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Thursday, 10 February 2005

Endeavours to achieve all-round progress in all parts of country made simultaneously

As priority has been given to achieving national reconsolidation, peace and tranquility now prevail throughout the country, including the border areas. With efforts to achieve peace and stability bearing fruit, endeavours to achieve all-round progress in all parts of the country simultaneously have begun. A trio of major projects — the border areas and national races development project, the 24 special development zones project and the rural areas development project — are being implemented in a coordinated network covering the whole country.

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

(From the address delivered at the parade of 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day)



Lt-Gen Soe Win congratulates Dr Thaksin on re-election

YANGON, 9 Feb — Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, who has won the election held on 6 February 2005 in Thailand. — MNA

As the Government is dutiful in serving the national interest, the local people will have to strive for their benefit, and that of the region and the nation, with loyalty to the State.

Main building of Government Computer College (Kengtung) inaugurated

YANGON, 9 Feb—The main building of the Government Computer College, constructed by the Advanced Science and Technology Department under the Ministry of Science and Technology in Kengtung, Shan State (East), was opened as a gesture of honouring Union Day at the building this morning, with a speech by Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Shan State (East) PDC Chairman Triangle Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, the deputy minister for Home Affairs, senior military officers, officials, departmental heads, local authorities, social organizations, the principal, faculty members, students and local residents.

Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung formally opened the main building.

The Secretary-1 formally unveiled the bronze inscriptions of the building and sprinkled scented water onto it.

(See page 6)



MEC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects classrooms of Government Computer College (Kengtung).— MNA



Newly-opened main building of Government Computer College (Kengtung).— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 10 February, 2005

Try to boost production of quality goods

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by high-ranking officials, visited the townships in Mon State from 4 to 7 February and inspected the factories and the work done and being done for regional development and gave guidance on increasing national wealth and boosting productivity.

On 7 February, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe visited the construction site of Mawlamyine Railway Station in Mawlamyine and Padonma Soap Factory in Paung Township. At the briefing hall of the factory, the Head of State said that it was necessary to establish a stable market and to produce soap of different kinds of quality to meet the needs of people from all walks of life and to try to produce various kinds of export-quality soap in the future.

The government is fulfilling all the requirements for the social, economic, health, education, transport and communication sectors for parallel development of all the regions in the Union. As transport plays a pivotal role in regional development, new roads and bridges are being built. The Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) linking Mawlamyine and Mottama, was inaugurated on 5 February. The bridge has a railway and two-lane motorway. The Ministry of Rail Transportation and the Ministry of Construction are trying to complete the Mawlamyine Railway Station and the approach road in time. Out of the 15 bridges to be built on the approach road, six have been finished, and construction of the railway station is seventy-five per cent complete.

The government is taking measures not only for smooth and easy transport but also for food, clothing and shelter needs of the people. It also gives priority to the development of industries that produce consumer goods and import-substitute items. The soap factory in Paung Township, Mon State, produces soap in four colours and in four fragrances. It is necessary to try to produce various kinds of export-quality soap.

We would like to call on all those responsible to bear in mind the guidance by the Head of State and to complete their respective projects in time and boost the production of quality goods.

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

Qualitative improvement of USDA members under way



USDA Secretary-General Maj-Gen Htay Oo addresses concluding ceremony of Public Relations and Information Management course No 4 of USDA.— MNA

YANGON, 9 Feb — The Public Relations and Information Management course No 4 of the Union Solidarity Development Association concluded at the USDA Central Training School in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, today.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary-General of USDA Maj-Gen Htay Oo said that the objectives — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the national solidarity, perpetuation of sovereignty, fostering of Union Spirit, national development and emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation are the lofty objectives not only

for the association, but also for the entire nation. The Patron of the USDA Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance for the USDA to change from quantity to quality, to build a firm conviction and to consolidate the association. In accord with the guidance, the USDA has been drawing plans to enhance the qualifications of its members. The National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map is going on. USDA members are playing a role in materializing the Road Map, he said.

Also present were USDA CEC members, members of the association and others. — MNA

Boosting industrial production coordinated

YANGON, 8 Feb — The Cottage Industries Department and industrial cooperative societies held a coordination meeting to boost products at the hall of the department in North Okkalapa Township this morning, attended by Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min.

Present were directors-general of Cooperative Department and CID, officials, the chairman and members of the board of directors of Central Cooperative Society, industrial cooperative societies of states and divisions and guests.

The minister gave a speech on the occasion. In the afternoon, the meeting to increase output of industrial products was held. Director-General of Cot-

tage Industries Department U Sein Than gave a speech. Representatives of the societies and officials participated in the discussions. — MNA

New tube-well put into service in Pakokku

YANGON, 9 Feb — Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day, Director-General Col Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs attended the opening ceremony of a tube-well in Paunglaungkan Village, Pakokku Township, on 5 February.

Present on the occasion were Director of Magway Division Development Affairs Committee U Nyo Win Myint, Pakokku District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Htay Oo and departmental officials, social organizations and local people. The tube-well, 4-inch diameter and 300 ft depth, can pump out 1,000 gallons of water per hour. It cost over K 1.1 million in 2004-2005 financial year. As a result of sinking the tube-well, 200 houses and 1,365 people in the villages of Pakokku Township will have access to clean water.

MNA



The opening ceremony of tube-well in progress in Paunglaungkan Village of Pakokku Township.— DAD

13th Myanma Tatmadaw Medical Conference opens

YANGON, 9 Feb — The 13th Myanma Tatmadaw Medical Conference was opened at Hsinbyushin Hall of Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital (500-bed) this morning.

Present were Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Chairman of the Defence Services Medical Research and Development Committee Director of Medical Services Brig-Gen Than Aung, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Rector of Defence Services Medical Academy Brig-Gen Min Thein, Rector of Defence Services Institute of Nursing and Paramedical Science Brig-Gen Aung Khin Soe and members, specialists of cardiac surgical operation team of Australia, officials, specialists, resource persons and others.

Director Brig-Gen Than Aung gave a speech. Officials and guests viewed round the booths of medicines and medical equipment at the meeting hall. In the first-day session, the resource persons submitted 18 papers. The conference continues till 11 February.

MNA

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့

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A young boy blows on a wind-powered toy with his mother at the Lunar New Year fair in a busy park in Hong Kong on 8 Feb, 2005.
INTERNET



Singapore PM stresses traditional role of family

SINGAPORE, 8 Feb— Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Tuesday underscored in his Chinese New Year message the important role the traditional extended family has been playing in Singaporeans' lives.

"To be a resilient society, we need strong and close families. Ultimately, helping out relatives who are in need, and bringing up children into upright, productive adults, are acts motivated by kinship bonds and emotional ties," Lee said.

He encouraged young couples to have more children as birth figures in the city state have been declining since 1990, which threatens the country's population replacement.

He noted that to keep up with changing

circumstances such as the prevailing nuclear families and globalization, the government is taking pro-family measures and strengthening social safety nets to make Singapore a great place for families.

MNA/Xinhua

India investing over \$2b in defence projects

NEW DELHI, 8 Feb — The Indian Government is investing about over 2.2 billion US dollars in three major defence projects to give a fillip to research and development and in manufacturing new products, the *Indo-Asian News Service* reported Monday.

Inaugurating the international aerospace seminar in Bangalore in South India Monday, Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee said the investments were being made in projects such as the *Light Combat Aircraft* (LCA), the *Kaveri* aircraft engine to power the LCAs and Early Warning Systems.

"Though these are ongoing projects being undertaken by the Defence Research and Development Organization, these products are being developed indigenously," Mukherjee told about 500 participants at the three-day seminar on "Aerospace Technologies: Developments and Strategies".

Referring to the cost over-runs and time delays in such ambitious projects, Mukherjee said these factors were inevitable in the case of new products and efforts should be made to address the deficiencies.

"We learn through trial and error in this type of technology development. Such complex projects do take longer time. We try to avoid both cost overruns and time delays. They are being constantly addressed," Mukherjee said.

On the opening up of the defence sector to overseas investments (FDI) up to 26 per cent, the minister said it was up to the stakeholders to avail of this opportunity and leverage the strengths of the Indian aerospace industry.— MNA/Xinhua

Susilo says China's growing economy benefits Indonesia

JAKARTA, 8 Feb— Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said here Monday that Indonesia takes benefit from China's rapidly growing economy as both countries now enjoy significant growth in bilateral trade volume.

Susilo said the world might be "worried" about China's rapid growth, but for Indonesia, the expanding economy in China delivers positive result of higher bilateral trade volume in favour of Indonesia. "We must be able to anticipate the presence of emerging economic powers, such as China, India and Vietnam. But we don't need to worry because we have opportunities to take benefits from their revivals," Susilo said when opening a meeting on Indonesia's long term development planning.

According to the Central Statistics Agency, China was Indonesia's fourth largest destination country for its non-oil exports in 2004 after Japan, the United States and Singapore. Indonesia's non-oil export to China rose 25.5 per cent to 3.15 billion US dollars in 2004 against 2.93 billion a year earlier.

China last year also surpassed the United States as the third largest supplier for Indonesian import, grabbing 9.86 per cent of Indonesia's 34.66 billion dollars non-oil import. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia unveils long-term economic targets

JAKARTA, 8 Feb— The Indonesian Government on Monday unveiled its development targets to be achieved by 2025, while emphasizing the need to provide opportunities for domestic industries to grow.

National Development Planning Agency head Sri Mulyani Indrawati said the Indonesian population is estimated to reach 300 million people in the next 20 years that will provide a huge market in the region. "But we must not become merely a market. We must provide opportunities for domestic industries to grow," said Indrawati.

By 2025, per capita income in Indonesia is set to grow to 6,000 US dollars a year and the country must eliminate reliance on overseas debts to finance development, she said.— MNA/Xinhua

1,450 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb— As of Tuesday, 8 February 2005, at least 1,450 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,107 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include four military civilians.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia,

three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since 1 May 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,312 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 998 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Internet

Official says 13,000-17,000 guerillas in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb— The US military faces between 13,000 and 17,000 guerillas in Iraq, the large majority of them backers of ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and his Baath Party, a senior military official said Tuesday.

Those figures came to light the same day an apparent suicide bombing killed more than 20 people in central Baghdad as they waited in line to apply to be police officers, US and Iraqi officials said.

The bulk of the insurgency is made up of 12,000 to 15,000 Arab Sunni followers of Saddam's party, the official told CNN.

Of those, the source said 5,000 to 7,000 are considered "committed" fighters, with the rest considered "fence-sitters," criminals or "facilitators" who

contribute material support or sanctuary to the guerillas.

The official, who is familiar with the region, said about 500 other fighters have come from other countries to battle the US-led forces in Iraq, while another group of fewer than 1,000 are believed to be followers of Jordanian-born Islamic terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

Members of Congress have been pressing senior officers for an assessment of the strength of the insurgency since Iraq's 30 January elections.

Internet



Men carry an injured policeman on a stretcher inside Baquba hospital after an attack in the Sunni town 60 kilometres northeast of Baghdad on 8 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET



Local people marching to the rally held in the sports ground of Khwirein model village of Mindat Township.— MNA



The panel of chairmen seen at the ceremony to honour Union Day and support National Convention in Khwirein model village of Mindat Township.— MNA

Ceremony to hail Union Day...

(from page 16)

Daw Thang Paing, member of Mindat Township USDA, submitted reports on rural development of the district, saying that thanks to endeavours of the Tatmadaw Government, the three-day Matupi-Pakokku route has been reduced to come the one-day trip. Furthermore, village-to-village roads have emerged in the region, and telecommunication facilities have been pro-

vided.

The district association could provide teaching aids and other materials worth K 4.65 million to Basic Education High Schools in Mindat, cash and furniture to BEPSs of rural areas for their renovation, a set of microwave oven to Rezwa BEHS and school equipment to basic education schools in Paletwa Township.

Furthermore, the association had spent K 2.347 million on construction of village-to-village roads and bridges, K 3.71 million on power supply and K 0.84 million on

renovation of the schools in the region. The association is carrying out agriculture and livestock breeding tasks.

Next, Mindat District USDA Executive U Kee Maung handed over documents related to rural development and donations of teaching aids to officials. Mindat District USDA Executive U Mong Mann seconded motions of three representatives. Before concluding the ceremony, all the participants approved to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention and rural development tasks. — MNA



Mindat District USDA Secretary U Thang Lein.— MNA



Kanpetlet Township USDA Secretary U Kee Aung.— MNA



Matupi Township USDA Joint-Secretary U Pen Thoung.— MNA



Mindat District USDA Executive U Mong Mann.— MNA



Mindat Township USDA member Daw Thang Paing.— MNA



Daw Har Shein Thong and Daw Lin Myu Mam.— MNA

People of Bhamo District honours Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 9 Feb — Over 1,550 local people including USDA members and other social organizations of Bhamo, Mansi and Shwegu townships attended the ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention near Sinkhan Bridge in Sinkhan Village of Bhamo Township on 4 February morning.

Bhamo District USDA Executive U Win Maung Thein, presiding over the ceremony, spoke

on the occasion, saying that the national spirit based on the Union Spirit plays a significant role in building an enduring democratic nation. Therefore, the Government is forging national unity as well as relentlessly ensuring peace and stability of the State, strengthening of economy of the State and the people and promoting the education standard. In addition, the Government is striving for equitable development of all regions in-

cluding border regions and rural areas throughout the country for emergence of a modern nation.

He added that the seven-step Road Map is being implemented one after another. The National Convention will resume soon. The national goal is emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Therefore, the USDA which is the national force, is to join hands with the entire people to

implement the seven-step Road Map so as to meet the goal.

Next, Daw Htu Shan, Mansi Township USDA Executive, reported on matters related to honouring the Union Day. Shwegu Township USDA Joint-Secretary U Zaw Min also submitted reports in support of the National Convention. Bhamo Township USDA Secretary U Aung Hsan Win presented reports concerning rural development tasks in the district.

Bhamo District USDA Secretary U Aung Win Swe handed over the documents related to donations of school equipment worth K 765,000 for rural BEPSs to Bhamo District Education Officer U Ohn Ngwe.

Bhamo Township

USDA Executive U Bo Bo Kyaw seconded the reports submitted by three representatives. Later, the meeting approved honouring of the Union Day, supporting of the National Convention and rural development tasks. — MNA

Union Day honoured, National Convention supported at rally in Momauk

YANGON, 9 Feb — Ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention was held at BEHS (Branch) in Makhwe Village of Momauk Township, Bhamo District, on 5 February morning.

Bhamo District USDA Secretary U Aung Win Swe, presiding over the ceremony together with members of the panel of chairmen, gave a speech on the occasion.

Bhamo Township USDA Executive U Nan Zein Kwam Pham, Momauk Township USDA Executive U Thein Win and Bhamo Township USDA Executive Daw San San Oo tabled motions calling for honouring the Union Day, supporting the National Convention and carrying out rural development.

Bhamo District USDA Executive U Naw Rit handed over documents concerning donations of school equipment to rural BEPSs to Momauk Township Education Officer Daw Thaug Thaug; and Momauk Township USDA Secretary U Htein Lin Khaing, 200 corrugated iron sheets for the rural dispensary to Lwehse Village USDA Organizer U Khin Maung Zaw of Momauk Township. Next, Momauk Township USDA Executive U Dah Shi Tu Lwam seconded motions of three representatives. Later, the participants approved to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention and rural development tasks. — MNA



The ceremony to honour Union Day and support National Convention in progress in Sinkhan village of Bhamo Township.— MNA

CNG filling station No 006 commences functions



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe formally opens signboard of CNG Filling Station No 006.— ENERGY

YANGON, 9 Feb — The CNG filling station No 006 of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy was commissioned at the station on No 2 Highway in Dagon Myothit Township this morning.

Director U Myint Htay of MOGE briefed those present on matters concerning the station. Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw formally opened the station.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe pressed the button to

open the signboard of the station.

The commander, the ministers, the deputy ministers and guests inspected the CNG filling station. Director U Myint Htay conducted them round the station and explained gas storage system, functions of the compressor, the dispenser and the machine which calculates price of CNG. The commander and guests viewed filling of CNG to buses and departmental vehicles.

Also present on the occasion were the No 2 Military Region Commander, departmental heads, members of USDA and social organizations.

MNA

Ministers & wives, MDs host dinner to Union Day delegates

YANGON, 9 Feb — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and wife hosted a dinner

to the Union Day delegates at the Head Office of Myanma Timber Enterprise in Ahlon

Township yesterday evening.

It was also attended by directors-gen-

eral and wives, the managing director and wife, general managers and directors of the ministry.

The minister and wife presented the gifts to the delegates after the dinner.

Similarly, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein hosted a dinner to the Union Day delegates at Thiri Annawa Hall of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation Office in Insein Township yesterday evening.

Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and wife, and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung hosted a dinner to the delegates in their residents on the same day.

Similarly, managing directors of the Ministry of Industry-1 also hosted a dinner to the Union Day delegates at their residents and presented gifts to them representatives. — MNA



The 58th Anniversary Union Day objectives

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

Poem

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Bee and Fly

- * 'Tis the nature of bees
To be found on high boughs.
The clean and sweet nectar
To collect and consume
Living in solidarity and love.
In a big bee-hive
These living be a hundred thousand
or a million
And if one should be harmed
They form a pattern of strength
Exerting new strength to end strife
To be alert and to go on offensive
Overwhelmed by patriotism.
- * 'Tis the nature of flies
To dwell on low ground
And thrive on dirt and foul matter
Taking these for good.
There is no love between each other
One would grab another's food
Another would grab one's.
And thus bent on grabbing
They meet their death.
- * Although they may have equal flying power
Their nature is as different as earth and sky
The natures of bee and fly
Is as different as can be
In the sunlight of the homeland
Drinking the clear water of the homeland
We thrived together.
Should we be like the flies?
Should we be like the bees?
Act like bees if you want to be like them.
Act like flies if you want to be like them.
With noble heart and appearance
Not to become losers
That should be our choice.
- Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)

NCCWC meeting held

YANGON, 9 Feb — The coordination meeting of the National Convention Convening Work Committee was held at Nyaunhnapin Camp in Hmawby Township this afternoon, attended by Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Secretary U Thuang Nyunt, joint-secretaries and committee members.

The chairman of NCCWC presided over the meeting, and Secretary-1 U Khin Maung Myint acted as master of ceremonies. First, the chairman of NCCWC extended greetings. Afterwards, the vice-chairman of NCCWC and Secretary U Thuang Nyunt gave supplementary reports of the work. Next, those present took part in the discussions. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the chairman of NCCWC.— MNA



MEC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the opening ceremony of the main building of Government Computer College (Kengtung).—MNA

Main building of Government Computer College...

(from page 1)

Next, the Secretary-1 visited the students studying in the operation room and the lecture hall of the main building.

Principal Dr Daw Nan Hsai Mon Kham reported on the construction of the facility, courses, and academic and administration matters.

The Secretary-1 in his address said that Kengtung of Shan State (East) is located in the easternmost part of Myanmar. Shan State is indeed like a mini-union in which Bamar, Lahu, Akha and Wa nationals in addition to Shan nationals have been living in unity and amity sharing joys and sorrows

drinking water from the same source since aeons ago. However, the region lagged behind in development due to the many-years-long armed conflicts among the national brethren caused by the wedge driven and hatred

and discord sowed by the colonialists. Since its assumption of the State duties, the government has given top priority to national reconsolidation. In consequence, the local people have enjoyed fruitful results of peace

and stability along with prevalence of law and order and they can now earn their living with peace of mind.

Being well convinced that only when peace and tranquillity have been restored, can na-

tional development undertakings be carried out effectively, the government is implementing the border areas and national races development project, the 24 regions development project and the rural development project simultaneously

for ensuring equal development of all parts of the nation. Now, the national people have enjoyed fruits of progress to a certain degree.

For instance, Shan State (East) has been facilitated with an airport, new roads, a 200-bed



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein unveils the bronze plaque of the main building at Government Computer College (Kengtung).—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister for Science and Technology U Thauang formally open the main building of the Government Computer College (Kengtung).—MNA



MNAF President Daw Than Than Nwe speaking at the meeting to hold annual general meeting of the federation.—MNA

Measures for holding AGM of MNAF coordinated

YANGON, 9 Feb — Measures were discussed at the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation this afternoon for the holding of Annual General Meeting of the MNAF.

Present on the occasion were President of MNAF Daw Than Than Nwe, Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Myint, and members of the leading and work committees.

President of MNAF Daw Than Than Nwe made an opening speech and General Secretary Dr Daw Khin Mar Tun and leader of the subcommittees explained the organizational set-up and tasks of the federation. Afterwards, leaders of subcommittees took part in the discussions. Next, the meeting ended with concluding remarks by the MNAF president. —MNA

hospital, a technological college and a computer college.

As the Government is dutiful in serving the national interest, the local people will have to strive for their benefit, and that of the region and the nation, with loyalty to the State. Teachers will have to nurture their students to have moral conduct, and vitalize their Union Spirit and patriotism.

Nongton Construction Company presented commemorative gifts to the Secretary-1 and the minister.

The Secretary-1 cordially greeted those present at the ceremony. The college is built on Kengtung-Mongla road four miles from Kengtung near Yanghla village. Its campus is 33.11 acres.

It has a main hall and 28 lecture halls, two computer rooms, offices, a library and an assembly hall. The college has produced 537 diploma holders.

MNA

Perpetually flourishing of...

(from page 16)

the vice mayor, senior military officers, members of the committees, officials and departmental heads.

Secretary of the Management Committee Director-General of Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein acted as MC.

The Secretary-1 delivered a speech on the occasion, saying that Union Day is an auspicious day, endowed with national essence for the national races as the independent and sovereign Union of Myanmar was conceived together with the might of national unity and Union Spirit on that day.

It is the government's firm belief that the spirit of national solidarity and Union Spirit further flourish among the national brethren by means of annually celebrating Union Day, an unforgettable and historic day, on a grand scale in line with national essence.

It is also believed that

many families have come to group into relatives and relations then into national ethics and then into national races. And the Union of Myanmar has firmly stood with Myanmar nationals made up of national races such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan. That is a salient national characteristic of the nation and the people, and so national races cannot stand individually, but are to live in amity and unity forever as an inseparable family.

It is therefore crystal clear that to ensure perpetual existence of the Union, that can stand tall as a modern developed nation among the international community, absolutely rests on the sheer unity of the national races, and harmonious efforts in the interests of the nation, especially on the fraternal spirit with which the entire national people will always live in harmony in the Un-

larly, the perpetually flourishing of Union Spirit is a must among the national people, with which they will live in the Union for ever with the fraternal spirit sharing weal or woe and keeping nest and eggs intact. It is also required to take all necessary measures to maintain the independence and sovereignty to be able to march on the correct path, which the people themselves chose after overcoming the alien instigations and interventions. The trainees are therefore to be convinced well of the national policy, Our Three Main National Causes.

The Secretary-1 continued to say that as the Union Day delegates have witnessed that adhering to Our Three Main National Causes, the government has been able to rebuild national solidarity, which is the very first programme for the national progress. As a result, the internal armed conflicts among the national brethren came to an end. And the national unity has brought



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially meets with Union Day delegates.— MNA

the better transportation. Therefore, relationship and interdependence grew bigger and bigger and this consolidated national solidarity.

He said the government

people, propagation of national solidarity and the Union spirit in all parts of the Union.

The government is implementing the seven-point Road Map step by step in

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 dy-

Taking advantage of geographical barriers of the country, the imperialists practised divide-and-rule policy between the hilly regions and the plains. As a result, there was lack of closer relationship among the national people. Such evil legacy gradually became less and less due to the better transportation. Therefore, relationship and interdependence grew bigger and bigger and this consolidated national solidarity.

has been giving encouragement to promotion and preservation of traditions and customs of all the national races. The national races have an opportunity to exchange traditions, culture, customs on such significant occasion as the Union Day and they can also enjoy similarity in culture, mutual understanding and mutual relationship among their tradition and culture in the Union. Friendship among them has also grown, he added.

Now is the most opportune time now for all the national races in the Union to make combined and harmonious efforts with added momentum for strengthening unity, peace and stability and gaining better results in accord with historical traditions.

He pointed out the fact that the entire people with national awareness are to remove evil objectives of external and internal destructive elements who try to weaken the national solidarity, the basic foundation and genuine national strength of perpetuation of the Union and to ward them off with national unity.

He said the State Peace and Development Council is building better foundations necessary for development of the country, raising of quality of life of the

order to lay foundations that guarantee the perpetuation of the Union. The National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map will resume soon. He urged the national people to discharge national duty in their respective roles for realization of the Road Map with the firm concept that the perpetuation of the Union is very important for the entire people.

The Secretary-1 also exhorted them to serve the interests of the Union in accord with the 58th Anniversary Union Day objectives—for all national races

amic among the national people, for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union spirit for its perpetual existence, to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development and for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point future policy programme. After the ceremony, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted the Union Day delegates.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially converses with Union Day delegates.— MNA

the delegates from various parts of the Union are taking pride in the golden opportunity to take part in the Union Day celebration. They can also grab a unique opportunity to get together in amity, and expose and exchange respective traditions, culture and customs. Therefore, it can enhance mutual understanding and friendship alongside amicable relations and fraternal spirit among the national brethren. A careful analysis on the Myanmar history will reveal that the nation is home to more than 100 national races who have been living in unison and harmony and preserving the essence of a human society based on family spirit.

In the course of the nation's history that has existed for thousands of years,

ion, sharing weal and woe. He cited the guidance given by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe at the meeting with the trainees of the BEd Course No 36 of the University for Development of National Races and in the guidance, the Senior General dealt with the essence of family type of the Union and fine characteristics as well as the importance of the national policy based on national necessities. The Senior General in his speech said that it is important for the national races to be imbued with the spirit of national unity to cultivate good morality of mutual understanding, forbearance, help and reliance among the trainees to ensure oneness of more than 100 national races in the Union. Particu-

fruitful results of peace and stability to the border areas. Besides, basic foundations have been constructed for the progress of these areas.

Border areas that lagged behind development due to lack of stability have now developed. Educational opportunities in basic and higher levels and better agricultural, livestock breeding and economic foundations have also emerged as development results.

Taking advantage of geographical barriers of the country, the imperialists practised divide-and-rule policy between the hilly regions and the plains. As a result, there was lack of closer relationship among the national people. Such evil legacy gradually became less and less due to

Hundred fruits from a common stem—Our Union



The nation-building task is a non-stop endeavour that should be handed down from one generation to another and should be implemented with all-out efforts. For a developing country like Myanmar, it is a colossal task covering every sector and corner of the nation.

The entire Myanmar community needs unity. In the same manner, the entire Union needs peace and stability, a strong national force, sound economic foundations in every sector, and assistance to enhance economic and social power.

There was also the most dire need of all the needs the nation was facing in 1988.

During the time, the colonialist wolves were waiting for an opportunity to break up the Union into pieces, and the opportu-

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

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Land resource			
- sown acreage	2825165	3098578	273413
- acres of vacant and virgin land	634893	319576	-
Irrigation			
- dam, lake, reservoir, canal	-	140	140
- completed works	96	136	40
- tasks under implementation	-	4	4
- river water pumping tasks	-	87	87
- completed works	-	55	55
- tasks under implementation	-	1	1
- tasks to be carried out	-	31	31
- damming creeks	-	1206	1206
- underground water pump	-	709	709
- Benefited acre	890748	2387736	1496988
Thriving double crops	622253	1510911	888658
Extended paddy cultivation			
- acres of monsoon paddy	2019562	2560135	540573
- per acre yield*	65.43	69.52	4.09
- acres of summer paddy	-	175500	175500
- per acre yield*	-	80.04	80.04
- gross production	131181	196455	65274
- food sufficiency	-	211%	211%
beans and pulses (acre)	272786	1285822	1013036
progress in cotton plantation	15527	33975	18448
progress in sugarcane plantation	45407	65099	19692
progress in rubber plantation	11167	49872	38705

ists were ready to move in to exploit the nation.

In the minds of the entire national people was none other than the Tatmadaw which constantly stood by them in times of emergency, and that was its fine historic

Table B

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Extended livestock breeding	8740000	12779000	4039000
Extended acres of fish and prawn breeding			
- acres of fish farming	2520.94	17341.18	14820.24
- paddy plus fish farming (acre)	-	2687	2687
- number (1=100000)	-	13.44	13.44
- prawn breeding (acre)	-	183.50	183.50
- fingerling production			
- production (1=100000)	10.02	473.60	463.58
- fish released (1=100000)	2.15	310.68	308.53
- sale (1=100000)	7.52	162.92	155.04
fish released into Ayeyawady river (1=100000)	-	100.00	100.00

tradition. Hence, the Tatmadaw had to take over the State duties since then to attend to the many needs of the people in discharging the historic duty.

At the Special Meeting of the Union Solidarity and

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Bago Division marching to new golden land of unity and amity

Thiha Aung

Development Association held on 19 February 2002, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said, **“It is not for nothing that we are now in the present position in the country. We are working day and night as best we could for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, development nation. It can be achieved not by words but by practical deeds. We are fully aware that there can be difficulties and obstacles ahead. There are a lot of disturbances from inside and outside the country. Against all the odds, we are working because of our love of the nation. If there are no disturbances and obstacles, the pace of development of the nation will be quicker and so will the work to build a demo-**

cratic nation.

It is just 16 years since the Government has started the national development drive. But within a short span of time, the nation can stand tall, achieving success after success in various sectors, and all the

Table-C

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Reserved forest*	5180	5272	92
Protected public forest*	-	573	573
Natural area*	-	40	40
Setting up of forest (acre)	24900	292593	267693
- teak special plantation (acre)	-	63000	63000
- acres of commercial plantation	18960	141473	122513
- acres of village plantation	1150	32260	31110
- acres of industrial plantation	4790	31390	26600
- acres of watershed plantation	-	24470	24470
- acres of Thitseint plantation	-	5150	5150
Tree planting of community movement	0.50	15.57	15.07
Bago mountain range greening work			
- firewood plantation	-	90	90
- watershed plantation	-	1600	1600
- Thitseint plantation	-	200	200
- maintenance of forest	-	2000	2000
wood substitute fuel			
- stove	-	1200	1200
- briquette	-	200000	200000
- agricultural waste (ton)	-	350	350

states and divisions are playing their own role in the march towards golden land in unity and amity.

On 5 February 2004, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on development tasks

themselves and their own communities, will the nation be able to continue its development drive well. As the onus is on the present generation for the betterment of the new generations, all must be dutiful.”

The whole Union is invigorated with new energy thanks to the encouragement given to shine all the regions. And it is the sincere efforts of the Tatmadaw Government that have beautified and developed Bago Division where large stretches of paddy fields and a number of magnificent bridges have emerged. Now, I will present the situation of the

Kayin, Bamar, Mon, Chin, Rakhine, Shan and Pa-O national races living in unity since yore. A union within the Union, its population is 5,555,000 and its population density is 224 persons per square mile.

Except Bago Yoma, a mountain range, running from north to south in the central part of the division, its eastern and western regions are plains. Ayeyawady River flows in the western part, and Sittoung and Bago rivers in the east.

Agriculture

With innovative efforts, the Government has been adding value to land and

Table-D

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Railways			
- miles	354.84	371.09	16.25
- miles of railroad	754.35	772.23	17.88
- passenger	5024000	5356500	3325000
- miles of passenger transport	342796.0	352133.4	9337.4
- tons of cargo	87400	136800	49400
- miles cargo transport	10087.6	17259.7	7172.1
- stations	94	99	5
Airways			
- Airports	2	3	1
- above 5000 ft runway	1	2	1
- under 5000 ft runway	1	1	-
Motor road	815/0	1015/5	200/5
- tarred road	707/0	746/7	39/7
- gravel road	24/0	56/3	32/3
Bridge			
- above 180 feet long	36	56	20
- lower 180 feet long	500	619	119

in Mawlamyine, saying, “The Government has been providing assistance for

progress of all the regions of the Union. Economic development in all the states and divisions will lead to developing the national economy. Ardent efforts for regional and national development are a must.

“All the states and divisions are in the process of developing themselves more and more. Only if the individuals strive to develop

past and present of Bago Division.

Bago Division

Lying in the south portion of the central plains of Myanmar, Bago Division is sharing a common land border with Magway and Mandalay Divisions in the north, Kayin and Mon states in the east, Yangon Division in the south and Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division in the west. The 24,793-square-mile region is home to

water resources. It is building regulating dams to prevent floods, and reservoirs to irrigate crops. It is developing the division to become a reliable agricultural region of the nation.

Of the 3.1 million acres of crops fields of the division, 40 dams and 55 waterworks are irrigating 1.5 million acres. Up to this day, the nation has built Natmaw Dam, irrigating 8,000 acres of land, and

(See page 10)



Development in Bago Division after 1988

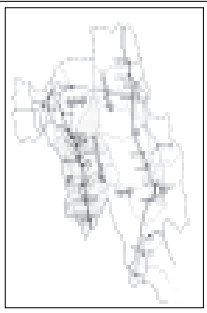


Bawbin dam built across Thayet Creek in Gyobingauk Township, Bago Division, irrigates 30,000 acres of farmland. — MYANMA ALIN

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day

New hospital in Pyay

*Emergency ward of 200-bed Specialist Hospital in Pyay, Bago Division.
MYANMA ALIN*



*Sittoung Bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk) is 1,500 feet long and it serves the local people enabling them to reach Shwekyin in a short period of time.
MYANMA ALIN*



Bago Division marching to...

(from page 8)
 Shwedaung Dam, irrigating 1,200 acres of land, in Shwedaung Township, Singuchaung-gaung Dam, irrigating 1,500 acres of land, in Okpo Township, Taungmauk and Kyeepin dams in Padaung Township, two dams by the same name 'South Nawin Dam' irrigating 67,000 acres of land, in Paukkaung Township, Minye Dam, irrigating 2,000 acres of land, and Sittoung Dam, irrigating 7,000 acres of land, in Ottwin Township, Mataungta Dam, irrigating 10,520 acres of land, in Pyay Township, Seikphutaung and Kanni dams, each irrigating 2,000 acres of land, in Toungoo Township, Yebo Dam, irrigating 2,000 acres of land, and Taungnyo Dam, irrigating 50,000 acres of land, in Nattalin Township, Zalathaw Dam, irrigating 2,000 acres of land, Mazin Dam, irrigating 6,500 acres of land, Shwepy 3 Dam, irrigating 1,250 acres of land, Zaungtu Dam, irrigating 36,250 acres of land, and Pathi Dam, irrigating 4,000 acres of land, in Bago Township, Ngamwechaung Dam, irrigating 500 acres of land, in Phyu Township, Bawni Dam, irrigating 6,000 acres of land, in DaikU Township, Weigyi Dam, irrigating 45,000 acres of land, in Paungde Township, Maungkaing Dam, irrigating 3,000 acres of land, in Pandaung Township, Kangyigon Dam, irrigating 1,400 acres of land, in Pyay Township, Thedaw Dam, irrigating 12,000 acres of land, Letpadan Township, Shangaing Dam, irrigating 25,000 acres of land, in Waw Township, Hswachaung Dam, irrigating 35,000 acres of land, in Yedashe Township, Thonze Dam, irrigating 50,000 acres of land, in Thayawady Township, Paingkyone Dam, irrigating 30,000 acres of land, in Bago Township, and

in Kawa Township, Bawbin Dam, irrigating 30,000 acres of land, in Gyobingauk Township, Kantinbilin Dam, irrigating 25,000 acres of land, in Minhla Township, Kawliya Dam, irrigating 24,500 acres of land, in DaikU Township, Tawa Dam, irrigating 32,000 acres of land, in Thanatpin Township, Alaingni Dam, irrigating 10,000 acres of land, in Bago Township, Gamon and Minhla dams, each irrigating 15,000 acres of land, in Okpo, Chaungmagyi (Myohla) Dam, irrigating 3,000 acres of land, in Yedashe Township, Shwehla Dam, irrigating 35,000 acres of land, in Kawa Township, and Khawa Dam, irrigating 2,000 acres of land, in Padaung Township.

Fifty-five river water pumping stations, 12,063 small dams and 7,093 tube-wells have also been built in the division. The irrigation facilities have doubled the double-cropping of paddy to over 1.5 million acres. The division has put 550,00 acres of land under monsoon paddy

Table F

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
electricity consumption maximum load*	196.829	300.799	103.970
	43.8	71.8	28.000
Increase of generating power			
- implemented project	-	1	1
- implementing project	-	5	5
- diesel power plant	21	16	national grid
present capacity of generator*	55.665	76.410	20.745
future capacity of generator*	55.665	306.410	250.745

and 175,000 acres of land under summer paddy. The division is producing food more than twice the amount of local consumption. It is distributing half the amount of its rice production to other regions.

Beans and pulses cultivation is showing encouraging signs. The division is cultivating about 1.3 million acres of beans and pulses, over 300,000 acres of edible oil crops, and nearly 50,000 acres of rubber, which has ready mar-

Table-E (for 1000 people)

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
post office	115	123	8
telegraph office	33	41	8
facsimile	2	72	70
computer telegraph	-	8	8
telephone service			
- telephone office	30	102	72
- number of line	5497	27478	21981
- exchange	30	70	40
- direct line	3841	22587	18746
- auto/carrier telephone	3841	22587	18746
- telephone density*	1.37	4.2	2.83
microwave station	11	17	6
rural telephone exchange	-	32	32
e-mail, Internet	-	3	3

Extension of line number (under implementation)—1-Gyobinkauk (500), 2-Nattalin (500), 3- Paungde (500), 4-Zigon (500)

DECT phone project first phase (under implementation)-Bago (East) (1000)
 Auto exchange under implementation 1- Shwekyin (500), 2 Thanatpin (500)

Table G

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Upgrading industrial power			
- Pyay Industrial Zone	-	1	1
- works	-	166	166
- private industries	1729	4709	2980
- cottage industries	-	484	484
State-owned industries	133	106	transfer

Table H

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Pyay oil field (inland)	-	1	1
- Gaspipeline (mile)	119.5	173.20	53.70
- crude oil production (barrel)	-	76143	76143
- gas production (cubic feet)	-	792.96	792.96

kets abroad.

But the prospering Bago Division and its energetic people are not content with the present developments. The land has natural resources, manpower and bright prospects. The Tatmadaw Government has been helping people get available land and water resources ready for use.

Yenwe Dam, which will irrigate 118,500 acres of crops, in Kyauktaga Township, Pyuchaung Dam, which will irrigate 120,000 acres of crops, in Pyu Township, Khaboung Dam, which will irrigate 135,000 acres of crops, in Ottwin Township, and

Table I

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Basic education			
- number of schools	3706	4444	738
- multimedia classroom	-	135	135
- e-Learning Centre	-	50	50
- number of teachers	24155	27098	2943
- number of students	602756	793860	191104
- KG enrolment	67.99%	97.22%	29.23%
- adult literacy rate	89.20%	97.95%	8.75%
School dropout rate			
- primary school level	41.55%	15.02%	(-) 26.53%
- middle school level	39.32%	13.88%	(-) 25.44%
Higher education			
- arts & science university	-	2	2
- degree college	-	1	1
- college	2	2	-
- e-Learning centre	-	53	53
- academic programmes	16	98	82
- number of teachers	169	633	464
- number of students	1242	60734	59492
- Human resource development centre	-	3	3

forests and planting trees in their communities. Table C indicates the development of the division's forestry sector.

Road and transport sector

Although it is a central region, Bago Division lacked wide and smooth roads till 1988. The 354-mile six-lane Yangon-Mandalay Highway Project covers Bago Division as the highway passes through the region.

The Government has upgraded the Yangon-Pyay-Magway road, Phayaygi-Thaton road and Pyay-Aunglan road, and expanded the Letpadan-Hinthada road and Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road.

Preparations have now started to lay the Asian, ASEAN and transnational highways that will pass through the division in the future.

Forest conservation

Land, water and climate are the nation's basic natural resources. In accord with the guidance, which said, "We must conserve and protect our forests as their destruction will damage the soil and water that will cause adverse changes in the climate", the division is conserving and protecting forests and establishing forest plantations.

Local people are also conserving and protecting

government used K 833.17 million and US \$ 8.685 million to build the facility that is now helping develop the west bank of the Ayeyawady.

Nawade Bridge spanning Ayeyawady River was constructed in Bago Division. Likewise, the 1500-foot-long Sittoung Bridge spanning Sittoung River was also constructed to link the region with Nyaunglebin, Shwegyin, and Madauk.

A total of 16 bridges with the length of 180 feet

and above, including Nawade and Sittoung Bridges, were opened in the region in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

There also emerged in the region such bridges as Myitmakha Bridge which is 1,520 feet long on Letpadan-Hinthada Road in Letpadan Township, Khabaung Bridge on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Taungoo Township, Kadokchaung and Kawliya Bridges in DaikU Township, Pyu Creek Bridge in Pyu Township, Yenwe Creek Bridge, Baingda Bridge and Kwinchaung Bridge in Nyaunglebin Township, Bago River-crossing Bridge in Bago Township, Wepok Bridge on Yangon-Pyay Road in Thegon Township, and Thaikchaung Bridge and Bamaung Bridge on Pyay-Paukkaung-Taungoo Road in Paukkaung Township.

Kawa bridge which is 400 feet in length is being constructed across Bago River in Kawa Township. Arrangements are under way to build Sittoung bridge (Natthankwin) on Penwogon-Kyaukyi Road and another Bago river-crossing bridge in the region. The emergence of a network of roads and bridges in the region will strengthen the Union in other way.

(See page 11)

Bago Division marching to...

(from page 10)

Like motor roads, railroads are also being constructed and upgraded in the region. Now, the east Bago Yoma has been linked with the west Bago Yoma by railroad. A railroad linking Pyay, Aunglan, Taungdingyi, Kyaukpadaung, Bagan and Myingyan was also constructed. Therefore, its surrounding areas will soon boom in trade.

The new railroads constructed in Bago Division are shown in Table D.

Communication

With socio-economic life enjoying a quantum leap throughout the country, steps are being taken to ensure a parallel development in the communication sector. "Communication and transport are central to economic growth. A better transport system should be carried out to boost economy". They are the success achieved in the efforts to develop the communication and transport sector of Bago Division. In Table E, figures are shown in comparison with the conditions in 1988 and those at the present.

Electricity

The Union of Myanmar did not merely bear over 100 national races. She also bequeathed her offspring with hilly regions, mountain ranges, valleys, coasts, rivers and creeks, wetland, sea, and islands.

"The eldest son is responsible to assume the duty of father", so goes a Myanmar saying. Now, the Tatmadaw is assuming that duty and doing its best to preserve and better what has been left on its shoulders.

Untapped energy is exploited and put into use. Thus, Zaungtu Hydel Power Project, came into

being in Bago Division. There was no hydel power station in the region till 1988. Power Grid and diesel-powered factories were then the reliable things.

The Bago River is well-known because of Zaungtu multi-purpose project. And Zaungtu Dam can feed over 36,000 acres of farmland with irrigation water. It can also prevent the floods in Bago and its vicinity. It also generates 20 megawatts of electricity.

Another hydel power projects like Zaungtu are under way to place them in service of national interests. They are Shwegyin (75 megawatts), Kun Creek (60 megawatts), Pyu Creek (40 megawatts), Khabaung (30 megawatts), and Yenwe (25 megawatts).

Table-K

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
upgrading of hospital health units	61	82	21
health staff	183	199	16
health staff	1758	2545	787
- doctors	207	399	192
- nurses	258	607	349
- health staff	160	176	16
- midwives	869	1012	143
- skilled staff	14	25	11
- township health assistant	-	9	9
- health assistant-1	-	28	28
- health assistant	126	134	8
- supervisor (1)/(2)	124	155	31
traditional medicine			
- traditional medicine hospital	-	1	1
- traditional medicine dispensary	8	26	18
- nurse training school	-	2	2
- midwifery school	3	3	-

watts). They will produce 230 megawatts of electricity in total.

Sandalwood cannot be found in every forest, just as ruby cannot be found in every mountain, so goes a saying. In the time of the Tatmadaw government, arrangements are being made to establish at least one hydel power in every state and division. Now, Bago Division is in the prospect of producing more electricity. The con-

trast of development between the past and the present in Bago Division can be seen in Table F.

Industry

"Efforts are to be made to transform the country into an industry based on agriculture". In line with the guideline, encouragement has been given to the industrial development in Bago Division. Nowadays, Pyay Industrial Zone in Bago Division has contained 166 enterprises with an investment of K 507.74 million. The zone's production value has hit K 424.65 million.

In the industrial sector, the involvement of the private sector is getting higher in ratio. With private-owned factories close to 3,000, the zone has 4,709 factories in total. The cottage industries are 484 in number while the State-owned factories are 106. Data are shown in

Table G.

Mineral resources

Bago Division can be said to be a gold mine in the golden land. In the past, there was only a gold mine in the region. But, the number has now increased to 11. In 1988, the region could produce just 9.52 troy-ounce of gold, but now it can produce 78.24 troy-ounce of gold. Asbestos was discovered and has been produced 326.87 metric ton.

Table-L

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Urban development			
- urban road miles	333/7	597/1	263/2
- miles of tarred road	157/7	220/4	62/5
- miles of gravelled road	20/1	65/0	44/7
- miles of granite road	0/7	137/4	136/5
- earthen road	155/0	174/1	19/1
Water supply task			
Town in which tasks to be done completed work	28	10	18
	2	18	16
Rural development			
- Rural road	445/6	3024/2	2578/4
- tarred road	46/6	67/0	20/2
- gravelled road	213/5	241/7	28/2
- granite road	91/2	542/3	451/1
- earthen road	94/1	2173/0	2078/7
Water supply tasks			
village in which tasks to be done completed work	2675	1274	1401
	-	2271	2271
rural housing	-	415	415

Table M

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
- TV retransmission station	2	4	2
- IPRD offices	-	31	31
- IPRD libraries	9	31	22
- departmental libraries	-	18	18
- rural library	-	1231	1231
- e-library	-	4	4

students of basic education has reached nearly 800,000, while that of students of higher education has exceeded 60,000. It is therefore encouraging to see in Table I the growing number of students in Bago Division.

Science and technology

A technological university was opened in Pyay, which is a strategic place, in order to produce engineers and computer scientists. A technological college and a computer college were also constructed in Pyay and Toungoo. Now, they are nurturing educated youths. This being the case, technocrats capable of constructing simultaneously 100 bridges similar to Nawade Bridge in form and size will gain in number.

Table J shows progress at present and in 1988.

Health

District-level hospitals are staffed with specialists who will give lectures on six specializations, and state- and division-level hospitals with specialists who will give lectures on 12 specializations to provide public health care on a greater scale.

Now, Bago Division possesses two 200-bed hospitals, one 150-bed hospital, two 100-bed hospitals, 17 25-bed hospitals, four 16-bed hospitals, and 52 station hospitals. The total number has seen an increase of 25 hospitals when compared with that of 1988. Besides 199 health centres, there also emerged another 16 health centres. The region also now has one traditional medicine hospital and 26 dispensaries.

A total of 2,545 health staff including 399 specialists and assistant doctors have been employed in the region. In the past, the region had only two midwifery schools. Now, the region gets two more nursing schools.

Table K indicates progress in the health sector.

Development affairs

Among the historic projects of the country are urban and rural development projects. Success has been achieved in these projects as a result of the combined efforts made by the government and the people.

In the past, rural areas lagged behind in development. Even cities lacked urban characteristics. However in the time of the Tatmadaw government, there emerged roads linking one village and the other, one town and the other, and one district and the other. Table L shows the achievements gained in the urbanization tasks being carried out in Bago Division.

Table J shows progress at present and in 1988.

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Efforts are being made for the extension of TV retransmission stations and the opening of libraries in all areas down to villages. The tasks being undertaken for the information sector of Bago Division are shown in Table M.

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(Translation: TMT + KTY)

Table J

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Institute of Technology (Pyay)	-	1	1
- course numbers	-	11	11
- number of teacher	-	19	19
- graduate	-	2261	2261
- number of students	-	1574	1574
Technological college	-	2	2
Technological College (Toungoo)	-	1	GTI 1
- number of course	4	10	6
Technological College (Pyay)	-	1	GTI 1
- course number	3	7	4
- number of teacher	93	275	182
- students (graduate)	1821	12096	10275
- present students	-	3262	3262
Computer College	-	2	2
Government Computer College (Toungoo)	-	1	1
- course numbers	-	6	6
Government Computer College (Pyay)	-	1	1
- number of courses	-	6	6
- number of teachers	-	31	31
- students (graduate)	-	268	268
- present students	-	775	775

Israel to invest heavily in nanotech research

JERUSALEM, 8 Feb—A new nanotechnology institute with an investment of 88 million US dollars will be set up at the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, in northern city of Haifa, the *Ha'aretz* newspaper reported on Monday.

Officials from the Technion and the Industry, Trade and Employment Ministry said the new institute will be the biggest university research centre established in the country dedicated to nanotechnology.

Nanotechnology is the science of building electronic circuits and devices from single atoms and molecules, where the scale used is one of nanometres (one-millionth of a millimetre). Analysts predict by 2015, nanotechnology will see an annual turnover of one trillion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Central Philippine region hit by middle-scale earthquake

MANILA, 8 Feb— An earthquake measuring 4.8 on the Richter Scale hit the island of Samar in central Philippines on Sunday afternoon, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) reported.

This is the second time the Philippine archipelago was hit by earthquakes after a mild quake jolted the coastal areas of the southern cities of General Santos and Davao on Saturday.

The PHIVOLCS said the tremor was recorded at 5:28 p.m. local time with the epicentre located at 38 kilometres east of Catarman, Northern Samar.—MNA/Xinhua

US forces abuse Kuwait prisoners at Guantanamo

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb— US forces abused several Kuwaiti prisoners now held at Guantanamo Bay by beating them with chains, and giving them electrical shocks, the detainees' lawyer said on Monday.

Human rights lawyer Tom Wilner, who represents the 11 Kuwaitis locked up as foreign terrorism suspects at the US naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, described the abuses in notes after meeting with the men last month.

The notes—declassified by the US Government— detailed conversations with six of

the men, and said the other five recounted similar treatment.

Major Michael Shavers, a Pentagon spokesman, would not offer a point-by-point rebuttal of the allegations.

The worst of the abuse, which Wilner labelled torture, took place at the hands of US forces at detention facilities in Afghanistan and Pakistan before the men were taken to Guantanamo, first used to detain terrorism suspects in January 2002, he said.

“All of them were hung from their wrists and beaten, sometimes beaten with chains. At least one was hung upside from his

ankles and beaten. They were all beaten, they said, until they would pass out,” Wilner said.

“They were stripped naked and kept naked for extended periods of time. They were taunted while naked by female guards. At least two of them were subjected to electric shocks while hanging from their wrists,” Wilner added, with the shocks applied using metal paddles placed under the men's arms.

Wilner said the Kuwaitis were chained in painful positions for such long periods of time that they would urinate and defecate on themselves.

MNA/Reuters

Philippines discourages women from delivering babies at home

MANILA, 8 Feb — A Philippine health official said on Sunday that 10 Filipino women die every 24 hours due to maternal complications caused by hemorrhage during delivery at home without proper medical and health facilities.

Dr Myrna Suratos, chief of the Department of Health (DoH) Family Planning and Maternal Health for the Bicol region in central Philippines, said that the DoH is

discouraging pregnant women from giving birth in their homes to prevent any material complications.

“Home delivery is very crucial for women because not all deliveries are normal, that is why equipment and facilities are important,” Suratos said.

The DoH is encouraging mothers to avail of the services of facility delivery with complete equipment and

well-trained personnel.

Suratos said that in Bicol region, common causes of maternal deaths are malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency which continue to endanger not only expectant women but their offspring as well.

She said that about 87 per cent of pregnant mothers practice home delivery through the so-called “manghihilot” in Bicol.

Surato said the DoH

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is promoting family planning and maternal care programme. Also included in the programme is the sustainability of contraceptive supplies following the pulling out of the United States Agency for International Development's support for contraceptive supplies in the Philippines.
MNA/Xinhua

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Diet rich in fiber vegetables lowers cholesterol

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb— A diet rich in fiber and vegetables lowered cholesterol just as much as taking a statin drug, Canadian researchers reported on Monday.

They said people who cannot tolerate the statin drugs because of side-effects can turn to the diet, which they said their volunteers could easily follow.

David Jenkins of St Michael's Hospital and the University of Toronto and colleagues created what they called a diet

“portfolio” high in soy protein, almonds, and cereal fiber as well as plant sterols — tree-based compounds used in cholesterol-lowering margarines, salad dressing and other products.

They tested their diet on 34 overweight men and women, comparing it with a low-fat diet and with a normal diet plus a generic statin drug, Lovastatin.

Each volunteer followed each regimen for a month, with a break in between each treatment cycle.—MNA/Xinhua



Thai policeman rides past a convoy of 'tuk-tuks', or motorised three-wheel rickshaws in Bangkok. —INTERNET

Saudi Arabia calls for establishing anti-terror centre

RIYADH, 8 Feb — Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz recently calls for the establishment of an international anti-terror centre to coordinate global cooperation on fight against terrorism.

“I call on all

countries to set up an international centre for combating terrorism. Those working in it would be experts in this field,” Abdullah said in his opening address to the four-day international anti-terror conference.

Terrorism does not

affiliate to any particular civilization, religion or race, said the Crown Prince.

“This conference, attended by countries affiliated to various civilizations, religions and systems, proves that terrorism does not differentiate between civilizations, religions and systems when it selects its victims,” he said.

“I have great hope that this conference will open

a new page of effective international cooperation to establish an international community free of terrorism,” Abdullah said.

Delegates from some 60 countries attended the gathering. They will exchange experience and information on fighting terror, discuss the causes of terrorism, and ways and mechanisms on anti-terrorism combat.

MNA/Xinhua

One Egyptian twin to have skull reconstruction surgery

HOUSTON, 8 Feb — One of a pair of formerly conjoined Egyptian twins underwent surgery on Monday to reconstruct his skull, in what doctors said was an important step to recovery after being separated from his brother in October, 2003.

Three-year-old Ahmed Ibrahim was reported in good condition following the four-hour operation, intended to close the hole left in his

skull by the separation surgery. The twins had been joined at the head.

“The doctor says he is doing great,” said Susan McBee, spokeswoman for Medical City Children's Hospital in Dallas, where the surgery was performed. “Everything went exactly according to game plan.”

Brother Mohamed will undergo the same operation next month, she said.

MNA/Reuters

DON'T SMOKE

Union Flag arrives in Dagon Myothit (South) from Hlegu Township

YANGON, 9 Feb — The Union Flag which spent overnight at the sports ground in Hlegu Township yesterday, was conveyed to Dagon Myothit (South) Township this morning by the Union Boat and flag relay teams.

Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein planted the flag in the silver bowl on the dais in the sports ground of Dagon Myothit (South) Township at 9.30 am.

The ceremony to carry the Union Flag to Dagon Myothit (South) Township from Hlegu Township was held at the sports ground in Hlegu this morning. The people together with the Guard of Honour of No 11 LID saluted the Union Flag.

The military band of No 11 LID played the national anthem. Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myat Min took out the Union Flag and carried it flanked by

Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and Police Officers. At the archway of the sports ground, he handed it over to Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein who conveyed the flag again and planted it in the silver bowl on board the Union Boat. Afterwards, the flag was carried from Hlegu Township to Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

At 9.30 am, the flag was planted in the silver bowl at the sports ground in Dagon



Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myat Min hands over Union Flag to Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein. — MNA

Myothit (South) Township. The people saluted the flag together with the Guard of Honour of Yangon Command. — MNA



Yangon East District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein and people salute the Union Flag. — MNA

Pyapon District organizes ceremony to honour Union Day, support National Convention

YANGON, 9 Feb — A mass of people and USDA members totalling over 4,400 attended the

ceremony to honour the Union Day and support the National Convention in Htinkwin Village of

Kyaiklat Township, Pyapon District, this morning. Pyapon District

USDA Secretary U Aye Kyaing, presiding over the rally together with members of the panel of patrons,

gave an opening speech.

Next, representatives of the rally submitted reports in honour of the Union Day and in support of the National Convention and rural development tasks.

Afterwards, the reports of the representatives were seconded by a representative. Later, all those present approved their reports. The meeting ended with chanting of slogans.— MNA



People attend the ceremony to honour Union Day and support National Convention in Htinkwin Village of Kyaiklat Township. — MNA

Doh Kyeywa Journal comes out



YANGON, 9 Feb — The Doh Kyeywa Journal, Vol II, No 4, came out today. The journal carries features on articles, short story, humour, cartoon, movies, prices of commodities, meteorol-

ogy, astrology and others. Manuscripts and advertisements are to be sent to No 30-32, 10th Street, Lanmadaw Township, Tel: 371342, 252452 and 379768. — MNA

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Colombia wins South American under-20 soccer c'ship

BOGOTA, 9 Feb — Striker Hugo Rodallega scored his 11th goal of the tournament as hosts Colombia beat Venezuela 2-0 to win the South American Under-20 soccer championship in Manizales on Sunday.

Crisitan Marrugo fired Colombia ahead with a long-range shot in the 30th minute and Rodallega scored direct from a free kick just before the hour.

Colombia, who had already qualified for the world youth championship in the Netherlands in June, finished top of the six-team final round with 13 points. They have played all their nine games unbeaten.—MNA/Xinhua

Robben to be out for 2 months due to foot injuries

LONDON, 9 Feb — Chelsea's Arjen Robben has broken two bones in his left foot and will be out for up to two months, the Dutch winger said on Tuesday.

An MRI scan on Monday confirmed that the damage sustained in a tackle by Aaron Mokoena in the League leaders' 1-0 victory at Blackburn Rovers last week was as serious as first feared.

"Six weeks is the average time to heal this injury and then I need a few more weeks to be completely fit again," Robben, who scored the only goal at Ewood Park, told Dutch newspaper Algemeen Dagblad.



Chelsea's Arjen Robben celebrates after scoring against Blackburn.—INTERNET

"I had the feeling directly that it was a serious injury but because of the swelling it was impossible to make a final diagnose. "It felt different than last summer when I had the same injury on my other foot.

"Then I could walk already after three days but I stayed sidelined for a long period. I hope that it will take me now six to eight weeks."

Chelsea physio Mike Banks confirmed Robben's injury on Tuesday, but said he could be back next month. "One is a chip on the side of his foot, the other is a small break on the third metatarsal," he said.

"But this is not the traditional metatarsal that has kept (Chelsea midfielder) Scott Parker out for two months. The fractures are tiny and he could be playing next month." —MNA/Reuters

Hoyzer ashamed of himself for fixing matches for money

DUESSELDORF (Germany), 9 Feb — Disgraced German referee Robert Hoyzer said on Tuesday he was ashamed of himself for fixing matches for money and warned that the ongoing investigation would stir up a hornet's nest for many others.

"The German Football Association wasn't aware of the scope of it all," Hoyzer, the 25-year-old referee at the centre of the scandal, told ZDF television in an interview on Tuesday.

"They thought it would be limited to just one referee," he added in his first public appearance since the scandal erupted last month. "But they nailed the right one with me. It was like hitting a hornet's nest. I've got a lot of information."

Hoyzer, who has admitted fixing several matches last year and been in hiding at an undisclosed location since then, told ZDF's Johannes B. Kerner he had been seduced by money.

"I was pleased as punch — the great amounts of money blinded me," said Hoyzer, who had dropped out of university before recently resuming his studies.

Eriksson backing Beckham to put on captain's performance

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH (England), 9 Feb — England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson is backing David Beckham to put on a captain's performance when they take on the Netherlands in Wednesday's friendly.

Beckham suffered a dip in form for both Real Madrid and England in the run-up to Christmas, prompting renewed doubts in the British media over whether the midfielder should still be skipper and a first-choice on the right.

Eriksson believes that spell in the doldrums is now over, telling reporters on Tuesday: "I'm sure he wants to demonstrate that he's not finished as a footballer - and of course, he's not.

"I think Real Madrid are playing much better football now, they're more organized, more disciplined and it seems

the team are fitter than they were two or three months ago. And, of course, that helps David Beckham as well. "I think Beckham, after Christmas, has played many good games... I talked to him yesterday and he said he felt much better, fitter than a couple of months ago."

Media speculation over his international future followed England's 1-0 friendly defeat by Spain in Madrid last November, when Beckham was replaced after an hour by a player many see as his successor, winger Shaun Wright-Phillips.

Dismissing the talk,



England's Head Coach Sven-Goran Eriksson

Eriksson said: "All the discussion about David Beckham not being the captain, not playing for the team and being finished with the England job, I never understood that."

Looking back, Eriksson said: "I've more or less always been very happy with David Beckham. Sometimes, I know he can do better, but more or less all the time he's done a good job for England."

"(But) of course it's good to have other options as well." Real Madrid has also been a testing experience for England team mate Michael Owen, who remains a fringe player behind Raul and Ronaldo despite a steady stream of goals.

"If you take the positive side of it, he will not be tired because he's not been playing that much," Eriksson said.

"But, of course, it must be a little bit frustrating for him. He's not used to a situation like that, he's always been one of those picked first of all and suddenly he's sitting on the bench a lot of the time.

"But more or less every time he comes on for Real Madrid he scores, so he can't do much better. And he will always play very well for us, I'm sure about that." —MNA/Reuters

Giggs concerned over Glazer's takeover bid for Man United

LONDON, 9 Feb — Manchester United winger Ryan Giggs has voiced his concern over American billionaire Malcolm Glazer's takeover bid for the club.

United's board confirmed on Sunday that Glazer had tabled an improved 800 million pounds (1.50 billion US Dollars) bid to buy the 15-times English champions, his third attempt in the past year.

Fans of the club fear for the club's future if the deal goes through, and Giggs believes United should be left alone.

"The general feeling is that the club is in good hands," the long-serving Welshman told the Daily Mail on Tuesday.

"This club cannot get any better than it is at the moment. We sympathise with the fans. Of course we do.

"Nothing needs to change, we hope that continues. As far as the fans are concerned, the

team and the club and the way the whole thing is being run at the moment shows that there is nothing wrong at all."

Giggs is the second United player to voice concerns over Glazer's proposed takeover after defender Rio Ferdinand said on Monday: "People want the club's interests to be with people who have grown up with the club and have got its interests at heart."

MNA/Reuters



Ryan Giggs

Gaudio overcomes Gonzalez to win Bellsouth open

SANTIAGO, 9 Feb — French Open champion Gaston Gaudio overcame Chile's Fernando Gonzalez to win the BellSouth Open ATP tournament in Vina del Mar, Chile on Sunday.

Gonzalez, men's doubles Olympic champion last year in Athens and the tournament's defending champion, saved four match points in the final game before Gaudio won 6-3, 6-4 in one hour 37 minutes to claim his first tournament since Roland Garros last June.

The Argentine clay court specialist broke in the eighth game as he took the first set in 44 minutes.

Big-hitting Gonzalez, who was attempting to win the tournament for the third time, made a good start to the second set as he broke in the fourth game and took a 4-1 lead.

But the Chilean second seed committed 26 unforced errors in the match and Gaudio took advantage as he broke in the seventh and ninth games to go 5-4 ahead.

Gaudio, who lost four ATP finals last year, then seemed to suffer from another bout of nerves in the last game.—MNA/Xinhua

Nedved named Czech Footballer of the Year

PRAGUE, 9 Feb — Juventus midfielder Pavel Nedved was named Czech Footballer of the Year on Tuesday for the fourth time in his career.

The 32-year-old former Czech captain, who won the award in 1998, 2000 and 2003, when he was

also voted European Footballer of the Year, was outstanding last year for the national side, who made the semi-finals of Euro 2004.

He retired from internationals in September due to persistent knee troubles to concentrate on his club career.

Nedved beat Liverpool's Milan Baros, the top scorer at Euro 2004, for the award.



Juventus midfielder Pavel Nedved

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

Study finds worms squirming on fishhook feel no pain

OSLO, 9 Feb — Worms squirming on a fishhook feel no pain — nor do lobsters and crabs cooked in boiling water, a scientific study funded by the Norwegian Government has found.

“The common earthworm has a very simple nervous system — it can be cut in two and continue with its business,” Professor Wenche Farstad, who chaired the panel that drew up the report, said on Monday. Norway might have considered banning the use of live worms as fish bait if the study had found they felt pain, but Farstad said “It seems to be only reflex curling when put on the hook... They might sense something, but it is not painful and does not compromise their well-being”.

The government called for the study on

pain, discomfort and stress in invertebrates to help in the planned revision of Norway’s animal protection law. Invertebrates cover a range of creatures from insects and spiders to mollusks and crustaceans. Farstad said most invertebrates, including lobsters and crabs boiled alive, do not feel pain because, unlike mammals, they do not have a big brain to read the signals.

Some more advanced kinds of insects, such as honeybees which display social behaviour and a capacity to learn and cooperate, deserve special care, she said. — MNA/Reuters

Some planets in galaxy could harbour unexpected treasure

WASHINGTON, 9 Feb — Some planets in our galaxy could harbour an unexpected treasure: a thick layer of diamonds hiding under the surface, astronomers reported on Monday.

No diamond planet exists in our solar system, but some planets orbiting other stars in the Milky Way might have enough carbon to produce a diamond layer, Princeton University astronomer Marc Kuchner said in a telephone news conference.

That kind of planet would have to develop differently from Earth, Mars and Venus, so-called silicate planets made up mostly of silicon-oxygen compounds.

Carbon planets might form more like some meteorites than like Earth, which is believed to have condensed from a disk of gas orbiting the sun.

In gas with extra carbon or too little oxygen, carbon compounds like carbides and graphite could form instead of silicates, Kuchner said at a conference on extrasolar planets in Aspen, Colorado.

Any condensed graphite would change into diamond under the high pressures inside carbon planets, potentially forming diamond layers inside the planets many miles thick.

Carbon planets would be made mostly of carbides, although they might have iron cores and atmospheres. Carbides are a kind of ceramic used to line the cylinders of motorcycle engines among other things, Kuchner said. Planets orbiting the pulsar PSR 1257+12 may be carbon planets, possibly forming from the disruption of a star that produced carbon as it aged, he said.

Other good candidates for carbon planets might be those located near the galaxy’s centre, where stars have more carbon than the sun. In fact, the galaxy as a whole is becoming richer in carbon as it gets older, raising the possibility all planets in the future may be carbon planets, Kuchner said.

MNA/Reuters

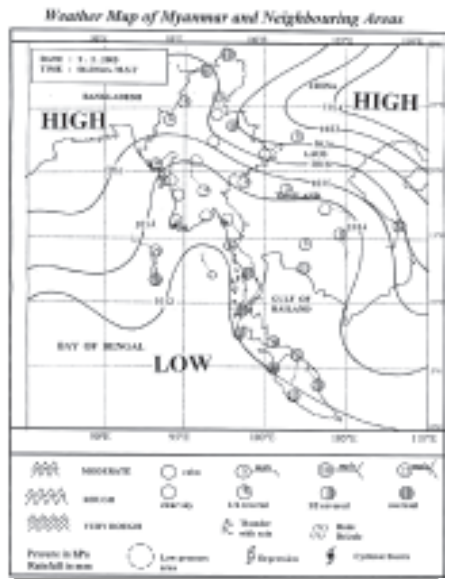
13-year-old suspected car thief shot to death in LA

LOS ANGELES, 9 Feb — A 13-year-old suspected car thief was shot to death by police after he led them on a 3-1/2-mile chase and then backed into their cruiser, police said.

Friends and neighbours of Devin Brown said they could not understand why police opened fire on him early Sunday in South Los Angeles.

I know he was wrong for stealing a car, but what I really don’t understand is the police have had so much training,” said Carmen Dorsey, who stopped by an impromptu memorial at the site where the teen was killed. “What happened to the rubber bullets they have? Why do they have to shoot to kill?”

A 14-year-old passenger was arrested after a foot chase, police said. Police declined to comment, but issued statements summarizing the shooting and identifying the officers involved. Nine-year veteran Steven Garcia, 31, who fired the shots, and six-year veteran Dana Grant, 26, have been assigned to desk duty during the investigation. — MNA/AP



WEATHER

Wednesday, 9 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 (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Eastern Shan State and Yangon Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kayin, Chin, Northern Shan State and Bago Division, (5°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon State and upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Lashio (2°C), Namhsam (3°C), Heho (4°C) and Pinlaung (5°C).

Maximum temperature on 8-2-2005 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 9-2-2005 was 56°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 9-2-2005 was 53%. Total sunshine hours on 8-2-2005 was (8.5) hours approx. Rainfalls on 9-2-2005 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 5 mph from North at (14:20) hours MST on 8-2-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 10-2-2005: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-2-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-2-2005: Fair weather.

Official says Kenyans need cheaper AIDS tests

NAIROBI, 9 Feb — More than a million Kenyans infected with the AIDS virus cannot get anti-retroviral drugs due to the high cost of laboratory tests in public hospitals, local media reported Tuesday.

Only 28,000 out of the 1.4 million HIV-infected people are on the life-prolonging drugs, Kenya’s National AIDS Control Council (NACC) Director Patrick Orege was quoted by the Daily Nation as saying. Another 140,000 have undergone tests and certified eligible for the anti-retroviral therapy (ART).

The rest have not been tested because they cannot afford the 2,000 shillings (26 US dollars) charged in selected government hospitals or cannot be put on the drugs because their health is not eligible for the therapy. “Many poor Kenyans seeking the drugs cannot afford them because they have to pay 2,000 shillings for the tests and another 2,000 shillings per month for the drugs,” Orege was quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua



Thursday, 10 February View on today:

- 7:00 am
 1. ငွေ့နုရင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသယမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာဂုဏ်မဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဓာတ်က၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာတိရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိမ္ဗသာရာ ဘိဝံသတိ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
 5. Dance of national races
- 8:00 am
 6. Dance variety
- 8:10 am
 7. (၅၀) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်တော်စုနေ့ ဝတ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

- 8:20 am
 8. တင်ရှက်ရေလှောင်တံခံ
- 8:30 am
 9. International news
- 8:45 am
 10. Let's go
- 2:50 pm
 1. ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်ရွှေတင်ဆောင်မှုပြုမည့် ပြည်ထောင်စုပိုင်၊ ပြည်ထောင်စုပိုင်၊ အမျိုးသား (အလွတ်တန်း) ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲတိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှု အစီအစဉ် (ဒီပီလီယွမ်) (မြေလေးတိုင်း၊ နှင့် ရှမ်းပြည်နယ် တောင်ပိုင်း)
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:45 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 5:00 pm
 3. အဝေးသင် တက္ကသိုလ်ဝိဇ္ဇာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒ အထူးပြုများ) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)
- 5:15 pm
 4. Cute little dancers
- 5:30 pm
 5. (၅၀) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်တော်စုနေ့ ဝတ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 5:45 pm
 6. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံဝတ်ပြုတေး

- 6:00 pm
 7. နိုင်အဝန်း သစ်တောစွမ်းပြိုင် စိမ်းလန်းစေ့မည်
- 6:15 pm
 8. (၅၀) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်တော်စုနေ့ ဝတ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 6:30 pm
 9. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
 10. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
 11. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းခွဲ “ရစ်သော့ညီ” (အပိုင်း-၅)
- 7:35 pm
 12. Radio Free Asia အားလေ့လာခြင်း။
- 7:50 pm
 13. ပြည်ထောင်စုမိတ်ဓာတ် မြတ် ရည်သန် နိုင်ငံ့ရန်မှာ ဒီဝန်တာ “အသီးတစ်ရာအညွှတ်ခွဲ နိုင်ပြည်ထောင်စု (မေတ္တာတိုင်း)”
- 8:00 pm
 14. News
 15. International news
 16. Weather report
 17. Teleplay: “ဦးလှမြင့်ရဲ့အရာသာ” ကိုကိုလင်းမောင်၊ မြတ်ကေသီ အောင်၊ ဒါရိုတာ-အေးမောင်လှမျိုး
 18. The next day’s programme



Thursday, 10 February

- Tune in today:
 - 8:30 am Brief news
 - 8:35 am Music: We take the chance
 - 8:40 am Perspectives
 - 8:45 am Music: This one's for you
 - 8:50 am National news/Slogan
 - 9:00 am Music: Don't want your love
 - 9:05 am International news
 - 9:10 am Music: That's the way I like it
 - 1:30 pm News/Slogan
 - 1:40 pm Lunchtime music - Crazy dream
 - MLTR - Room in your heart
 - Miss you like crazy
 - Forever
 - 9:00 pm Union Day Song Feature
 - 9:10 pm Article
 - 9:20 pm Pourri
 - Endangered owl found in Nepal
 - Quake warning system to be established in Adriatic Sea
 - Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
 - 9:30 pm -If we hold on together
 - I'm not a girl but not a woman
 - Love of a life time
 - 9:45 pm News/Slogan
 - 10:00 pm PEL

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

**Perpetually flourishing of Union Spirit
a must among national people
Secretary-1 meets Union Day delegates**



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein extends greetings to Union Day delegates.— MNA

YANGON, 9 Feb—Chairman of the Central Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein held a meeting with Union Day

delegates at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Management Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary

Union Day Chairman Yangon Division PDC Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the deputy ministers,

(See page 7)

Ceremony to hail Union Day, support National Convention held in Mindat District

YANGON, 9 Feb — A ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention was held at Khwirein village, Mindat District in Chin

State on 7 February morning.

Present on the occasion were secretaries, joint secretaries, executives and members of the

township USDAs in the district, members of War Veterans Organization, Organizations for Women's Affairs, Maternal and Child Welfare Asso-

ciation, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades, departmental personnel and locals totalling over 1,200.

At the ceremony, Sec-

retary of Mindat District USDA U Thang Lein presided over the ceremony and Executive of Mindat District USDA Daw Har Shein Hton acted as MC

and member of USDA Daw Lin Myu Mam as co-MC.

Next, Secretary of Mindat District USDA U Thang Lein delivered an address on the occasion.

Afterwards, Secretary of Kanpetlet Township USDA U Kee Aung presented reports on honouring the Union Day and then Joint-Secretary of Matupi Township USDA U Pan Thoung, reports on supporting the National Convention.

(See page 4)



A mass of people seen at the ceremony to honour Union Day and support National Convention in Khwirein model village of Mindat Township.— MNA

INSIDE

In the minds of the entire national people was none other than the Tatmadaw which constantly stood by them in times of emergency, and that was its fine historic tradition. Hence, the Tatmadaw had to take over the State duties since then to attend to the many needs of the people in discharging the historic duty.

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