers	3451	6230	2779
- number of students	147070	267583	120513
- KG enrolment	67.97%	96.00%	28.03%
- adult literacy rate	80.18%	98.30%	18.12%
School dropout rate			
- primary school level	44.82%	14.4%	(-)30.42%
- middle school level	42.53%	14.91%	(-)27.62%
Higher education			
- arts & science university	-	2	2
- education college	1	1	-
- e-Learning centre	-	21	21
- academic programmes	8	48	40
- number of teachers	46	356	310
- number of students	397	12035	11638
- Human resource development centre	-	2	2

become facilities that can handle landing and taking off of passenger jets. Four more wharves have been erected in the division. The division bordering Thailand in the east and touching the sea in the west is en-

thriving in a garden called the Union. Table E indicates the development of the communication sector of the division where the national brethren have been living in unity.

Electricity

Although it is rich in land and water resources, Taninthayi Division was like an ordinary flower without any hue throughout the past eras, as there was no one to develop the region.

It has started to shine since the Tatmadaw Government's assumption of the State duties. Now it will add beauty to the Union. Up to 1988, the division had only 0.154-megawatt Myitnge hydel power station. But after 1988, the Government built the 0.15-megawatt Kattalu hydel power station and the 0.192-megawatt Yetagon Creek hydel power station in the division.

Soon, the 600-megawatt Taninthayi River hydel power plant, the 25-megawatt Theinkhun Creek hydel power station and the 20-megawatt Thakyet Creek hydel power station will emerge in the division.

The hydel power stations of the division will serve as the nation's strength in the future. Table F will tell the reader more about the electricity sector development of the region.

Industry

The industrial development pace of Taninthayi Division is gaining speed as the government encourages the efforts to realized the goal. Although there are just 19 enterprises in Myeik industrial zone, the investment has hit K 593.9 million, with a production value of over US\$ 9 million and K 633.26 million. The number of factories related to marine resources, minerals, rubber and oil palm is likely to rise. Even now, the number of private factories has increased to 489 apart from existing

(See page 11)

Table J

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Government Technological College (Dawei)			
- course numbers	-	1	1
-	-	4	4
Government Technological College (Myeik)			
- course numbers	-	1	1
-	-	4	4
- number of teachers	-	90	90
- students (graduate)	-	530	530
- present students	-	431	431
Government Computer College (Dawei)			
- course numbers	-	1	1
-	-	6	6
Government Computer College (Myeik)			
- course numbers	-	1	1
-	-	6	6
- number of teachers	-	34	34
- students (graduate)	-	218	218
- present students	-	467	467

Taninthayi Division marching to...

(from page 10)
72 cottage industries and 12 State-owned factories. Table G shows industrial development of the division.

Mining and mineral resources

Taninthayi Division also consists Pale Yadana Myay or pearl land. After 1988, the production of pearls has increased by 105,470.57 momme as pearl centres are now seven in number. The production of tin and tungsten reached 447.29 metric tons. The discovering of coal reserve resulted in the production of 119,162.83 metric tons of coal. The sand used for making of glass was found, and such kind of sand was produced 9,734.38 metric tons.

Energy

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, all the states and divisions in the Union are developing to an extent that it is difficult to say whose progress is greater than whose. All the flowers are now blooming as a result of the goodwill of the gardener whose wishes are to enable all the flowers to be in full bloom.

There have now emerged off-shore oil fields as if it seemed to be possible to create an aphorism that would go "Mottama is famous for Yadana, Taninthayi for Yetagon, and Rakhine Offshore for gold". They are in fact the treasure bequeathed by ancestors to posterity. It will not be wrong to assume that these gas fields guarantee inexhaustible exploitation till many a generation to come. Encouraging are the development in energy in Taninthayi Division in the times of the Tatmadaw government. They are shown in Table H.

Education

For a nation, education is the best means of investment. With this end

in view, the Tatmadaw government taking measures to promote the level of education in Taninthayi Division.

"The task for the establishment of a modern and developed nation that can face the challenges likely to arise in future is based on the development of human resources.

After drawing up a special plan for promotion of national education, measures are being taken to develop human resources as well-rounded individuals essential for the country", said Head of State Senior General Than Shwe at the Annual General Meeting of Union Solidarity and Development Association on 19-2-2002.

Progress made in the past and the present in the education drive to ensure equal learning opportunity in Taninthayi Division can be seen in Table I.

Table K

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
upgrading of hospital health units	22	29	7
health staff	86	88	2
health staff	503	952	449
- doctors	75	196	121
- nurses	83	316	233
- midwives	239	266	27
- skilled staff	9	23	14
- township health assistant	-	4	4
- health assistant-1	-	10	10
- health assistant	32	37	5
- supervisor (1)/(2)	24	55	31
traditional medicine			
- traditional medicine hospital	-	1	1
- traditional medicine dispensary	4	8	4
- nurse training school	-	1	1
- midwifery school	1	1	-

Science and Technology

In the past, Yangon was the only place to pursue engineering. The same thing can be said of computer science. The number of students admitted to the then universities and institutes was limited. There were those whose dreams were broken for various reasons. Now, the doors to education are kept open to all in every favourable places. The government has helped the young in Taninthayi Division to enable them to have easy

access to the branches of education like science and technology. They can be seen in Table J.

Health

In this age, health has been given top priority. Hospitals are being built and upgraded across the country to carry out health care on an extensive scale.

A new 200-bed hospital was built in the region, and the 100-bed hospital upgraded into the

Table L

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Urban development			
- urban road miles	110/3	258/7	148/4
- miles of tarred road	34/0	160/7	126/7
- miles of gravelled road	22/1	46/4	24/3
- bridges in urban area	-	712	712
Water supply task			
Town in which tasks to be done completed work	10	3	7
	-	7	7
Rural development			
- Rural road	104/5	720/1	615/4
- tarred road	22/0	355/0	333/0
- gravelled road	-	181/2	181/2
- bridges in rural area	-	228	228
Water supply tasks			
- village in which tasks to be done	672	422	250
- completed work	-	298	298

200-bed one. Moreover, three 50-bed hospitals were also opened there, alongside nine station hospitals and two rural health centres.

Another 121 specialists and assistant doctors were employed there. Now, the region has 952 medical staff, up from 503 in the past. A traditional medicine hospital was also opened there to give treatment with traditional medicines. Now, the traditional medicine dispensaries are eight in number. Apart from the

Table N

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
- TV retransmission station	-	11	11
- IPRD offices	-	16	16
- IPRD libraries	2	16	14
- departmental libraries	-	1	1
- rural library	-	295	295
- e-library	-	2	2

existing midwifery school, a nursing school was also constructed with the aim of producing more nurses within the region.

Efforts are under way to bring about economic

development of the Union is directly proportionate to regional stability. In this age, the prospect of development has no longer been concerned with the geographical remoteness of a particular

working hard to leave a good legacy behind, a peaceful, tranquil, and developed nation.

The Tatmadaw government has thus added Taninthayi Division to the zones covered in the development project. In Table M are the endeavours the Tatmadaw government has made in Taninthayi Division.

Information and public relations

"Only the efforts made not with inapplicable wishes but with the genuine goodwill that came out from the bottom of the heart will receive the return of same thing from the public", the Head of State gave guidance. In line with the guidance, steps are being taken to promote the information sector of Taninthayi Division in the march towards a consolidated new nation.

Table N shows measures being taken for regional development.

(Translation: TMT+KTY)

area.

It is the rule of law and order as well as regional stability that can bring with it prosperity.

The government wants every region to enjoy equitable development. Therefore, it is

Table M

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
development regions			
- Taninthayi region	-	1	1
road/bridge			
- miles of earth road	-	251/2	251/2
- miles of gravel road	-	105/2	105/2
- miles of tarred road	-	38/5	38/5
- maintenance of road (mile)	-	14/4	14/4
- bridge (big/small)	-	8/7	8/7
health			
- dispensary	-	1	1
- rural health unit	-	3	3
education			
- BEPS, BEMS, BEHS	-	15	15
- number of teachers	-	51	51
- number of students	-	2055	2055
agriculture camp	-	1	1
energy			
- generator	-	2	2
- power-supplied town	-	1	1
public relations			
- TV retransmission station	-	7	7
Vocational training school	-	2	2
- number of teacher	-	16	16
- number of student	-	2869	2869
Expenditure*			
- development funds*	-	2956.09	2956.09
- departments*	-	577.80	577.80
	-	2378.29	2378.29

* Kyat in million

Development of border areas and national races

The sustainable devel-

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (076)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA Voy No (076) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-2-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto 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 PREMIER SPECTRUM

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI SUVIDHA VOY NO (714)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI SUVIDHA Voy No (714) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-2-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm upto 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 GATI COAST TO COAST

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (177)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA Voy No (177) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-2-2005 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 upto Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

US does too little to improve Guantanamo prison

GENEVA, 7 Feb—The United States has done too little to improve treatment of prisoners at its Guantanamo Bay naval base and risks doing more harm than good in the battle against terror, UN human rights investigators said.

In a joint statement, six inspectors voiced fresh concern at reports of inhuman and degrading treatment of inmates at Guantanamo, saying the global fight against terrorism would be weakened if countries failed to uphold basic legal protections.

"The right and duty of all states to use all lawful means to protect their citizens against death and destruction brought about by terrorists must be exercised in conformity

with international law, lest the whole cause of the international fight against terrorism be compromised," the UN experts said.

Recent moves, including the "Combatant Status Review Tribunals" created by the Pentagon last year following a Supreme Court rebuke and the release of four Britons and an Australian held as terrorism suspects, were "insufficient to dispel the serious concerns" over conditions, the inspectors added.

At Guantanamo, there was "the need to objectively assess the allegations of torture, and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, particularly in relation to methods of interrogation of detain-

ees". The statement noted that many Guantanamo inmates had been held virtually incommunicado for nearly three years, without legal advice or information about how long they were likely to remain incarcerated. Most did not know whether criminal charges would be laid against them.

More than 540 al-Qaeda suspects and accused Taleban fighters are being held at the remote base on the southeastern tip of Cuba after the 2001 invasion of Afghanistan and from operations in the US war on terrorism.

MNA/Reuters

Guantanamo detainee plans to sue British Government

LONDON, 7 Feb — Martin Mubanga, a British terror suspect freed after almost three years at Guantanamo Bay, is planning to sue the British Government over his arrest, detention and transfer to Guantanamo, *The Observer* reported on Sunday.

Martin Mubanga, who holds dual British and Zambian nationality, claimed in the newspaper that an MI6 officer played a key role in consigning him to the US camp in Cuba, following his arrest in Zambia in 2002.

Mubanga's lawyer

Louise Christian said the arrest, detention and transfer of his client had clearly breached British, Zambian and international laws. "We are hoping to issue proceedings for the misfeasance of officials who colluded with the Americans in effectively kidnapping him and taking him to Guantanamo," she said.

A Foreign Office spokesman said he could not comment on the activities of British intelligence or security agencies.

The 32-year-old was one of four Britons

released from the US detention camp last month. He was immediately arrested on his return to Britain and questioned by anti-terrorist police officers before he was released without charge.

Mubanga described in *The Observer* how he was interviewed for hours in Guantanamo while his hands and ankles were chained. He also recalled an interrogation when he was ordered to urinate in the corner of an interview room while chained hand and foot.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkish parties, NGOs protest Rice's visit

ANKARA, 7 Feb — Several Turkish political parties and non-government organizations on Saturday staged a protest against US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's upcoming visit to Turkey, the Anatolia news agency reported.

The protesters walked to the US Embassy in Ankara and left a black wreath at the entrance of the embassy, chanting slogans and carrying banners of "US out of Iraq! Rice out of Turkey".

Dozens of members of the Turkish Free Democracy Party (ODP), Workers' Party (EMEP), Socialist Democracy Party (SDP), Turkish Union of Engineers and Architects Chambers (TMMOB) and Confederation of Public Sector Unions (KESK) joined the rally.

While delivering a speech, TMMOB Chairman Mehmet Soganci said the United States has been pursuing a diplomacy of war in the region for the past 15 days.

"Rice's visit to Turkey is a new step in establishing a lake of blood in the Middle East. Condoleezza Rice is a symbol of the American tyranny forced on the peoples of the region," said Soganci.

"When peoples of the world are getting poorer due to global attacks and national economies are going bankrupt, the United States wants to make military operations and occupations permanent based on its imperialistic policies," said Soganci.

Turkish police detained four protesters in the capital city on Saturday.

MNA/Xinhua



Surfing in Peru : Brazilian Jackeline Silva rides a wave during the First Women's Surf World Tour Prom Peru 2005 in Asia, 100 km south of Lima. INTERNET

18 die of gas heater malfunction in Spanish hostel

LA TODOLELLA (Spain), 7 Feb—Eighteen friends who rented a Spanish mountain hostel for a birthday party were found dead on Sunday, apparently killed by a gas leak, officials said.

It was the worst death toll in a gas leak in Spain in at least 15 years, Spanish media reports said.

The bodies were found at the remote Sant Cristofol hostel near the

picturesque medieval village of La Todolella, some 300 kilometres (180 miles) east of Madrid.

"We are all devastated. It's terrible," Alicia de Miguel, an official in the Valencian regional government, told state radio. She said the 18 dead were aged between 22 and 40.

About 50 people, all from the local area, had gone to the birthday party

at the hostel on Saturday night and the dead had stayed the night there.

The dead were all from nearby villages in an economically depressed area where everybody knows each other.

De Miguel said the deaths were apparently due to a malfunctioning gas heater that the party-goers had taken with them to warm up a cold night.

MNA/Reuters

Pope John Paul continues church, all humanity

ROME, 7 Feb—Pope John Paul, looking weak and barely able to talk, appeared at his hospital window on Sunday for the first time since he was taken ill and said through an aide that he was still "serving the Church and all humanity".

The 84-year-old Pope, rushed to hospital last Tuesday with breathing problems caused by the flu, made a brief appearance from the window of his 10th floor suite in Rome's Gemelli Hospital.

At the end of a message read by an aide, the Pope delivered his blessing in a voice that was faint, hoarse and cracking. Clearly weak, he then made the sign of the cross.

At the start he was wheeled to the window while seated and wore his traditional white cassock and skullcap. His face looked red and his eyes distant as he waved slowly to the faithful.

MNA/Reuters

Union Flag conveyed to Yangon North District

YANGON, 8 Feb — For the observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day, the conveyance of the Union Flag which rested for a year at the Yangon City Hall to the four districts in Yangon Division started this morning. The Union Flag was first conveyed by the Union Boat and relay teams to Hlegu township playground representing Yangon North District to stop over for the night there.

First, Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thien Lin saluted the Union

Flag and took it out from the silver bowl in the Mayor's parlour and carried it on the designated way to the City Hall on Maha Bandoola Road.

Next, he handed over the Flag to Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, who then presented it again to Yangon North District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Myat Min. He next carried the Flag and put it in the silver bowl on the Union Boat.

The Union Flag was conveyed by the Union Boat. Along the route to its destination, the flag was accorded warm welcome by hordes of people from Kyauktada, Papedan, Lanmadaw, Dagon, Sanguaung, Kamayut, Hlaing, Mayangon, Insein, Mingaladon and Hlegu townships, including USDA members, those of social organizations. When the flag arrived at the archway of Hlegu Township, Lt-Col Myat Min handed it over to Hlegu township PDC Chairman U Khin Maung Win.

After being carried by the relay teams, the flag was handed over again to Yangon North District PDC member-1 U Thein Naing, who presented it to Lt-Col Myat Min. He next planted the flag in the silver bowl on the dais of Hlegu Township playground at 9.25 am.

At the playground, booths of industrial zones and government departments are kept open to the people, numbering over 28,000. — MNA



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thien Lin hands over the State Flag to Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe conveys the State Flag. — MNA

Panglong hails Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 8 Feb — A ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention was held in Panglong, Loilem District, Shan State (South) on 5 February. Meeting Chairman Joint Secretary of Loilem District USDA U Yi Thant gave a speech.

Loilem District USDA Secretary U Myo Min Aung discussed in honour of the Union Day, Loilem District USDA Executive U Khin Maung

Thi in support of the National Convention and Loilem District USDA Executive Daw Khin Yu Yu Win in support of the rural development tasks.

Panglong USDA Executive Daw Nang Mya Mya Ohn seconded the three motions.

USDA members of six townships and two towns in Loilem District, local authorities, departmental personnel, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Associa-

tion, organizations for Women's Affairs, Red Cross, Auxiliary Fire Brigades and War Veterans Organization and local people numbering over 2,200 attending the meeting unanimously hailed the Union Day, and supported the National Convention and rural development tasks.

The meeting concluded with chanting of slogans.

MNA



Tatmadaw members and the people saluting the State Flag.

MNA

Mass rally in Maubin District honours Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 8 Feb—Maubin District held a mass rally to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention in Inma Model Village in Pantanaw Township, Maubin District, Ayeyawady Division this morning.

It was attended by secretaries, executives and members of USDA from the district, townships and villages, members of War Veterans Organizations, Women's Affairs Committees, Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades and local people numbering over 7,000.

Secretary of Maubin District USDA U Win Naing Kyaw presided over the meeting together with Pantanaw Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Than Than Myint, Danaphyu Township WAC Chairperson Daw Hla Hla Sein, Captain Khin Maung Myint (Retd) of Nyaungdon Township War Veterans Organiza-

tion and Mahn Htay Lwin of Pantanaw Township.

Pantanaw Township USDA member Daw Cho Myint acted as MC and Nyaungdon Township USDA Executive Daw Le Le Khine co-MC.

When the meeting chairman announced the mass rally open those present saluted the State Flag.

Next, Secretary of Maubin District USDA U Win Naing Kyaw made an opening speech.

Matters on honouring the Union Day, hailing the National Convention and regional development tasks were presented.

Next, Pantanaw Township USDA Executive Daw Yin Yin Nwe seconded the motions.

The mass rally hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention.

The rally ended with the chanting of slogans. — MNA



Mass rally to honour Union Day and support National Convention in progress in Panglong Township, Loilem District. — MNA

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Thai Open tennis tourney

PATTATA (Thailand), 7 Feb — Former Wimbledon champion Conchita Martinez beat 19-year-old German Anna Lena Groenefeld 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 on Sunday to win the Thai Open, and then donated her winning racket to a charity auction to raise money for Thai tsunami victims.

It was the 32-year-old Spaniard's first title since she lifted the German Open in 2000, and was achieved by a consistent performance against an aggressive opponent playing her first career final.

Groenefeld showed no signs of nerves, but her power was not quite matched with the accuracy she needed.

MNA/Reuters

Serie A match reports

ROME, 8 Feb — Brief reports of Serie A matches played on Sunday:

Atalanta 1 Livorno 0

A 23rd-minute strike by defender Luigi Sala gave Atalanta only their second win of the season, but they remain six points adrift at the bottom of the league.

Eagliari 3 lesson 1

First-half goals by Cagliari midfielder Massimo Gobbi and Mirko Vucinic cancelled each other out, but the 54th-minute dismissal of Lecce keeper Vincenzo Sicignano for a clumsy tackle on Mauro Esposito turned the match. Esposito struck twice in the last 16 minutes to seal the win.

Chievo Verona 1 Messina 0

Chievo climbed seven points clear of the relegation zone thanks to Simone Tiribocchi's 15th-minute goal. Messina's chances of fighting their way back into the match ended when midfielder Gaetano D'Agostino was sent off nine minutes from

the end.

Reggina 3 Siena 3

Simone Vergassola's goal and a brace by former Italy international Enrico Chiesa put Siena 3-1 up with ten minutes remaining. Late strikes by striker Marco Borriello and midfielder Carlos Paredes saved Reggina's unbeaten start to 2005.

MNA/Reuters

Barca's first home loss of the season

MADRID, 7 Feb — Atletico Madrid threw the Spanish title race wide open on Sunday when a Fernando Torres double consigned Barcelona to a 2-0 defeat, their first home loss of the season.

The 20-year-old striker got Atletico off to a flying start at the Nou Camp when he guided home in the first minute after a stunning back-heeled assist from playmaker Ariel Ibagaza.

World Player of the Year Ronaldinho fluffed a 70th-minute penalty for Barcelona before Torres completed a shock victory when he blasted home a spot kick deep into injury time.

Atletico's victory meant that Real Madrid, who beat Espanyol 4-0 on Saturday, are four points behind Barcelona in the standings with the two sides yet to meet at the Bernabeu.

The race for the title has effectively become a two-horse affair with Real nine points clear of champions Valencia, who were held to a 3-3 draw by struggling Real Sociedad on Saturday.

Earlier Seville moved into fourth after a 3-0 win over Levante with striker Julio Baptista's superbly struck 25-metre free kick five minutes from time the goal of the match.

Villarreal climbed into fifth, one point further behind, with their fifth win in a row after they came from a goal down to beat 10-man Racing Santander 2-1 at home.

Striker Diego Forlan scored his 14th of the season when he slid in at the far post early in the second half and playmaker Juan Roman Riquelme snatched the winner from the penalty spot.

Atletico, who had won only one previous match away from home all season, got off to an explosive start thanks to some great skill from Ibagaza.

With his back to goal the Argentine midfielder

hooked a pass over the defence with his heel to give Torres a free run on goal and the striker outpaced defender Carles Puyol before threading the ball past Valdes inside the far post.

Barca threw players forward in search of an equalizer, but were

thwarted by the watertight Atletico defence and they grew increasingly frustrated as their constant stream of attacks failed to pay off and Samuel Eto'o and the lively Ronaldinho were reduced to trying their luck with long-range efforts.

MNA/Reuters



Atletico de Madrid's Torres (R) vies with Barcelona's Portuguese Deco during a Spanish League soccer match in Barcelona. Barca crashed 2-0 at home to Atletico Madrid.—INTERNET

Milan cut Juventus lead at top of Serie A

ROME, 8 Feb — Champions AC Milan cut Juventus' lead at the top of Serie A to two points on Sunday when a stoppage-time goal by Hernan Crespo earned them a 2-1 win over Lazio.

The result gave Milan 48 points from 23 matches. Juventus are on 50 after losing 1-0 at Palermo on Saturday.

Milan appeared to be on the verge of their third defeat in four matches when Massimo Oddo put Lazio ahead from the penalty spot in the 56th minute following Jaap Stam's

foul on Tommaso Rocchi.

With 18 minutes remaining, however, a superb 30-metre free kick by European Footballer of the Year Andriy Shevchenko put the hosts level.

In the final minutes, Milan besieged the Lazio goal, Cafu and Stam blazing shots narrowly

over the bar and Lazio keeper Angelo Peruzzi smothering a Crespo header at his near post.

It seemed the visitors would hold out for a point but, in the fourth minute of stoppage time, Crespo sealed a last-gasp victory by poking home the rebound after a Kaka shot struck the post.

MNA/Reuters

Primera Liga match reports

MADRID, 8 Feb — Brief reports of matches played in the Primera Liga on Sunday:

Albacete 2 Real Zaragoza 1

A controversial win for Albacete over nine-man Zaragoza came courtesy of two second half penalties from Uruguayan striker Antonio Pacheco.

The visitors took the lead in the 15th minute when Oscar Gonzalez headed in unopposed after a corner, but at the start of the second half the midfielder was sent off after being harshly adjudged to have handled in the area

Pacheco smashed home the resulting penalty and repeated the trick four minutes from time when Zaragoza keeper Luis Garcia was sent off after midfielder Francisco went down in the area.

Deportivo Coruna 1 Athletic Bilbao 1

Depor scrambled an unlikely point against Athletic thanks to a late penalty from Diego Tristan, the Spanish international blasting home from the spot after substitute Victor went down in the area.

Athletic had taken the lead six minutes into the second half when midfielder Pablo Orbaiz fired an unstoppable 30-metre thunderbolt into the roof of the net.

Getafe 1 Numancia 0

A seventh win of the season for Primera Liga newcomers Getafe ensured a sorry-looking Numancia are now four points adrift at the bottom of the table.

Cameroon midfielder Daniel Kome scored the only goal of the game with a simple tap-in just before the half hour.

Levante 0 Sevilla 3

Striker Antonito set Sevilla on their way to a win that propelled them into fourth place in the standings when he toe-poked home after a pin-point cross from Adriano Correia.

Ariza Makukula scored his first goal since returning from a knee injury with a deflected drive early in the second half and substitute Julio Baptista completed victory with a 25-metre free kick five minutes from time.

MNA/Reuters

Sharapova cruises past Davenport to clinch Pan Pacific Open title

TOKYO, 7 Feb — Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova beat injury-hampered Lindsay Davenport 6-1, 3-6, 7-6 to win the Pan Pacific Open on Sunday.

The Russian converted her fourth match point to take the third set tiebreak 7-5 and halt Davenport's bid for a record fifth title at the 1.3-million- US-dollar event.

Sharapova's eighth career title means she will rise from fourth to third in the world rankings.

It had looked as though Sharapova would run away with the match as she took the first set in just 22 minutes.

Her left leg heavily bandaged, Davenport could barely run and was moving gingerly between points in her sixth Pan Pacific Open final.

The world number one went to the locker room for a medical time-out after the first set and the American fought back to take the second as Sharapova's concentration wavered.

The final set went with serve but Sharapova came up with the big shots to earn four match points.

The 17-year-old squandered three of them — just as she did in her semi-final loss to Serena Williams at the Australian Open.

However, this time she held her nerve and ended Davenport's brave resistance with a forehand down the line after one hour 47 minutes. — MNA/Reuters



Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova can't wait to be back in Tokyo, where she won her first professional title, first WTA titles and this weekend triumphed at the Pan Pacific Open.—INTERNET

China develops new vaccine capable of preventing bird flu

BEIJING, 8 Feb — China's Agriculture Ministry said its scientists have developed a new vaccine to prevent the spread of the killer bird flu, Monday's *China Daily* reported.

The ministry said that the new vaccine can effectively "cut a key link in the transmission chain of the highly pathogenic avian influenza among water fowl."

Using a technique called reverse genetics, scientists at the Key Laboratory of Animal Influenza, affiliated to Harbin Veterinary Research Institute, altered the genome sequence of the virus to construct a vaccine that is believed to be safe to both poultry and mammals.

The vaccine will be administered to fowls in the country's key water areas, including rivers and lakes, said a ministry statement released on Sunday.

Laboratory tests show the vaccine enables ducks and geese to fight H5N1, the highly lethal strain of bird flu, three weeks after the flocks were vaccinated, the statement claimed.

The new vaccine also provides at least 10 months of protection for chickens, four months longer than the existing bird flu preventive drugs.

"China has developed and mass-produced shots targeting H9 and H5N2, the less dangerous subtypes of avian influenza," Xu Shixin, a division director of the Veterinary Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture, said Sunday.

The bureau has released a certificate for the new vaccine as a registered veterinary drug, said the newspaper.

Ministry sources said the new vaccine had overcome the bottleneck in the technology of developing a remedy for preventing "highly pathogenic bird flu."

Apart from the encouraging laboratory test results, field tests also indicate that upon receiving two shots of the vaccine, ducks and geese can each produce antibodies effective for 10 months and three months, respectively. The birds could then fight the H5N1 strain of virus.

"The vaccination thus makes it impossible for ducks and geese to become the load of H5 subgroup bird flu virus. Therefore, it can cut a key link for the highly pathogenic avian influenza to spread," said the ministry statement. — *MNA/Xinhua*

OPEC will not cut production above \$37 a barrel

SINGAPORE, 8 Feb — Crude prices eased downward Monday amid talk that OPEC will retain current output levels as long as prices stay above 37 US dollars a barrel.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery fell 37 cents to 46.11 US dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, in mid-morning electronic trading in Asia. Heating oil prices also fell by less than a cent to 1.2630 US dollars a gallon (3.8 litres).

"The downward trend will continue," said Victor Shum, oil analyst at Purvin & Gertz, an energy consulting agency.

"But traders will always look for opportunities, so there is market support for the 45 US dollars mark in the short-term," he said.

At an informal meeting last week in Davos, Switzerland, during the annual World Economic Forum, several OPEC representatives signalled that the cartel would not cut its output unless prices fell by roughly 10 dollars a barrel from levels at the time to about 37 US dollars a barrel, an anonymous source told the *Associated Press* Sunday.

On January 30, OPEC decided not to rein in production, as the price of light, sweet crude oil futures hovered near 47 US dollars a barrel. The cartel, however, left open the

possibility of an output cut before its mid-March meeting.

OPEC agreed in December to cut output by one million barrels a day beginning January 1 to prevent a glut developing in the second quarter. OPEC's official quota stands at 27 million barrels a day.

Esa Ramasamy, oil editorial manager of Platts, an energy reporting agency, said warmer weather in the US Northeast is "putting downward pressure on the market."

The US National Weather Service expects warmer-than-usual weather from February 9 though February 13 in the Northeast, where 80 per cent of the country's home heating oil is burned. The mild weather is allowing refiners to concentrate on building gasoline inventories, in preparation for the peak summer travel season.

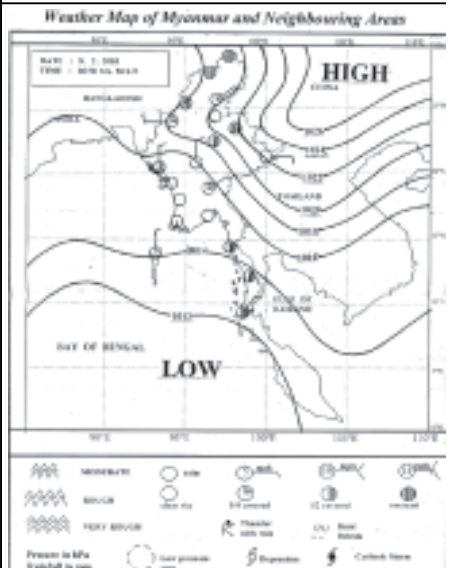
MNA/AP

British Govt to propose points system for migrant workers

LONDON, 8 Feb — The British Government will propose an Australian-style points system for migrant workers, trying to regain the upper hand on an issue.

A poll on Sunday showed an attack by the opposition Conservative Party on what it calls a chaotic asylum and immigration system had struck a chord with the public. Hitting back, the government will unveil plans on Monday for a points scheme for migrants to screen out unskilled workers and will announce fresh efforts to deport bogus asylum seekers.

"Migration for work, migration to study is a good thing... What is wrong is when that system isn't properly policed, and people are coming here who are a burden on the society," Home Secretary Charles Clarke told BBC Television on Sunday. — *MNA/Reuters*



WEATHER

Tuesday, 8 February, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kayah State, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Shan and Chin States, (5°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (1°C), Lashio and Heho (2°C) each, Namsam and Pinlaung (3°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 7-2-2005 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 8-2-2005 was 58°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 8-2-2005 was 59%. Total sunshine hours on 7-2-2005 was (8.9) hours approx. Rainfalls on 8-2-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 7-2-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 9-2-2005: Except for the possibility of isolated light rain in Kachin and Chin States and upper Sagaing Division, weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Possibility of isolated light rain in upper Myanmar areas.


Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-2-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 9-2-2005: Fair weather.

Earthquake report

(Issued at 15:00 hours MST on Today)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.4) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside of Myanmar about (300) miles North of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (13) hrs (52) min (14) sec MST on 8th February, 2005.



Wednesday, 9 February
View on today:

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာတော်များက နာယကအဖွဲ့အကန့်တော်အားဖြင့်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအရဟံသာသနာတော်၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မစာအုပ်တိုက်၊ ဆရာတော် တပည့်စိစစ်ပညာရှင် အိမ်သစ်၊ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>5. မြန်မာ့အလင်းစာတိုက်အဖွဲ့အစည်း</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>6. အတိတ်ပြန်</p> <p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. (၅၈) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်တော်စနေဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. ဝင်္ဂါတံတား</p>	<p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Let's go</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. Practice in Reading</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Musical programme</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. အဝေးသင် တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်၊ သင်စနစ် (သတ္တဝေဒေအလှူ) (သတ္တဝေဒေ)</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. Song of national races</p> <p>5:30 pm</p> <p>7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား</p> <p>5:45 pm</p> <p>8. (၅၈) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်တော်စနေဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>9. ရွှေဖွဲ့လှည့်အစီအစဉ်</p> <p>6:15 pm</p> <p>10. Discovery</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>11. Evening news</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>12. Weather report</p>	<p>7:05 pm</p> <p>13. Musical programme</p> <p>7:15 pm</p> <p>14. Strong and Healthy Myanmar</p> <p>7:25 pm</p> <p>15. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံဂုဏ်ပြုစာတမ်း</p> <p>5:35 pm</p> <p>16. (၅၈) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်တော်စနေဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်</p> <p>7:25 pm</p> <p>17. ပြည်ထောင်စုစိတ်ဝတ်စုံ မြေတီရင်သစ် နိုင်ငံတော် နိုင်ငံတော် နိုင်ငံတော် "မြို့တိုးတက်မှုနှင့် ဝရိတ်တံတား"</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>18. News</p> <p>19. International news</p> <p>20. Weather report</p> <p>21. မြန်မာ့အလင်းစာတိုက်အဖွဲ့အစည်း နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်တော်စနေဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ် "ရွှေတိဂုံစေတီ" မင်းသမီး-စနစ်လောင်း၊ ဝါဝါခိုင်၊ လှရွှင်တော်-မိမိလေး၊ ရွှေမိုး၊ ခံမိုး၊ အောင်မြို့</p> <p>22. မေ့မော့သောအလင်း (အပိုင်း-၉) "ကံကောင်းလှစေရင်ပျံမယ်" နိုးသောကြား၊ မျိုက်၊ သုတေသန၊ အောင်လှိုင်၊ ရတနာစင်၊ မေသုည၊ ပွင့်နီစိစစ်၊ ကြူကြူသင်း</p> <p>23. The next day's programme</p>
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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



Senior General Than Shwe and party pay reverence to the Buddha image in the northern prayer hall of the Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe pays homage to Historic Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine

YANGON, 8 Feb—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by members of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air)

Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, the ministers, senior military officers and officials, paid homage to historic Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine on 6 February evening.

First, Senior General Than Shwe and party paid homage to the Buddha Image at the prayer hall.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe made cash donations towards the pagoda board of trustees.

Senior General Than Shwe and party viewed documentary photos of the pagoda.

Later, they visited the pagoda clock-wise and looked the scenic views of Mawlamyine from the precinct of the pagoda.

MNA

58th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition opened

YANGON, 8 Feb—The 58th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition was opened at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road this morning, attended by Chairman of Central Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The exhibition was opened with the following objectives— for all national races to safeguard the national policy-non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty —to keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people — for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union spirit for its perpetual existence — to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and exter-

nal destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development and —for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven point future polity programme.

Also present were the ministers, the deputy ministers, members of Central Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day, Chairman of Information

Subcommittee and Exhibition Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office, heads of departments, members of cultural troupe, Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations, teachers, students and guests.

Chairman of Information Sub-committee and

Exhibition Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein formally opened the Union Day Exhibition.

The Secretary-1 and guests observed central booth, booths on ancient Myanmar, traditional culture and customs of the national people, emergence of the Union Day and regaining independence and modern developed nation, Ministry of

Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Industry-1, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Energy, Ministry

of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, Ministry of Electric Power, Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races (See page 6)

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“Whatever difficulties the nation is facing, the united strength, and the strength, which comes out from the firm community peace and stability and the rule of law, are of vital importance for the nation. And the two strengths will enable the nation to overcome all kinds of difficulties it is facing.

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THIHA AUNG



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views a booth staged at the 58th Anniversary Union Day (2005) commemorative exhibition.—MNA