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Saturday, 12 February 2005

**Strengthen national solidarity through the cultivation of patriotic spirit and Union Spirit
Shape a peaceful, modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation**

YANGON, 12 Feb—*The following is a translation of the message sent by Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, on the occasion of the 58th Anniversary Union Day, 2005, of the Union of Myanmar:*

On this auspicious occasion of the 58th Anniversary of Union Day, which gave birth to the Union of Myanmar, I would like to extend my sincere wish to all the national brethren residing in the Union to be in peace of mind and body.

A tribe that had been in existence for millions of years in the land now known as the Union of Myanmar diversified into over 100 national races such as the Kachin, the Kayah, the Kayin, the Chin, the Bamar, the Mon, the Rakhine, and the Shan. It is a national prestige to be proud of that these national races have amalgamated into a people called "Myanmar" and evolved throughout the consecutive periods of history.

Our national races have lived as a nuclear family, going through all the adversity and prosperity. With these fine traditions and high cultural standards, they consolidated themselves as a people in the simple and single term "Myanmar".

Throughout the course of Myanmar history, Union-born ethnic groups have stood in solidarity and crushed all the outside threats posed to the

nation. The country thus came into being as a sovereign nation assuming the name "the Union of Myanmar".

A glance at the long and firm historical course of Myanmar reveals clearly that nationalistic fervour, Union Spirit and anti-colonialist sentiment that does not allow alien intrusion whatsoever are the national strengths that safeguard our Union so that it will be able to stand tall and grand amid the international community.

It is necessary for the entire national people to remain vigilant with nationalistic awareness that the old and new colonialists alike bent on occupying or holding sway over our Union have hatched wicked schemes to weaken our national solidarity, which is the foundation of the Union, and attempted and are still attempting to dissolve the national strength.

It is an unforgettable lesson of history that Myanmar, which had lived under its own monarchs for years countable by the thousand, fell into servitude for over 100 years as a direct consequence of collapsed national unity triggered by unscrupulous colonialists.

The colonialists broke up the Union into pieces and imposed the divide-and-rule policy designed to drive a wedge among the national brethren, cause development gap between one region and the other, and plant the seeds of distrust and dissension. The spark of post-independence armed conflicts lasted over 40 years and there occurred three situations when the Union was pushed to the brink of collapse.

The ill legacies left by the colonialists persist and, they are being addressed up to this day.

It was on 12 February that Panglong Conference and Panglong Agreement emerged in that the entire national people showed their unity, and they were unperturbed in facing the impact of discriminatory practices adopted by the colonialists. Therefore, the day is held in high esteem and designated as Union Day, for it is also the day on which the Union of Myanmar was conceived. The Union Day therefore is very profound and replete with nationalistic fervour. So significant as well as magnificent is the day that all the national brethren are responsible to refresh their memory.

Drawing lessons from history, the State Peace and Development Council laid down a national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty. In accordance with this policy, strenuous efforts are being made to transform the country into a peaceful, modern and developed nation and to ensure that the country exists as long as the world does.

Nowadays, national unity has been consolidated at the end of armed conflicts. Further, it is crystal clear that the stability and prosperity reigning across the country including border areas have marked a quantum leap in the development of political, economic and social infrastructures.

(See page 2)

Union Flag arrives in Kyimyindine Township from Thanlyin Township

YANGON, 11 Feb — The Union Flag that spent overnight at Thihadipa Sports Ground in Thanlyin was conveyed from Thanlyin Township of Yangon South District to Kyimyindine Township of Yangon West District this morning.

Chairman of Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint planted the Union Flag in the silver bowl on the dais in Salin Sports Ground in Kyimyindine Township at 8.45 am.

Before conveying the Union Flag from

Thihadipa Sports Ground in Thanlyin, the people together with the Guard of Honour of Yangon Command saluted the Union Flag. The Military Band of Defence Services (Navy) played the national anthem.

(See page 7)



Chairman of Yangon West District PDC Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and people salute the Union Flag at Salin Sports Ground in Kyimyindine Township.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 12 February, 2005

Perpetual existence of the Union through national solidarity

The 58th Anniversary of the Union Day of the Union of Myanmar falls on today, 12 February 2005. For the entire national people, it is a significant as well as magnificent day on which the Union of Myanmar was conceived to be born as a sovereign nation. Moreover, it is a historic day full of significance.

Union Day is the day on which national solidarity was inscribed on the pages of Myanmar history. Therefore, it is the day the entire mass of national races till their posterity have to treasure and honour.

A glance at the history of Myanmar will show that Myanmar compatriots have lived in amity and harmony since many years ago. Geographically, the national people of Myanmar differ in dialects, traditions, and mode of dress.

However, the national brethren have stood in solidarity, preserving traditional customs and cultures, in such a way that they are like hundred fruits in a single stem.

Myanmar, which had enjoyed a fine tradition when it came to solidarity, did fall under colonialist subjugation in the past as a consequence of unjust wars. Yet, Myanmar regained her independence and sovereignty as a result of consolidated strength displayed by the entire people.

This being the case, the government, after drawing lessons from the past events of history, prioritized the national solidarity and worked hard to enable the country to be on the right track to development.

The time has come to build the country with national unity. With mutual understanding, support and trust between one national race and the other, all the national people are extending themselves to nation-building tasks.

At a time when the State, the people, and the Tatmadaw are making efforts to transform the country into a modern and developed one, it is found that the destructive elements within and without are attempting to destroy the national unity and to drive a wedge among the national brethren. Therefore, it is necessary for the entire national people to remain vigilant at the provocative acts of external and internal destructive elements and to ward off their subversive acts.

All in all, the onus is on the Union-born national brethren who have been living in the Union through thick and thin to carry out national responsibilities so as to ensure the perpetual existence of the Union of Myanmar in accord with own national character.

**နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင်
မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ့**

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည်ကိုစွဲရပ် များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလအတွက်
(၁၃-၂-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့
နှင့်
(၂၇-၂-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

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

Strengthen national solidarity...

(from page 1)

In line with the seven-point Road Map that will pave the way for the establishment of a peaceful, modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation as desired by the entire people, the National Convention, which is the most vital and the very first phase of the Road Map, has been in progress.

At the same time, the government and people in tandem have committed themselves unswervingly to the successful implementation of the State's economic objectives aimed at enabling the Union of Myanmar to keep pace with the world nations in terms of modernization.

At such an opportune time, it is necessary to make efforts to further cement nationalistic fervour and Union Spirit, which are the foundation of the Union as well as national strength.

All the national people are to come together hand in hand to ward off their dissension, instigation and inducement, which are the deliberate attempts of the neo-colonialists who have every intention of disintegrating the Union by weakening it. The onus is therefore on the national people to ensure the perpetual existence of the country the same as that of the world and to enable the moth-

erland to stand tall in the global society, while upholding the fine tradition of the significant day, Union Day.

All in all, the entire mass of national people are to make harmonious efforts in all seriousness to further strengthen the national solidarity through the cultivation of patriotic spirit and Union Spirit in themselves and to shape a peaceful, modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation by realizing successfully the 58th Anniversary Union Day Objectives, which are as follows:

- 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 the 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.— MNA

WIN THUZAR SHOP
INSPECTED: Minister
for Industry-1 U Aung
Thaung and Deputy
Minister Brig-Gen
Thein Tun inspect Win
Thuzar Shop in
Thakayta Township
on 11-2-2005.

INDUSTRY-1

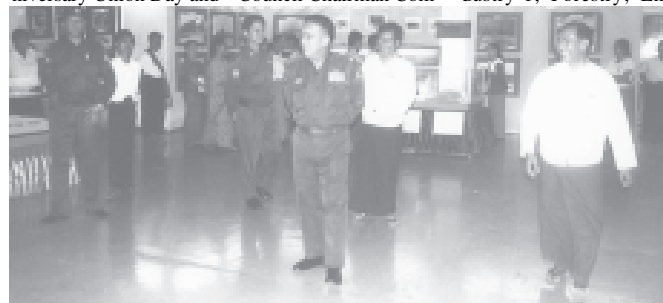


Information Deputy Minister views Union Day Exhibition

YANGON, 11 Feb — Chairman of Information Subcommittee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day and

public. In the exhibition, guidance on Union Spirit with the picture of State Peace and Development Council Chairman Com-

tos, paintings and cartoons, booths of the Ministries of Education; Health; Agriculture and Irrigation; Industry-1; Forestry; En-



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein visits the Anniversary 58th Union Day exhibition. — MNA

Exhibition Subcommittee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein this morning arrived at the 58th Anniversary Union Day Commemorative Exhibition at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall.

It attracted students, teachers and the

mander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and booths on ancient Myanmar, national culture and customs of the national people, emergence of the Union Day and regaining independence are put on display.

Together with pho-

ergy; Communications, Posts and Telegraphs; Electric Power; Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs; Mines; and Construction attracted the people. The exhibition is kept open free of charge up to 16 February from 9 am to 5 pm daily. — MNA

New tube-well put into service in Myaing

YANGON, 11 Feb — Director-General Col Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs attended the opening ceremony of the tube-well in Zibyupin Village, Myaing Township, recently.

The tube-well was put into commission to hail the 58th Anniversary Union Day. The tube-well, 2-inch diameter and 200 ft depth, can pump 1,500 gallons of water per hour.

It cost totally K 1.4193 million including the contributions of the State and people.—MNA

India eyes global aviation outsourcing pie

BANGALORE, 11 Feb — As global aviation firms eyeing the multi-billion-dollar civilian and military market showcase their hardware at the Aero India air show that took off on Wednesday, India invited aerospace companies to leverage its low cost, high talent workforce and infrastructure for building aircraft and systems for the world market.

“We can, together, reduce the development and marketing costs, jointly develop state-of-the-art aviation products and do joint marketing,” Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee said at the fifth edition of the *Aero India 2005* at the Yelahanka Air Base on the city outskirts which has attracted over 352 aerospace firms from India and abroad.

He said the presence of a significant number of foreign companies is testimony to the opportunities that India offers for joint ventures, technology transfer and co-production for the global

market. Some 225 foreign aircraft and defence systems firms including Boeing, Airbus, Lockheed Martin, BAe Systems, MiG and Dassault have a significant presence in the five-day show, as Indian Air Force gears up to buy 126 supersonic fighters to replace its ageing MiG fleet and Air India plans to add 50 passenger jets worth seven billion US dollars to fly long routes.

“It (Aero India) is an ideal forum to explore business opportunities, as well as to facilitate joint ventures, collaborations, tie-ups for mutual benefit,” Mukherjee said.—MNA/PTI



Garment factory workers stitch garments for export in Phnom Penh recently. INTERNET

El Nino makes Manila water supply lower

MANILA, 11 Feb — Water supply for the Philippine capital Metro Manila’s residents has been reduced by one cubic metre to conserve water at Angat Dam, the Philippine National Water Resources Board (NWRB) said Thursday.

NWRB officials said the dwindling water supply at Angat was exacerbated by the onset of the El Nino and the landslides and floods in General Nakar, Quezon Province late last year.

They added that some areas in Metro Manila not being serviced by the NWRB main pipeline may experience interrupted water service in the coming months.

The NWRB earlier said starting March, water from the Angat River will be dedicated for the potable water supply of the National Capital Region. It will also shut down Bulacan’s irrigation supply and adjoining provinces.—MNA/Xinhua

Bond market vital for infrastructure development in Asia

MANILA, 10 Feb—The bond market is vital for Asian countries to boost the infrastructure development, an ADB expert said in a paper released Wednesday.

Yun-Hwan Kim, ADB Assistant Chief Economist, said in his paper that the developing countries are facing a great challenge to meet the urgent need for physical infrastructure, which is crucial to achieving overall growth and reducing poverty.

However, developing countries do not have financial resources, which are estimated at 20 trillion-30 trillion US dollars in the coming 10 years, to develop required infrastructure.

“The sheer magnitude of the region’s financing requirement calls for urgent and diversified mobilization of financial resources,” Kim said in the paper “Financing Infrastructure Development: Asian Developing Countries Need to Tap Bond Markets More Rigorously.”

He said that Asian developing countries have traditionally relied on fiscal efforts and official external

aid to finance their infrastructure needs. However, the last decade has seen important developments that prompted governments to look to other sources of finance.

“First, among these is the fact that the government budget alone cannot provide the necessary funding for infrastructure, especially in view of the rapidly increasing public demand for basic government services. To financing long-term capital investment projects through annual tax revenues is unsound from the viewpoint of financial management principles,” he said.

Kim also noted that short-term external borrowings are likewise unsafe as they may cause funding-investment mismatches that were a major factor underlying the Asian financial crisis in 1997.

MNA/Xinhua

Choking haze reaches alarming level in Riau, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 11 Feb— Choking haze plaguing Riau Province, Indonesia, had reached an alarming level, raising health concerns, the Elshinta online said on Thursday.

The haze, caused by smoke resulting from rampant fires set by farms and plantation companies to clear their land to establish new plantations, had blanketed a number of places in the province, including an industrial town of Dumai.

Visibility was limited to 100 metres and many residents suffered from respiratory problem. MNA/Xinhua

Most Salvadorans oppose new troops deployment in Iraq

MEXICO CITY, 10 Feb— Most Salvadorans are opposed to an extension of the country’s troops deployment in Iraq, an opinion poll showed.

The CID-Gallup poll conducted on 29 Jan, 3 Feb,

revealed that 90 percent of the 1,216 people interviewed nationwide were opposed to the government plan to send in a new contingent to replace its 380 troops whose mandate has expired.

Almost one in four (23 percent) respondents believed the government of President Antonio Saca keeps troops in Iraq “under pressure from the United States.”

Internet



A PetroChina gas station attendant in Beijing returns the nozzle. Energy-hungry China dug deeper last year in search of new oil, boosting its reserves by at least 25 percent—INTERNET

German-US relations remain strained two years after Iraq invasion

BERLIN, 10 Feb—Two years after Germany and the United States parted ways over invading Iraq, they’re still trying to find a way back to their traditionally warm relations. It hasn’t been easy.

President Bush will skip Berlin later this month when he visits Germany, in part because of concerns over massive protests, and Defence Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld initially decided not to attend an important international security conference in Munich that starts Friday after activists demanded that German prosecutors charge him with war crimes.

Prosecutors announced Thursday that they won’t pursue the charges, lifting the possibility that Rumsfeld would face arrest when he arrived in Germany and making it “likely,” in the word of one Pentagon official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, that Rumsfeld would travel to Munich from Nice, France, where he spent Thursday talking with leaders about defence issues. The German official in charge of US relations for the Foreign Ministry, Karsten Voigt, called the episode an embarrassment: “Embarrassing for him and embarrassing for us.”

Voigt acknowledged that the United States and Germany are having a hard time determining what their relationship should be now. “During the Cold War, we were seen as an automatic yes for the United States,” Voigt said. “When we disagreed on Iraq, I believe many in Washington mistakenly decided we had become an automatic no. We’re not. But we can’t be taken for granted.”—Internet

AEROSPACE



India is planning to develop a new jet fighter and a long-range version of an unmanned aircraft. —INTERNET

စက်မှုပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

Bangladesh to float int'l tender for deep seaport

DHAKA, 11 Feb — The Government of Bangladesh is planning to float international tender to appoint consultants to study the economic feasibility and site of the planned deep seaport in the country.

The *Financial Express* Thursday quoted Shipping Minister Akbar Hossain as saying that the proposed port will be functioning as a regional hub facilitating not only Bangladesh but also other countries in the region for boosting international trade.

The construction cost of the port would be around 50 billion taka (833 million US dollars) to be mobilized locally through

capital market and equity participation both from local and foreign companies and without depending on foreign aid.

The tender reportedly would be floated in next three months. The construction work of the port would be started during the tenure of the present government which has already completed three and half years of its five-year term.

MNA/Xinhua

ADB approves \$5.6m for effective water management policies

MANILA, 10 Feb — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) Wednesday said that it has approved a technical assistance (TA) grant of 5.6 million US dollars for the fourth phase of its work to promote effective water management policies and practices at regional, subregional and country levels in the region.

The ADB said in its statement that activities under the fund work to increase synergy in ADB's water sector operations through better awareness, knowledge management, capacity building to support reforms, pilot demonstration, water partnerships, regional cooperation, monitoring, and coordination.

The Millennium Development Goals has underlined the urgency of helping improve the quality of drinking water, sanitation, water for production and income generation, environmental management and reduce vulnerability to water-related disasters, the Bank said.

It also said that over the past three years, the fund has built development partnerships in the water sector and financed media workshops, publications, web site and newsletters, pilot and demonstrations activities, and comparative analysis of water sector reforms, among others.

The ADB noted that a key activity under Phase 4 will be continuation of ADB's Water Awareness Programme (WAP), launched in 2002, include disseminating ADB's water policy and key development messages in the water sector, advocating priority water reforms to policy and decision makers, improving Press coverage and media networking on water issues, educating youth about the water crisis, and supporting community water education pilot activities.

MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan, Sri Lanka call for early holding of SAARC summit

ISLAMABAD, 10 Feb — Pakistan and Sri Lanka here Wednesday called for an early holding of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit in the Bangladeshi capital of Dhaka which has twice been put off, according to the *Associated Press of Pakistan*.

Talking to reporters after their formal talks, Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz and visiting Sri Lankan President Mrs Chandrika Kumaratunga agreed on the need to make more efforts to hold the regional summit as soon as possible.

"Certainly we are in favour of an early holding of the summit and we will do our best to help hold it as soon as possible," said Mrs Kumaratunga.

While Aziz, who is holding the SAARC chairmanship, said Pakistan was endeavouring to hold the summit at the earliest to give further momentum to the process of SAARC for regional cooperation. "Pakistan wants the SAARC process to move forward and be further strengthened," he added.

Pakistani officials were quoted as saying that the two leaders expressed their disappointment at the

postponement of the Dhaka summit.

The 13th SAARC Summit, which was originally scheduled for January 9 in Dhaka, was first put off after the December 26 tsunami in the Indian Ocean last year. The summit was rescheduled for February 6 and 7 but was again postponed when India said at the last hour it could not participate.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka also signed four accords and two MoUs including the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) that will "open a new chapter of economic cooperation between the two countries", reported the official news agency.

Aziz described the signing of FTA as historic and said it would be a "turning point" in the economic ties between the two South Asian states.

MNA/Xinhua

India aims defence exports of \$130m this fiscal year

BANGALORE, 11 Feb — India's defence exports will go beyond 130 million US dollars, topped by sales of helicopters and aircraft built by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) to friendly nations.

"We are hoping to achieve exports of 130 million US dollars," Defence Secretary (Export) Tapan Ray told *PTI* here. India exported equipment and systems worth 93 million US dollars in 2003-04, he said.

Exports to countries like Nepal and Mauritius include home-grown *Advanced Light Helicopter* (Dhruv), *Lancer* attack helicopter and *Dornier* transport plane, he said.

State-run aircraft maker HAL, which has designed and developed *Dhruv*, is expecting to close a sale with Chile this year, he said, adding, "if it

happens, the export figures would be much higher".

The main defence exporters include state-run electronic equipment major Bharat Electronics Ltd, Bharat Earth Movers Ltd and Ordnance Factories Board, besides HAL.

BEL Chairman Y Gopala Rao said that his organization aims to export 15 million US dollars' worth goods this fiscal, which include radars to Indonesia and Sudan. It also has civil orders valued at over 3.8 million US dollars for supply of traffic signal systems and solar modules to several countries.

MNA/PTI

Earthquake jolts Japan's Bonin Islands

HONG KONG, 11 Feb — An earthquake measuring 6.2 on the Richter Scale hit the sea waters near Bonin Islands, Japan, at 2:52 a.m. Hong Kong time Thursday, according to the Hong Kong Observatory.

The epicenter was initially determined to be 26.1 degrees North Latitude and 144.1 degrees East Longitude, about 1,140 kilometres south-southeast of Japan's capital of Tokyo.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman is rushed into the emergency room of Yarmuk hospital in Baghdad after an attack on a police patrol 20 km south of Baghdad recently.

INTERNET

Deadly car bomb explodes in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 10 Feb — A car bomb has exploded after a US convoy passed through a central Baghdad square, killing at least four people and wounding several, *Aljazeera* reports.

The blast on Thursday morning scattered tangled metal and wreckage across Tahrir Square, a major intersection lined with shops and market stalls.

"We have received two dead and one wounded," said a paramedic at Kindi hospital.

A police officer at another hospital said four wounded had been admitted there after the blast.

US forces and Iraqi police sealed off the area, Iraqi journalist Ziyad al-Samarrai told *Aljazeera*. No US soldiers were injured. Police said the target of the blast was not clear.

"A four-wheel drive car went off as US military vehicles passed but the convoy wasn't hit," Lieutenant Muhammad Salman of the Baghdad police said.

Internet

Guangdong railway departments brace for festival traffic peak

GUANGZHOU, 10 Feb—By Tuesday, railway departments in south China's Guangdong Province had received and seen off a record high of 7.4 million passengers in the first 15 days of the officially-assigned Spring Festival transport season.

"The figure is 2.8 per cent up over the same period of last year," said the Guangdong Railway Group in an announcement on Tuesday.

In addition, more than 5.6 million travellers took trains to leave Guangdong in the 15 days, a year-on-year increase of 5.7 per cent, and the majority is rural labourers journeying back home for the most important festival of reunion in China.

The traditional Chinese Lunar New Year in 2005 falls on 9 February and China has cited a 40-day period—from

25 January to 5 March—as the year's peak travel season. The railway expects to manage 145 million passengers in the Spring Festival rush, a rise of 3.5 per cent over the same period last year, according to the Chinese Ministry of Communications.

Buying train tickets during the Spring Festival period has always been a nightmare for most of people, especially for rural labourers, who often have to wait in long queues in front of the rail station.

MNA/Xinhua



Aishwarya Rai appears in a scene from the new film 'Pride and Prejudice'. The film by 'Bend It Like Beckham' director Gurinder Chadha takes novelist Jane Austen's 183 classic 'Pride and Prejudice' and sets it in contemporary small-town India.—INTERNET

TV reporter gunned down in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 Feb—At least nine people have been killed in another day of violence in Iraq, including a correspondent for a US-funded Arabic TV station.

The journalist from al-Hurra channel, set up by the US in 2004 to compete with pan-Arab stations, was killed in Basra with his son.

Those killed on Wednesday also included police officers and a senior official.

Meanwhile, Iraqi election officials said the final result would be delayed while some ballots were recounted.

Mainly Sunni militants have been waging a campaign of violence, with frequent attacks against US-led and Iraqi forces.

Journalist Abdul Hussein Khazal, 40, and his three-year-old son, Muhammad, were killed as they left their house in Basra at 0900 local time (0600 GMT).—Internet

China recorded trade surplus of \$6.48b for January

BELJING, 10 Feb—China's trade surplus for the past January reached the record high 6.48 billion US dollars while its export rise by 42.2 per cent over the same period of last year, Customs statistics showed on Tuesday.

China's total trade volume for January reached 95.06 billion US dollars, up 33.1 per cent over the same period of last year.

The export increased to 50.77 billion US dollars with a year-on-year rise of 42.2 per cent while the import reached 44.29 billion US dollars, up 24

per cent, according to the statistics.

Foreign-funded ventures scored an export growth of 42.4 per cent and an import growth of 30 per cent. Collective, private and other enterprises reported an export growth of 77.3 per cent and an import growth of

33.9 per cent.

China's trade volume with the European Union, the United States and Japan reached 15.89 billion, 14.33 billion and 12.86 billion US dollars, or a respective year-on-year growth of 36.4 per cent, 30.8 per cent and 28.4 per cent.—MNA/Xinhua

New Zealand, Germany sign film co-production treaty

WELLINGTON, 10 Feb—New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark and Germany's Foreign Minister, Joschka Fischer, signed on Wednesday the New Zealand-Germany Film Co-Production Treaty.

Clark said after the signing ceremony that the treaty provided formally for New Zealand and Germany to cooperate in film production, and to facilitate co-productions.

According to the treaty, a joint commission will be established, made up of officials and representatives of the film, television and video indus-

tries from both countries, to oversee the implementation of the agreement.

Under the agreement, both countries undertake to treat an approved co-production as a national film.

It means that, where applicable, an official co-production will have access to the same distribution incentives and oppor-

tunities as national films. This means that New Zealand/German co-productions will qualify as local content in Germany and throughout the European Union.

Clark said this treaty had the potential to facilitate new projects and employment in the screen production sector.

MNA/Xinhua

China establishes weather station at Antarctica's highest peak

BELJING, 10 Feb—A Chinese polar expedition team has successfully established an automatic weather station at the highest icecap peak in Antarctica and returned to its home base in the continent after the 63-day expedition, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) said here on Tuesday.

The team, as the first humans surmounting the highest icecap peak, Dome A on 18 January, arrived at Zhongshan Station on Monday, after the mission was accomplished, the SOA said.

Chinese Vice-Premier Zeng Peiyan sent a telegram on Tuesday to the expedition team on behalf of the Chinese Government and the Chinese people, hailing the country's 21st successful expedition into the South Pole.

"By braving all the difficulties of low temperature and anoxia, Chinese scientists have become the first to locate the highest icecap in Antarctica and set up an automatic weather station there, which laid solid foundations for collecting weather information in the inland area of the continent," Zeng said.

He encouraged them to "surmount new heights of scientific development and make greater contributions to the peaceful use of the unmanned continent in the future," Xinhua news agency quoted the telegram as saying.

The 13-man Chinese expedition team left the eastern port of Shanghai on 25 October last year. They surmounted the highest icecap peak in Antarctica on 18 January, becoming the first humans to reach the peak of Dome A Icecap, 4,039 metres above sea level, located at 80:22:00 degrees South Latitude and 77:21:11 degrees East Longitude.—MNA/PTI



A Chinese vendor pulls a container full of stuff toys to sell on the eve of the Lunar New Year in Shanghai on 8 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

Innovative design technology presented at "Chip Olympics"

HONG KONG, 10 Feb—Two researchers from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) presented their innovative integrated circuits design technology on Tuesday at the International Solid-State Circuits Conference.

International Solid-State Circuits Conference is also known as the "Chip Olympics" which is being held from 6 to 10 February in San Francisco. HKUST researchers have been invited to present their re-

search findings at the Conference almost every year since 1997. To date, the HKUST is the only university from Hong Kong to appear at this international event. The researchers novel designs will help manufacturers create portable electronics more compact in size, and wireless equipment capable of carrying more data for future multimedia applications.

Dr Hoi Lee, a 2004 PhD graduate of the University's Electrical and Electronic Engineering Depart-

ment (ELEC), is successfully finding improved ways to design power management integrated circuits for new generation portable electronics, whose demands for lower supply voltage and longer battery lifespan are increasingly high. Wing Lun Ng, MPhil student of ELEC, is addressing the performance issue of high frequency wireless applications in which voltage and power consumption increase as transmission frequency rises.—MNA/Xinhua

Wellwishers donate cash and kind for 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win accepts cash and kind donated by wellwishers hailing 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.—MNA

YANGON, 11 Feb — As a gesture of hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, wellwishers donated cash and kind for the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade for the first time at the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road yesterday afternoon, attended by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.

Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of the Management Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace

and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint and Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, senior military officers and wellwishers.

At the ceremony, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Captain Nyan Tun accepted K 10.4 million donated by Myawady Trading and joint-venture companies; K 3.5 million by Silver Sea Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Company and joint-venture companies; K 3 million by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd; K 3 million by Myanmar Brewery Ltd; K 500,000 by Bandoola Transport Co Ltd; K 300,000 by

Myawady Bank Ltd; K 1.5 million by Myanmar Ruby Enterprise and joint-venture companies; K 300,000 by Myanmar Posco Steel Co Ltd; K 1 million by the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs; K 1.5 million by Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Development Bank; K 300,000 by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism; K 3 million by Kanbawza Bank Ltd; K 2.5 million by U Soe Thein-Daw Khin Cho Ohn; K 200,000 and 2,400 canned fish boxes worth K 1.32 million by U Myint Than Win (a) U Min Maung Maung-Daw Tin Tin Aung; K 1.5 million by U Kyaw Kyaw-Daw May Lwin Tun; a neon light box worth K 1,650,000 by Daw Ar Rwe; K 500,000 each by Dagon Seikkan Township



Lt-Gen Tin Aye accepts cash and kind donated by wellwishers hailing 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.—MNA

Development Co Ltd and Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Myat Lwin-Daw Myat Myat Soe; 100 packets of C-Plus soft drink worth K 648,000 by U Thura

K 300,000 by U Than Naing-Daw San San Myint; K 200,000 by Haji U Maung Maung Kyi-Ma Cho; 100 bottles of traditional medicine worth K 200,000 by U Phay-Daw

Than; K 500,000 each by All Private Bus-line Control Committee and Sibin Thayayay Bank Ltd; K 500,000 by U Yan Kyar Saik; K 1 million by YCDC and K 500,000



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash and kind donated by wellwishers hailing 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.—MNA

Lwin; 1,500 viss of fish worth K 650,000 by Annawa Fisheries Co Ltd; K 500,000 each by Lt-Col Aye Kyaw (Retd) and Myanma Industrial Port (MIP); 50 bags of rice worth K 400,000 by U Aung Mon-Daw Hla Hla Mon; 50 bags of rice worth K 500,000 by U Sai Win Naing-Daw Myo Myo Khaing; K 300,000 by Theingi Shweyi Photo Studio; 63 dozens of traditional medicines worth

May Kyi; 20 bags of rice worth K 160,000 by U Than Maung-Daw Ngwe Kyi; 72 dozen bottles of traditional medicine worth K 129,600 by Daw Hla Hla Yin; K 110,000 by Al Myanmar Hindu Sasana Organization; 14 persons who donated K 100,000 each; K 300,000 by U Myo Aung-Daw Khin Yi Mon, K 156,000 by Haji U Tun Myint; 20 bags of rice worth K 160,000 by U Bo Gyi-Daw Than

each by U Khin Maung Soe and Honggang Gems Co, and other wellwishers.

Certificates of honour were presented to the wellwishers.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win thanked the donors. Today's donations from 60 wellwishers amounted to K 41,600,000 and offerings worth K 5,617,600, totalling K 47,217,600.

MNA



Brig-Gen Myo Myint and wife Dr Daw Thi Thi Aye and family host dinner to Union Day delegates on 11-2-2005.—MNA

Advocacy Meeting on Lead Contamination in Foods held

YANGON, 11 Feb — The Advocacy Meeting on Lead Contamination of Foods as public health problem, co-organized by Department of Medical Research (Lower Myanmar) and WHO, was held at the DMR (Lower Myanmar) on

Ziwaka Road, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo and Resident Representative Dr Agostino Borra gave speeches.

In the morning session, Director-General Dr Paing Soe of the depart-

ment presided over the meeting and gave a speech.

Next, Dr Phone Myint, Dr Phyu Phyu Aung, Dr Yi Yi Htwe, Dr Khin Myat Tun, Dr Thiwa Tin and Dr Khin Saw Yi submitted papers to the meeting.—MNA



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo speaking at Advocacy Meeting on Lead Contamination in Foods as Public Health Problem.—MNA



Union Flag conveying ceremony in progress in Kyimyindine Township. — MNA



Lt-Col Kyaw Tint plants the Union Flag in the silver bowl. — MNA

Union Flag arrives in Kyimyindine Township from Thanlyin Township ...

(from page 1)

Chairman of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Aung Pyay took out the flag from the silver bowl and carried it flanked by Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and Police officers and national people. He handed over the flag

to Chairman of Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint.

Lt-Col Kyaw Tint conveyed the flag and planted it in the silver bowl on board the Union Boat. He handed it over to flag relay teams at the archway on Nanattaw Road in Kamayut Township.

At the designated place at Salin Ground, Lt-Col Kyaw Tint carried the flag flanked by Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and Police officers and national people to the dais and planted the flag in the silver bowl. The people saluted the Union Flag together with the Guard of Honour of Yangon Command. The Military Band of Defence Services (Air) played the national anthem.

MNA

Union Day delegates visit downtown Yangon



Union Day delegates and members of cultural troupes of national races visit the Defence Services Museum. — MNA

YANGON, 11 Feb — The Union Day delegates from states and divisions, who are going to attend the Union Day ceremony and dinner, led by Secretary of the Reception and Accommodation Subcommittee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Commandant of No 1 Transit Centre Lt-Col Tin Kyaing, visited the Na-

tional Museum on Pyay Road this morning.

First, Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute U Myint Thein Swe extended greetings and Director Daw Nu Mra Zan explained facts about the museum. Next, the Union Day delegates viewed around the museum.

Afterwards, they proceeded to the Defence

Services Museum. Director of Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute Lt-Col Zaw Win extended greetings and explained the salient points of the museum. In the evening, the Union Day delegates were hosted a dinner by the families of Yangon Station and Mingaladon Station in their residents.

MNA

Mines Ministry holds meeting

YANGON, 11 Feb — The Ministry of Mines held a meeting today with an address by Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint.

Heads of departments and enterprises and other senior officials presented accomplish-

ments and programmes to exceed the targets of 2005. Deputy Minister U Myint Thein gave a supplementary report.

In response to the reports, the minister looked into the requirements of the officials to exceed the targets. He

also explained the guidance given by the Head of State concerning the mining sector, rules and regulations that must be adhered to by all the staff and welfare programmes for service personnel.

MNA

Meeting hails Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 11 Feb — Members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association and other social organizations, local people, departmental personnel and local authorities hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention at Khampat town, Tamu District, Sagaing Division, on 8 February.

Meeting Chairman Secretary of Tamu District USDA U Nyunt

Lwin gave a speech.

Secretary of Tamu District Organization for Women's Affairs Daw Aye Myint Thu Win presented discussions hailing the Union Day, a Chin local elder of the town U Zo Mein Htan Nga tabled a motion supporting the National Convention and District USDA Executive U Saw Naing discussed in support of the rural development tasks.

District USDA Executive U Khin Maung Tar

seconded the three motions.

The USDA presented K 460,8000 to schools in the district and accepted 1,350 applications.

The participants at the meeting unanimously hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention and the rural development tasks.

The meeting ended with the chanting of slogans. — MNA

Myanma Tatmadaw Medical Conference concludes

YANGON, 11 Feb — A closing ceremony of the 13th Myanma Tatmadaw Medical Conference was held at Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital (500-bed) in Mingaladon Township this afternoon.

Present were Chairman of Tatmadaw Medical Research and Development Committee Brig-Gen Than Aung, senior military officers, officers and guests.

First, Brig-Gen Than Aung presented best paper and best poster prizes to the winners. Next, he gave the concluding remarks.

In the morning and afternoon sessions,

resource persons submitted a total of 19 papers to the conference.

MNA

Brig-Gen Than Aung presents best poster prize to Col Thein Myint Thu. — MNA



Hundred fruits from a common stem—Our Union



Lying in the south-eastern peninsular of the Asian continent, Myanmar has emerged as an independent and sovereign nation since over 2,000 years ago.

Touching the Andaman Sea in the south and Bay of Bengal in the west, Myanmar is sharing a common land border with China in the north and

north-east, Laos and Thailand in the east and south-east, and Bangladesh and India in the west on a contiguous landmass.

The breadth of the 261,228-square-mile country is 582 miles from east to west at the widest point and the length from the northernmost tip to the southernmost end is 1,275 miles. Of its 5,200-mile

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Let us march to new golden land of unity and amity without fail

Thiha Aung

Table B

Subject	1988	12-2-2005	Progress
Reducing poppy (acre)	61562	2057	96%reduced
Destorying poppy plantation (acre)	211.35	164965.24	163753.89
Handing over of poppy seeds (Pyi)	-	100257.57	100257.57
Destruction of narcotic drugs seized	-	50	50
- Yangon	-	18	18
- State/Division	-	32	32
Cultivation of substitute crops	-	-	-
- annual crops	-	1290065	1290065
- perennial crops	-	140088	140088
Rehabilitation camp	2	3	1
Drug Elimination Museum	-	3	3

long border line, 3,808 miles stand as a common land border with her neighbours. From the Naff River mouth in the north to the Cape of Bayintnaung in the south, its coastline is 1,385 miles long. From the coast to the end line of the special economic zone, the territorial waters cover over 14,000 square miles.

Fifty-one per cent or over 130,000 square miles of its land surface is covered by forests. Its landscape includes mountain ranges, and basins where large and small rivers and

two per cent annually, and her current population is about 54.7 million. As her population in 1988 was nearly 39.3 million, she now has 15.4 million new-born under-16 youths.

A nation's future is shaped by the past and present situations and future visions. The Tatmadaw Governemnt has been discharging the

Table C

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Land resource			
- sown acreage (million)	24.8	26.6	1.8
- acres of vacant and virgin land(million)	20.8	16.2	land added
Irrigation			
- dam and reservoir project	138	351	213
- completed works	138	308	170
- works under implementation	-	33	33
- works to be done	-	10	10
- benefited acre*	4414798	6709367	2294569
- river water pumping tasks	-	376	376
- completed works	-	271	271
- tasks under implementation	-	34	34
- tasks to be carried out	-	71	71
- benefited area	-	303036	303036
- damming creeks	-	1240	1240
- benefited area	-	190737	190737
- underground water pump	-	7535	7535
- benefited area	-	90484	90484
- Total benefited area	4414798	7203140	2788342
Thriving double crops	3446999	10088899	6641900
Extended paddy cultivation			
- acres of monsoon paddy(million)	11.53	14.39	2.86
- acres of summer paddy(million)	-	1.94	1.94
- per acre yield (basket)	52.76	69.03	16.27
- gross production (million basket)	653.5	1195.2	541.7
- food sufficiency	-	143%	143%
beans and pulses (acre)	2022193	8578513	6556320
cotton plantation	424805	778659	353854
sugarcane	133383	361027	227644
jute plantation	-	66625	66625
maize	394973	758132	363159
buckwheat	-	10406	10406
rubber plantation	192896	491153	298257
oil palm	18220	137610	119390
tea	146147	195722	49575
pepper	786	59463	58677
coffee	28041	34923	6882
edible oil crops			
- groundnut	1327322	1659603	332281
- sesame	2932792	3515819	583027
- sunflower	645486	1317224	671738
- mustard	44872	194621	149749
- niger	93612	263612	170000

*Benefited acres in 1988 includes 337 lakes existed in the period.

creek are flowing. The four largest rivers are the Ayeyawady, the Chindwin, the Thanlwin and the Sittoung. The Ayeyawady, its length exceeding 1,000 miles, is flowing in the nation from north to south. It is included in the world's renowned rivers.

The land is rich in natural resources including gems, teak and oil. Its abundant supply of water resources and fertile soil are a gift of nature to grow various kinds of crops, with paddy as the main crop.

Because of her strategic location between the south Asia and the South-east Asia and her correct stand in foreign relations,

Myanmar is known in the world as the golden land.

Like the jewels, the seven states and seven divisions are helping shine the nation. They all form the Union, where mutual reliance plays an important role among all the regions. Since time immemorial, over 100 national races including Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Bamar, Rakhine and Shan have been living in the Union, which is like a common stem bearing over 100 fruits, with fraternal friendship. The neighbouring countries of the region know the national races of the Union as people of the golden land.

The population of Myanmar is increasing

State duties at present in accord with the historical requirement. As the Tatmadaw Government is leading the nation towards a new age, it has brought unprecedented developments to the nation during the period of 16 years.

At the graduation of Defence Service Technology Academy held on 24 December 2004, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe said, "Soon after the regaining of independence, the national unity faced grave deterioration and the nation experienced the lack of peace (See page 10)

Table A

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Development regions road/bridges	-	22	22
- earth road	-	3093/4	3093/4
- gravel road	-	1871/1	1871/1
- tarred road	-	329/0	329/0
- maintenance	-	3162/6	3162/6
- bridges (large/small)	-	55/694/32	55/694/32
health			
- hospital	-	57	57
- dispensary	-	80	80
- rural health unit	-	35	35
- rural health centre	-	64	64
education			
- BEPS	-	657	657
- BEMS	-	61	61
- BEHS	-	72	72
- teacher	-	3733	3733
- student	-	118229	118229
agriculture			
- agriculture office	-	31	31
- agricultural camp	-	117	117
- dam (completed)	-	46	46
- dam (survey)	-	17	17
- canal	-	5	5
- land reclamation (acre)	-	1860.24	1860.24
forest			
- reserved forest	-	8	8
- saw mill	-	12	12
- nursery	-	7	7
livestock breeding			
- livestock breeding farm	-	19	19
- veterinary office	-	41	41
- distribution of cow, donkey, sheep	-	38	38
energy			
- generator	-	258	258
- power supply	-	192	192
- hydel power	-	9	9
public relation			
- TV retransmission station	-	100	100
mining			
- ruby (carat)	-	249280.6	249280.6
- sapphire (piece)	-	507.70	507.70
postal service			
- post office	-	47	47
- telegraph	-	42	42
- telephone	-	80	80
expenditure (K million)	-	63353.45	63353.45
- border region development fund	-	33789.13	33789.13
- ministries	-	29564.32	29564.32



Development throughout the Union after 1988

For the convenience of people living in Kayah State, a microwave station was built in Loikaw, Kayah State.—MYANMA ALIN



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



Bhamo degree college built in Bhamo, Kachin State.—MYANMA ALIN



Thaphanseik Hydel Power plant built near Thaphanseik village in Kyunhla Township, Shwebo District, Sagaing Division.—MYANMA ALIN

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day



The above photo stands witness to the fact that Mongla in the border region in Shan State (East) has developed significantly. MYANMA ALIN



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

Let us march to...

(from page 8)
and tranquillity. The agro-based national economy fell below the level at which food and other necessities could not satisfy the growing

and for all-round development of other sectors of economy as well. Thanks to the collective efforts of the Tatmadaw, the Government and the people, clusters of agri-

fied human resources. Hence, the Government has established 24 development zones, the project covering the task to develop human resources simultaneously in the entire nation. The rural development tasks are be-

Table D

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Extended livestock breeding*			
- buffello	2241	2649	408
- cow	10082	11910	1828
- goat/sheep	1463	2189	726
- pig	3118	5230	2112
- hen	33441	71498	38057
- duck	6208	8425	2217
- turkey, goose, muscovy duck	853	978	125
- quail	-	173	173
- Nwanauk	-	41	41
Extended acres of fish and prawn breeding	30	207636	207606
Distribution of fingerlings			
- fish release (1=100,000)	31.29	2148.98	2117.69
- sale (1=100,000)	64.05	2844.74	2780.69
fish released into Ayeyawady river	-	1867.34	1867.34

Table E Forest conservation

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Reserved forest*	38839	46889	8050
Protected public forest*	-	12540	12540
Natural area*	2073.93	12433.26	10359.33
Setting up of forest (acre)	79115	1301458	1222343
- acres of special teak plantation	-	140000	140000
- acres of commercial plantation	42083	493125	451042
- acres of village plantation	16630	286854	270224
- acres of industrial plantation	13690	126095	112405
- acres of watershed plantation	6712	255384	248672
- acres of Thitseint plantation	-	19250	19250
Tree planting of community movement	4.51	210.25	205.74

population. At a time when other countries had entered the industrial age, our nation lost its way, and was in backwardness, without having any capital for progress. In the end, the political sector of the nation reached beyond control resulting from the economic slump.

"In this regard, the Tatmadaw Government has laid down and implemented the economic objective — Development of agriculture as the base

cultural infrastructures have already been built in all necessary places. More infrastructures will be built in the future also. Because of the energetic efforts to extend sown acreage, increase per acre yield, and introduce new crops, the nation now is enjoying surplus rice. "If a nation is able to produce enough food for the people, it will have to establish an industrial nation for the prosperity of the national people. But the setting up of an industrialized nation needs a large number of quali-

ing attached to the project for development of all regions of the nation. Now, all the nationalities have the opportunity to get access to science and technological studies in their own regions. In addition, the Government is giving priority to increased generation of electricity for industrial development."

The Tatmadaw Government is laying an enduring foundation to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation, with firm objectives and belief — The country must become

Table F Greening Tasks

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Setting up plantations (acre)	-	203976	203976
- firewood plantation	-	92340	92340
- watershed plantation	-	66550	66550
- mountain range plantation	-	15825	15825
- research plantation	-	416	416
- other plantation	-	24645	24645
- Thitseint plantation	-	4200	4200
Natural forest conservation (acre)	-	1079431	1079431
fuel-substitute wood			
- stove	-	369336	369336
- briquette	-	61826	61826
- agricultural waste (ton)	-	155421	155421
Water works			
- pond	-	1222	1222
- silt-prevented dam	-	1044	1044
- underground water	-	65	65
Bago mountain range greening work (acre)	-	6440	6440
- plantation	-	115	115
- firewood plantation	-	5675	5675
- watershed plantation	-	350	350
- other plantation	-	300	300
- Thitseint plantation	-	22500	22500
- natural forest conservation	-	1660	1600
Shwepontaung greening work	-	1660	1600

Table G

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Railways			
- miles	1976.35	3042.39	1066.04
- miles of railroad	2793.86	3952.90	1159.04
- overpass	70	91	21
- station	487	780	293
- bridge			
above 180 feet	157	191	34
under 180 feet	5493	9028	3535
Airways			
- above 5000 ft runway airfield	21	38	17
- under 5000 ft runway airfield	45	35	upgrading
waterway			
- jetty (local vessel)	65	91	26
- jetty (Foreign Going)	13	29	16
Motor road	13635/0	18640/3	5005/3
- tarred road	5543/0	8972/2	3429/2
- gravel road	1569/0	3359/5	1790/5
- hard road	3628/0	3089/4	upgrading
- earth road	2895/0	3219/0	324/0
Bridge on motor road			
- Public Works			
- above 180 feet			
- completed bridge	198	377	179
- implementing bridge	-	41	41
- bridge to be built	-	15	15
- under 180 feet	3305	5113	1808
- Myanma Railways*	-	7	7
- Military Engineers*	-	7	7
- Electric Power*	-	1	1
*above-180 feet			

a real golden land. The national races of the land must be renowned in the world as the people of the golden land.

Border areas and national races development

The massive foundation of a new golden land has been laid with the mighty

helping further consolidate the national solidarity. Now, let us see Table A to know the developments in border areas, the first layer of the foundation of a new golden land.

Narcotic drugs elimination

The Herculean border area development project

The total sown acreage of Myanmar was over 24.8 million acres. There remained 20.8 million acres of fallow and virgin lands in 1988 to be used for agriculture. Paddy sown acreage them was only 11.5 million acres. As there was no progress at all in the farming techniques then,

Table H

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
post office	1114	1331	217
telegraph office	310	483	173
faxcimile	10	4049	4039
computer telegraph	-	80	80
Local fax service	-	-	-
telephone service			
- telephone office	245	826	581
- number of line	71855	447097	375242
- exchange	245	619	374
- direct line	67016	387274	320258
- auto/carrier telephone	67016	300987	233971
- auto radio telephone	-	4044	4044
- CDMA	-	30297	30297
- celluler	-	18760	18760
- DECT telephone	-	2572	2572
- GSM	-	30614	30614
- telephone density*	1.82	7.27	5.45
microwave station	71	224	153
rural telephone exchange	-	207	207
e-mail, Internet	-	5650	5650
X.25 line	-	149	149
microlink	-	-	-
Local Satellite station	-	-	-
- DOMSAT	-	5	5
- VSAT	-	15	15
- iPSTAR	-	23	23

force of national unity. The Government has extended a warm invitation to all the people living on the same land and partaking water from the same source to walk along the correct path towards the common goal. Since the return of the 17 armed groups to the legal, the Government has launched a comprehensive border areas and national races development drive to make all the regions enjoy perpetual peace and prosperity. As the border areas are achieving more progress, so also the national development drive is gaining more ground, and

involves the humanitarian spirit. The border areas have seen their social development reaching beyond imagination because of the efforts to find out the core requirement. One of the results of the project is the drastic fall in the cultivation of poppy and production of narcotic drugs, the evil legacy of the colonialists. The project has been launched to end the evil legacy and produce sound developments for the future generations. Table B shows the success achieved in eliminating narcotic drugs. **Agriculture**

the nation's annual paddy output was stagnant at 653 million baskets.

But the population is increasing and 70 per cent of the nation's population reside in rural areas where agriculture is main livelihood. Thus, efforts were needed to double the paddy production. Since 1992-93, the Government has been launching reforms in the agricultural sector, and realizing them without fail. It has applied various means to grow 16 million acres of paddy — 12 million acres of monsoon paddy and four (See page 11)

Let us march to...

(from page 10)
million acres of summer paddy — to produce 1,000 million baskets. In 1988, there were only 138 dams in the nation and they were irrigating 4.4 million acres of crops.
Only 3.5 million acres of land had been put under double-cropping.

gricultural sector, Myanmar is prospering as if the land yields gold everywhere.
The states and divisions that could not produce enough rice for their local consumption in the past are now enjoying food sufficiency.
The nation is also witnessing greater increase in

lion hectares.
In addition, over six million hectares of land are covered by water for six to eight months every year. The total area of natural lakes, reservoirs and other man-made lakes is 1.8 million hectares.
Commercial-scale livestock farms have been set up to produce more meat.

Table I

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
electricity consumption	1517.570	5461.089	3943.519
maximum load megawatt	363.678	996.761	633.083
Generating power	701.423	1670.773	969.350
Increased power supply			
- implemented project	14	44	30
- large scale (above-10 megawatt)	2	10	8
- medium-scale (1-10 megawatt)	1	10	9
- small-scale (1 megawatt)	11	24	13
Implementing projects			
- large-scale (above-10 megawatt)	-	20	20
- installed generator*	-	4893.500	4893.500
Other power plants			
- recycling power plant	-	4	4
- boiler power plant	3	3	-
- natural gas powered-plant	8	11	3
- coal powered-plant	-	1	1
- diesel powered-plant	588	567	national grid
- present capacity of generator*	473.597	1029.451	555.854
- future capacity of generator*	701.423	6564.273	5862.850

Table J

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Upgrading industrial power			
- Industrial Zones	-	19	19
- works	-	8463	8463
- private industries	26872	42707	15835
- cottage industries	-	8500	8500
State-owned industries	641	833	192

More water is needed to use more land. Thus, dams are being built in all possible places. New dams numbering 170 have emerged in a period of 16 years. Small dams, tubewells and hand pumps are irrigating crops in the areas beyond the reach of tributary canals of the large dams.
To effectively use water from in the natural watercourses, the Government has built 171 waterworks up to date to increase irrigated acres.
Double-cropping has increased to 10 million acres.
With its 12 million acres of monsoon paddy fields and four million acres of summer paddy fields, the nation can now stand tall again as a rice bowl of Asia. The present year's paddy output is expected to be 1,195 million baskets.
Thanks to the unprecedented progress in the ag-

beans and pulses production for export, cultivation of edible crops and industrial crops.
The Tatmadaw Government has been striving to further improve the means of livelihood of the growing population of future.
It is preparing to develop the agricultural and other sectors to be able to produce adequate amount of food and other social items sufficient for a population of 100 million. Within a short span of time the agricultural sector can see the unprecedented developments.
Table C has more.

Livestock and fisheries
Myanmar is rich in fresh water and sea prawns and fishes. Its land is pollution free, and its waters are uncontaminated. The combined fresh water surface area of Ayeyawady, Chindwin, Sittoung and Thanlwin rivers and their many tributaries is 8.2 mil-

lion hectares.
Table D shows the development of fish and meat sector of the nation.

Forest conservation
The Tatmadaw Government has been nurturing and educating the people to become forest lovers.
Forests cover 51 per cent of the nation's land surface.
But we will face adverse consequences, if we cannot conserve and extend the forests.
Realizing this, the Government has been in the process of launching the project to green the entire nation.
The Nine-District Greening Project covering Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway divisions, involves the four tasks of finding water resources, conserving and extending forests, establishing village fuel wood forests, and using more wood-substitute fuels.

(See page 12)

Table M

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Basic education			
- number of schools	33747	40521	6774
- BEHS	722	1942	1220
- BEMS	1696	2588	892
- Post Primary	-	4736	4736
- BEPS	31329	31255	upgraded
- multimedia classroom	-	1593	1593
- number of teachers	173772	240878	67106
- number of students	5239878	7783400	2543522
- teacher education			
- education college	14	20	6
- teacher	456	860	404
- trainee	4516	35838	31322
- KG enrolment	67.13%	96.56%	29.43%
- adult literacy rate	79.73%	93.30%	13.57%
School dropout rate			
- primary school level	40.99%	14.16%	26.83%
- middle school level	40.36%	11.06%	29.29%
Uplift of higher education			
- university/college/degree college	27	64	37
- institutes	6	5	hand over
- arts&science university	3	30	27
- degree college	6	9	3
- college	11	20	9
- institute*	1	-	upgraded
- Wide Area Network	-	1	1
- No of WAN sites	-	95	95
- academic programmes	79	188	109
- number of teachers	5638	10232	4594
- number of students	134325	705784	571458
- e- Learning Centre	-	622	622
- Human resource development centre	-	44	44
- number of trainees	-	120763	120763

* Institute of Foreign Languages was upgraded into University of Foreign Languages

Table L

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
Oil field (inland)*	19	18	completed work (1)
- oil field (offshore)	-	3	3
- Gaspipeline (mile)	250.91	1677.29	1426.38
- crude oil production (barrel)	6165641	6395488	229847
- gas production (cubic feet)	41913.97	371062.10	329048.13
- refining crude oil (gallon)(million)	156.461	230.796	74.335

*** inland oil field**

More oil fields—Pepal, Aphyauk, Kyaukkhwet, Letpando, Thagyitaung, Sabei and Nyaungdon— were added. Latdaunt, Pyayi, Pyaloh, Tetma, Ngashantaung, Phayagon (Seinhaing), Phayagon (Kyarkaik) and Htantabin oil fields were completed. Indaing oil field was recovered in 1996 and closed in 2002. Indaw oil field was found in 2002 and closed in December 2004.

Table N

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
-Institute of Technology (Ygn,Mdy,Pyay)	1	3	2
- teachers	256	594	338
- students (graduate)	687	17253	16566
- present students	-	7984	7984
- Government Technological College	1	26	25
- number of teachers	446	2271	1825
- number of students (graduate)	5155	52461	47306
- present students	-	17013	17013
- Computer University	1	2	1
- teachers	40	206	166
- students (graduate)	19	17039	17020
- present students	-	13153	13153
- Computer College	-	24	24
- number of teacher	-	509	509
- number of students graduate	-	3641	3641
- present student	-	10412	10412
Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University	-	1	1
- number of teacher	-	52	52
- number of students	-	157	157
- Government Technical Institute	2	12	10
- teacher	139	493	354
- students (graduate)	8187	19613	11426
- present students	-	3161	3161
Technical Higher School	-	3	3

Let us march to...

(from page 11)
Beginning 1994-95, the project has been expanded to cover 13 districts. And thanks to the project, regions in the central dry are receiving extra amount of rain annually. For the people of the zone, water is precious even more than gold. Please see Table E for data.

Transport

The Tatmadaw Government has constructed a network of roads and bridges, resulting in a smooth transport the length and breadth of the nation even in the hilly regions. The number of small, medium and large bridges, roads and railroads across the country at present has surged many times if compared to that in 1988.

There have emerged Mandalay-Myitkyina, Mandalay-Bhamo, Myitkyina-Putao, Hpa-an-Zarthabyn-Mawlamyine, Taunggyi-Ywangan-Hanmyinmo, Pyinmana-Pinlaung, Sittway-An-Minbukawthoung-Daweimawlamyine, Taungup-Maei-Kyaukpyu, Monywa-

Hkamti Union Highways.

The government constructed Minbu-Seikpyu-Pakokku-Monywa Road and Minhla-Thayet-Pyay Road to bring further development to the regions on the west bank of the Ayeyawady River. It has also constructed many roads linking Natmawk and Magway; Monywa and Kalewa, Toungoo and Pyay, Pyinmana and Taungdwingyi, and these transport facilities link the eastern part and the western part of the nation.

People can travel from Pyay to Taungdwingyi through the central Yoma mountain range with the use of Pyay-Aunglan-Taungdwingyi Railroad. People also can travel over the Shan mountain range with the use of Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Hsaikkhaung Railroad. There have also emerged Pakokku-ChaungU railroad, Budalin-YeU-KhinU railroad, Pyay-Aungban-Taungdwingyi-Padaung-Bagan-NyaungU railroad, Namhsan-Mongnai railroad, Aungpan-Loikaw railroad,

Ye-Dawei railroad, Yaymyetni-Gangaw-Kalay railroad and Shwenyaung-Yaksawk railroad.

Such bridges spanning the Ayeyawady River as Maubin Bridge, Nawade Bridge, Dedaye Bridge and Bo Myat Tun Bridge came into existence. The government also built Bala Min Htin Bridge, Anawrahta Bridge, Ayeyawady (Magway) Bridge, and Yadanabon Bridge (Mandalay). So far, it has constructed two bridges across Chindwin River, three across Sittoung River and five across Thanlwin River.

With respect to the air transport sector, in the past, there were only six airports which could serve jet aircraft. But, the number of such airports has increased to 17 in total. The government has upgraded Heho Airport, Myeik Airport and NyaungU Airport and built Homalin, Monywa, Magway, An, Pakokku and Kyaukhtu airports. Hkamti, Bhamo and Lashio airport construction projects and Kengtung, Yangon and Pathein airport upgrading projects, and Yangon and

Table O

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
upgrading of hospital	631	819	188
- specialist hospital	15	19	4
- teaching hospital	4	6	2
- 300-bed	1	5	4
- 200-bed	10	24	14
- 150-bed	12	7	upgrading
- 100-bed	28	33	5
- 50-bed	37	58	21
- 25-bed	51	111	60
- 16-bed	168	100	upgrading
- station/ sub-township hospital	305	456	151
health units	1829	1964	135
- rural health unit	1337	1450	113
- maternal and child care unit	348	348	-
- regional health unit	64	86	22
- school health team	80	80	-
Health staff			
- doctors (specialist/assistant)	3185	6338	3153
- nurses	4515	10003	5488
- health staff	1557	1694	137
- midwives	8019	9572	1553
- skilled staff	290	544	254
- township health assistant	-	92	92
- health assistant-1	-	320	320
- health assistant	1120	1365	245
- supervisor (1)/(2)	915	2075	1160
traditional medicine			
- traditional medicine hospital	2	14	12
- traditional medicine dispensary	89	237	148
Free from disease			
- small pox	free	free	free
- leprosy	-	free	free
- polio	-	free	free
decrease of mortality			
- rural*	9.9	7.1	2.8
- urban*	8.9	6.2	2.7
increase of longevity			
- rural			
- man	56.2	60.8	4.6
- woman	60.4	63.3	2.9
- urban			
- man	59.0	61.5	2.5
- woman	63.2	65.6	2.4
Universities	4	14	10
- Medical Institute	3	4	1
- Dental Institute	1	2	1
- Institute of Nursing	-	2	2
- Institute of Paramedical Science	-	2	2
- Institute of Pharmacy	-	2	2
- University of Community Health	-	1	1
- University of Traditional Medicine	-	1	1
Training school	26	43	17
- nursing training school	6	23	17
- midwifery school	16	16	-
- related school	4	4	-

Table P

Subject	1988	1 2-2-05	Progress
Urban development			
- urban road miles	2971/7	5295/5	2323/6
- miles of tarred road	945/5	1890/6	884/5
- miles of gravelled road	768/2	997/7	229/6
- miles of granite road	198/0	318/4	120/5
- earthen road	1060/0	2088/4	835/1
- urban bridges	-	11039	11039
- concrete bridge	-	5740	5740
- wooden bridge	-	3649	3649
- conduit	-	1379	1379
- other	-	271	271
Water supply task			
- Town in which tasks to be done	285	110	175
- completed work	48	127	79
Rural development			
- Rural road	3940/6	23899/7	19959/1
- tarred road	295/0	1182/3	887/3
- gravelled road	822/7	3957/7	3135/0
- granite road	730/5	1689/1	958/4
- earthen road	2092/2	17070/5	14978/3
- rural bridge	-	6324	6324
- concrete	-	1462	1462
- wooden	-	3899	3899
- conduit	-	796	796
- other	-	167	167
Rural Water supply tasks			
- village in which tasks to be done	23225	9419	13806
- completed work	-	19870	19870
- rural housing	-	1472	1472

Table S

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Above-180 feet bridges	198	398	200
- construction	198	377	179
- Myanmar Railways	-	7	7
- military engineers	-	7	7
- electric Power	-	1	1
- border area development*	-	3	3
- regional development* (Myainggyingu)	-	3	3
Under-180 feet bridges	8798	32253	23455
- construction	3305	5113	1808
- Myanmar Railways	5493	9028	3535
- border area development-	-	749	749
- urban	-	11039	11039
- rural	-	6324	6324
Motor road (miles)	6783/5	14607/3	7823/6
- construction	5543/0	8972/2	3429/2
- border area development	-	329/0	329/0
- urban	945/5	1890/6	884/1
- rural	295/0	1182/3	887/3
- other department/organization	-	2233/0	2233/0
Gravel road (miles)	3160/1	10695/2	7535/1
- construction	1569/0	3359/5	1790/5
- border area development	-	1871/1	1871/1
- urban	768/2	997/7	229/6
- rural	822/7	3957/7	3135/0
- other department/organization	-	508/6	508/6
Hard road (miles)	4556/5	5474/1	917/4
- construction	3628/0	3089/4	upgrading
- border area development	-	-	-
- urban	198/0	318/4	120/5
- rural	730/5	1689/1	958/4
- other department/organization	-	377/0	377/0
Earth road (miles)	6047/2	27637/5	21590/3
- construction	2895/0	3219/0	324/0
- border area development	-	3093/4	3093/4
- urban	1060/0	2088/4	835/1
- rural	2092/2	17070/5	14878/3
- other department/organization	-	2166/0	2166/0

Anisakhan airport construction projects are under way.

The government has constructed 26 jetties for local vessels and 16 jetties for foreign vessels. The transport facilities all over the nation help forge national solidarity and raise the social and economic standards of the entire people.

Table G shows progress of the nation's transport sector.

Communication

The government has been striving for the im-

provement of information technology in the country to be on a par with the advanced nations the world over in the communication sector. Table H shows the nation's progress in the communication sector.

Electric power

Nowadays, the government is making a huge headway with the national development undertakings. In the nation are many rivers and creeks with annual water flow of 870 million acre feet. If these water resources are harnessed effec-

tively for construction of 267 hydropower plants, some 40,000 megawatts can be generated. The government has been pouring investments into the irrigation projects. It has taken another step for national development through the electric power sector.

In 1988, the nation's electricity consumption was only 1,518 million units. Now, the electricity consumption has reached 5,461 million units. In order to meet the higher living (See page 13)

Let us march to...

(from page 12)
standard of the people, the government had to construct 30 hydel-power plants throughout the country. On completion of 20 more power plant projects, the electricity generation will touch 5863 megawatts.

It is indeed about one-eighths of the total electric power that can be generated with the use of all the water resources in the nation. Table I shows the progress of the electric power sector of the nation.

Industry

The nation is rich in natural resources. Industrial crops thrive in the

Table R

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
- TV retransmission station	15	177	162
- IPRD offices	-	373	373
- IPRD libraries	111	373	262
- departmental libraries	-	199	199
- rural library	-	11534	11534
- e-library	-	108	108
- sub-printing house*	-	9	9

* Mandalay, Myitkyina, Lashio, Magway, Kalay, Taunggyi, Kengtung, Sittway, Myeik,

nation. Human resources are being produced annually. The generation of electricity is on the increase.

The government has built a foundation to transform the agro-based nation into an industrialized one.

It has constructed dams and reservoirs where water is scarce, and organized enterprises and factories, which scattered in respective regions, into industrial zones.

The government's encouragement and assistance has helped establish 19 industrial zones with 846 enterprises with a total investment of about K 300 billion and an annual turnover of K 200 billion.

The number of private-run factories has grown up to 42,707 and cottage industries up to 8,500.

The government has established 192 factories, accounting for 833 factories in total in the nation. It is giving encouragement and providing necessary assistance in various fields for the industrial development.

As a result, many job opportunities could be created for the people. Table J shows the industrial progress of the nation.

Energy

The government is striving for extended exploration of oil. It has dis-

covered offshore oilfields in Mottama, Rakhine State and Taninthayi Division. The nation's inexhaustible natural gas deposits can contribute towards national development. Table L shows progress of the energy sector.

Oilfields (onshore)

The government discovered seven more oilfields — Petpel, Aphyauk, Kyaukkhwet, Letpanto, Thagyidaung, Zabei and Nyaungdon, and explored Laydaung, Pyay, Pyaloh, Tetma, Ngashantaung, Phayagon (Seinhai), Phayagon (Kyakaik) and Htantabin oilfields. Indaing oilfield was discovered in 1996

Adult literacy rate of Myanmar is one of the highest in South-East Asia. Table M shows the progress of her education sector.

Science & technology

In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, there have emerged three technological universities and 26 technological colleges.

It has established two universities for computer studies and 24 computer colleges across the nation.

It has opened doctorate courses in the subjects of engineering, applied science, and computer.

It also established the Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University and the Myanmar Maritime University.

and closed in 2002, and Indaw oilfield was in 2002 and closed in December 2004.

Education

In an effort to contribute to brighter future of the nation, the government is nurturing the new generation youths who can brave and cope with the challenges of the knowledge age so as to produce more and more human resources.

It is also taking all possible measures for the uplift of the education standard of the people. It has established 156 universities and colleges all over the country to bring equal opportunity to the youths to pursue education.

There were only 38 universities and colleges in 1988.

It has opened 6,744 basic education schools in the whole county, increasing the number of the schools from 33,474 in 1988 to 40,521 now. It has also opened 4,739 post-primary schools for enabling youths in rural regions to continue to pursue education in respective regions.

Originally, Myanmar nationals are dynamic and are quick learners. With the qualifications of the national people, the nation can be changed itself from an agro-based nation into an industrialized one and then into a knowledge power.

The purpose of the establishment of the educational institutions in the States and Divisions is to enable the intellectuals and intelligentsia to play an important role in nurturing the youths.

Table N shows the progress of the education sector of the nation.

Health

Now is the time when measures are being taken to give priority to public health care. Now, the number of hospitals has increased to 819 at present from 631 in 1988. At the time of the Tatmadaw government, five medical universities and two dental universities have been opened. Moreover, two pharmaceutical universities, two paramedical universities, and one medical university have also been added to the existing number. In the past, there were only 28 nursing training schools. But now, they are 43 in number. Specialists were employed at state-, division- and district-level hospitals to ensure better public health care. (See data in Table O)

Development affairs

Steps are being taken to raise the living standard of the national people. Roads and bridges are being constructed in urban and rural areas. Furthermore, irrigation facilities and river water-pumping projects are under way to ensure an adequate supply of drinking water and

Dinner for Union Day delegates



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay hosts dinner to Union Day delegates. — YGN COMMAND

YANGON, 11 Feb — Chairman of the Management Committee to Observe the 58th Anniversary Union Day Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay and family hosted a dinner in honour

of the Union Day delegates at their residence this evening.

First, the commander and wife presented gifts to the delegates and cordially extended greetings to them.

Afterwards, the dinner was hosted.

MNA

irrigation water. Emphasis has also been placed on keeping every school-age children at schools in rural areas with the aim of increasing the literacy rate.

Roads and bridges

The Tatmadaw government is building roads and bridges one after another across the nation. Relevant ministries gave a helping hand to this drive. Tatmadaw engineering unit also constructed bridges linking one region and the other. As a result, a network of transport has been created throughout the Union. Wellwishers also contributed to this road and bridge construction. Table S shows roads and bridges emerged in the time of the Tatmadaw Government.

Human resources

Measures are being taken to develop human resources in all the spheres, especially in education, health, science, and technology. In this process, one Union Nationalities Development University, two Capacity Enhancement Degree College, 31 youth development training schools, 27 cottage industries, and other Parahita (Boy) Schools were opened in rural areas.

Training is provided to widen the knowledge of agriculture, livestock and forestry. To ensure the emergence of marine scientists, marine universities were also opened.

Information and public relations

Now is the time when efforts are being made to turn the country into a new state. Imminent are the border areas and national races development

project, the greening project, the 24-zone development project, and the rural development project. Now, all the regions in the country are now getting prosperous.

These achievements are accounted for consolidated strength among the State, the peo-

ple and the Tatmadaw. The history of Myanmar is now bright with the age of solidarity.

It is worth making a pledge that the time has come to march to a more consolidated new golden state. (See data in Table R)

(Translation: TMT + TTA + MS + KTY)

ADVERTISEMENTS

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV "SITTWE" VOY NO ST115/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "SITTWE" Voy No. ST 115/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 14-2-2005 and will be berthing on about 15.2.2005 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bye-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE
MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. MARISSA GREEN VOY: NO (001)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. MARISSA GREEN VOY. NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.2.05 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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Egypt thrash Belgium 4-0

CAIRO, 11 Feb — Belgium, who have made a faltering start in their bid to qualify for the 2006 World Cup finals, suffered a further blow to their morale when they were thrashed 4-0 by Egypt in a friendly on Wednesday.

The European side were outplayed by the technically-gifted Egyptians who were only denied a wider margin of victory by some smart saves by Silvio Proto.

Ema Meteeb broke the deadlock in the 39th minute from close range and added a second five minutes after halftime with an acrobatic volley.

MNA/Reuters

Belarus score surprise 3-1 win over Poland

WARSAW, 11 Feb — Belarus scored a surprise 3-1 win over Poland in a friendly on Wednesday to lift the visitors' hopes of sneaking into a play-off place in their World Cup qualifying group when the competition restarts at the end of March.

Belarus stunned the home side after eight minutes when Alexander Gleb scored with a long-range effort to take the wind out of the Poles.

Despite some untidy play during the rest of the first half, Poland still managed to produce a number of chances which their forwards failed to convert.

Their perseverance paid off after 51 minutes when Maciej Zurawski, who had had several long-range shots, finally found the net.

But the Polish defence, patchy throughout, caved in six minutes from time when the inspirational Maksim Romashchenko set up a chance for Vyacheslav Gleb who made no mistake for Belarus' second.

The visitors wrapped up the match with a third goal in stoppage time when Andrei Lavrik scored from a rebound.

Polish manager Pawel Janas conceded his team had an off-night and said they have to improve before next month's World Cup qualifiers.

"We were poor defensively and that contributed to our defeat. We need to play much better if we want to see better results against Azerbaijan and Northern Ireland," he told television station TVP 2.

Poland are second in Group Six behind England and have looked far more impressive in their previous qualifiers than they did on Wednesday.

Belarus trail Italy, Norway and Slovenia in Group-Five, but are only three points behind the second-placed Norwegians with a game in hand. They travel to Slovenia for their next qualifier on March 30.

MNA/Reuters



Northern Ireland's Steve Davis, left, battles for the ball with Canada's Dwayne De Rosario.

INTERNET

Ukraine beat Albania 2-0

LONDON, 11 Feb — Ukraine maintained their push for a first appearance in the World Cup finals when they beat Albania 2-0 in Tirana on Wednesday to open up a six-point lead at the top of European qualifying Group Two.

On a day when the final stages of the Asian and CONCACAF competitions began, there were also qualifiers played in Europe and Africa with match winners including Japan, the United States, Morocco and South Korea among others, all keeping their eyes fixed on next year's finals in Germany.

European champions Greece also revived their qualifying hopes and moved into second place behind Ukraine on eight points after beating Denmark 2-1 in Athens — their second successive win following the victory over Kazakhstan in November.

Ukraine, who lost in playoffs for the 1998 and 2002 World Cups and Euro 2000, continued to set the pace in Group Two.

Their victory over Albania came courtesy of goals from Andriy Rusol and Andriy Husin, although European Footballer of the Year Andriy Shevchenko, who overcame injury to play, did not find the net for once.

Greece, who failed to win any of their opening three qualifiers, were too good in the end for the Danes who lost for the first time in five qualifying matches.

Morocco, seeking their fifth World Cup appearance, went to the top of African Group Five with a 5-1 win over Kenya thanks to an outstanding performance from Sochaux's Jawad Zairi who scored a hat-trick and had a hand in Morocco's other two goals.

Morocco now lead their section by a point from Guinea who they meet in their next qualifier in



Ukraine's Oleg Gusev (R) fights for the ball with Albania's Altin Haxhi during their World Cup qualifying soccer match at Qemal Stafa stadium in Tirana, Albania, on 9 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

Casablanca on March 26.

Earlier on Wednesday the final stages of the Asian qualifying group began with Japan scoring a late goal to beat North Korea 2-1 in Saitama in a highly-charged Group Two match.

Bahrain and Iran drew 0-0 in the other game in the same group leaving Japan as the early leaders.

MNA/Reuters

Ireland defeat lacklustre Portugal 1-0

DUBLIN, 11 Feb — A first-half goal from Newcastle United's Andy O'Brien gave Ireland a deserved 1-0 win over a lacklustre Portugal in Wednesday's friendly at Lansdowne Road.

A hard-working Ireland team scored the only goal in the 21st minute after Portugal's Paulo Ferreira fell in the goal-mouth leaving the way open for Man of the Match O'Brien to chip the ball home.

Ireland's steely defence was hardly tested in the first half as relentless pressure from the home side, and from Chelsea forward Damien Duff in particular, stifled Portugal's creativity.

An on-target free kick from Benfica midfielder Petit in the 31st minute was the only time Irish goalie Shay Given came under pressure in the first 45 minutes. Ireland took advantage of a disjointed Portuguese performance following four half-time substitutions for the visitors.

The Republic piled on the pressure with repeated shots at goal, at least one of which they probably deserved to convert. A foul on Damien Duff resulted in a yellow card for Nuno Gomes midway through the second half and the Irishman left the pitch a few minutes later to be replaced by Liam Miller.

Portugal, wearing a special black-and-white kit as part of the European-wide anti-racism campaign, posed few serious threats during the second half

and came closest to scoring with a low shot from substitute Hugo Viana in the dying minutes.

The Irish will take comfort from the match for their next World Cup qualifier against Israel on March 26, while Portugal will need to improve for their match in Slovakia on March 30.

MNA/Reuters



Ireland's Robbie Keane tops off Ireland's celebrations after Andy O'Brien scored the winning goal as Portugal's goal keeper Ricardo passes by during their friendly international football match against Portugal in Lansdowne Road, Dublin, Ireland.

INTERNET

Canada beat 1-0 over Northern Ireland

BELFAST, 11 Feb — A first half goal from Olivier Ocean gave Canada a shock 1-0 victory over Northern Ireland in a friendly on Wednesday, despite the visitors playing most of the match with 10 men at Windsor Park.

With just 22 minutes gone defender Gabriel Gervais was sent off for a foul on striker David Healy, his second bookable offence after receiving a yellow card for an earlier challenge on Keith Gillespie. But 10 minutes later the visitors were in front when striker Ocean headed home from a free kick on the left.

Healy missed an easy chance in the 38th minute and Steve Jones hit the post in second half injury time, but Northern Ireland — who have not won in Belfast since September 2001 — were unable to find a way through as the Canucks hung on.

MNA/Reuters

Alcaraz sacked by Racing Santander

MADRID, 11 Feb — Luca Alcaraz was fired by Racing Santander on Wednesday after a 2-1 defeat against Villarreal on Sunday put the Primera Liga side back into the relegation zone.

The club said that assistant coach Nando Yosu would take charge of the team in place of Alcaraz, who had been at Racing since the start of last season.

Racing narrowly avoided relegation last term and have been hovering around the drop zone for most of the present campaign, winning just five of their 22 league matches.

Following Sunday's defeat they lie in 18th place in the 20-team Primera Liga, three points clear of Real Mallorca.

The two other sides that accompany them in the relegation zone, Numancia and Real Mallorca, as well as Malaga, who are just above them in the standings, all sacked their coaches earlier this season.

MNA/Reuters

One man stabbed, several injured in north London

LONDON, 11 Feb — One man was stabbed and several injured after 4,000 people flocked to the midnight opening of a new IKEA furniture superstore in north London, emergency services said on Thursday.

The Swedish furniture giant was forced to close the store in Edmonton after 30 minutes when it was overwhelmed by shoppers seeking to buy heavily discounted items.

"There were 500 people behind me and they were all trying to get through a three-foot gap," shopper Jolene Cooper told Sky News about her experience outside the store's entrance.

"They kept on trying to shut the doors and not let anyone in, so all the people behind were pushing me. I was really scared."

Shortly after midnight there were 1,000 cars queuing to get into the car park with some bargain-hunters abandoning their vehicles on the busy A406 North Circular Road to get to the store on foot.

The store had been

offering huge discounts, including leather sofas at 35 pounds (65 US dollars) for customers arriving between midnight and 3 am, as part of a planned 24 hours of opening bargains.

Police said the stabbed man had sustained his injury in the area of the store, adding that his injury was not life-threatening. Five other people were taken to hospital, one suffering from chest pains. London Fire Brigade said they helped ambulance staff deal with 22 people suffering from heat exhaustion and crush injuries.

IKEA could not immediately be reached for comment.

Last September three men were trampled to death in a rush to claim vouchers when IKEA opened its first store in Saudi Arabia.

MNA/Reuters

Rolls-Royce Plc analyst forecasts pretax profit of \$643m

LONDON, 11 Feb — British engine maker Rolls-Royce Plc topped analyst forecasts with a 2004 underlying pretax profit of 345 million pounds (643 million US dollars) on Thursday helped by growth in after-sales.

The world's second-largest maker of aircraft engines said pretax profit rose 21 per cent for the year to December 31 from 285 million a year earlier.

Analysts had expected 340 million pounds in pretax profit according to the median forecast from 10 brokerages polled by Reuters. Revenues rose 5 per cent to 5.939 billion pounds, broadly in line with analyst forecasts.

"We enter 2005 with a record order book, strong positions on a new generation of programmes and a growing services business," Rolls-Royce Chief Executive Sir John Rose said in a statement.

Rolls said revenues from engine servicing contracts rose 14 per cent, accounting for 55 per cent of overall turnover.

Rolls-Royce kept its annual dividend at 8.18 pence.

Average net debt fell 41 per cent to 560 million pounds from 950 million a year earlier.

Rolls builds engines for planes and ships as well as products such as turbines for the oil and gas industries.

Better results in 2004 reflected higher sales by planemakers Boeing Co and Airbus as airlines mired in a slowdown since 2001 splashed out for new planes.

Rolls is building engines for the key new model from each — the A380 doubledecker due from Airbus in 2006 and the mid-sized 787 due from Boeing in 2008.

The results did not use IFRS accounting standards but will be restated using them in April.

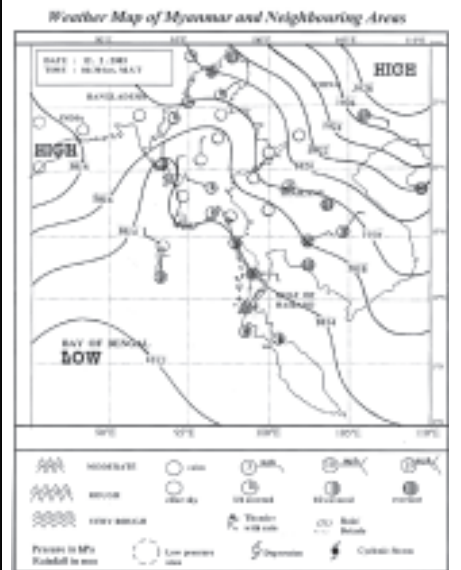
MNA/Reuters

Spain, Britain to hold first meeting of Gibraltar forum

MADRID, 11 Feb — Representatives from disputed Gibraltar and the Spanish and British negotiating teams will attend the first meeting of the newly-created forum for dialogue on Friday, the Spanish Foreign Ministry said in a statement late on Wednesday.

The meeting will be held between the British Foreign Office's Europe director Dominick Chilcott and the Spanish Foreign Ministry's Europe-America director Jose Maria Pons.

Gibraltar's Chief Minister Peter Caruana is expected to attend the meeting to be held in Malaga of Andalucia, southern Spain, the ministry said. Gibraltar, a tiny rocky outcrop located at the entrance of the Mediterranean and connected to the Spanish mainland by a sandy isthmus, was ceded to Britain in the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht by Spain, which has been trying to get it back ever since.— MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 11 February, 2005

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

Maximum temperature on 10-2-2005 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 11-2-2005 was 59°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 11-2-2005 was 66%. Total sunshine hours on 10-2-2005 was (8.7) hours approx. Rainfalls on 11-2-2005 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 10 mph from Northwest at (13:30) hours MST on 10-2-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in South-west Bay and fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. **Forecast valid until evening of 12-2-2005:** Weather will be fair in the whole country. **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weather will be fair in the whole country. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-2-2005:** Fair weather. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-2-2005:** Fair weather.



Saturday, 12 February
View on today:

- 7:00 am
- 1. (၅၅) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ထောင်စုနေ့ နိုင်ငံတော်အလံတင်အခမ်းအနား လွှင့်ပုံတိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှု အစီအစဉ်
- 2. (၅၅) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ထောင်စုနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 8:30 am
- 3. International news
- 8:45 am
- 4. Grammar Made Easy
- 11:00 am
- 1. Martial song
- 11:15 am
- 2. (၅၅) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ထောင်စုနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 11:30 am
- 3. News
- 11:40 am
- 4. Game for children
- 12:05 pm
- 5. Round-up of the week's TV local news
- 12:45 pm
- 6. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မိနပ်ဖတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
- 1:20 pm
- 7. ခမီးစတုဂံတံတား

- 1:25 pm
- 8. Teleplay: "ပိုင်နိုင်နိုင်နိုင်အောင်"
- ခန့်စည်သူ၊ သူနိုးထွန်းဝင်း၊ မျိုးစန္ဒီစတုဂံ၊ ဓမ္မစင်သူနိုး၊ သူသူဟံသာ၊ ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်
- 2:00 pm
- 9. (၅၅) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ထောင်စုနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 2:15 pm
- 10. Dance of national races
- 2:30 pm
- 11. ဂမန့်ရေလှောင်တံ
- 2:45 pm
- 12. International news
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. English for Everyday Use
- 5:45 pm
- 4. အစေးသင် တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ဂုဏ်ပြုသံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ရွှေစော)
- 5:00 pm
- 5. (၅၅) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ထောင်စုနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 5:15 pm
- 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:25 pm
- 7. (၅၅) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ထောင်စုနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

- 5:40 pm
- 8. ရန်ကင်းတိုင်း မဟာဗျူဟာရေလှောင်တံ
- 5:50 pm
- 9. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 6:00 pm
- 10. Discovery
- 6:05 pm
- 11. (၅၅) နှစ်မြောက်ပြည့်ထောင်စုနေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်
- 6:15 pm
- 12. ကား-ကားစီးသင် ရစ်တန်းကရိုက် ဆွေးနွေးခန်း (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 6:30 pm
- 13. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
- 14. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
- 15. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်မိနပ်ဖတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၅၅)
- 7:40 pm
- 16. ပြည်ထောင်စုစိတ်ဓာတ် မပြတ် ရင်သန် နိုင်မာရန်မှာ ဒီဂရီတာ (အသီးတစ်ရာအညှာတစ်ရာ ဒီဂရီပြည့်အောင်) (ပြည်ထောင်စုကြီး စုစည်းနိုင်မာ ဖွံ့ဖြိုးသာယာ)
- 8:00 pm
- 17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်သံသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၇)
- 21. The next day's programme



- Saturday, 12 February
Tune in today:
- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: Queen of my heart
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: I'll still in love
- 8:55 am National news/Slogan
- 9:05 am Music: You're my heart
- 9:10 am International news
- 9:15 am Music: -Sha La La
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Request -Take me home country roads -Let it all be music -Love so right
- 9:00 pm ASEAN review -News
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Myanma culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt -Understanding our nationalities II
- 9:30 pm Souvenirs -Love, come back to me
- 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

Minister visits mangosteen, pomelo plantations

YANGON, 11 Feb — Accompanied by officials, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo on 7 February visited Kyonka mangosteen farm of Myanma Agriculture Service in Paung Township, Thaton District, Mon State, and gave instructions to officials on extension of farming.

Next, the minister inspected budding and grafting of durian, mangosteen, nutmeg and clove and nursery tasks, a hydro-electric power station being operated through Gangawsan falls and nursery of mangosteen plantation.

Later, he visited Ingapu pomelo plantation near Ingapu Village in Kyaikto Township and left necessary instructions there. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects Kyonka mangosteen farm in Paung. — A & I

**National Convention Convening Management Committee meets, inspects preparations**

YANGON, 11 Feb — The National Convention Convening Management Committee held a coordination meeting at the office of the committee at Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township at 2 pm today.

It was attended by Chairman of the Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Vice-Chairman Director of Supply and Transport Maj-Gen Than Htay of the Ministry of Defence and members, chairmen and secretaries of sub-committees and departmental officials.

Secretary of the committee Major Than Htay acted as master of ceremonies.

Chairman of the Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, presiding over the meeting, delivered an opening address.

Chairmen, secretaries and officials of Sub-committees reported on progress of their works. Officials of the Ministry of Energy, Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, Public Works and Yangon City Development Committee also submitted their reports. Those present took part in the discussions.

After hearing the reports, Maj-Gen Lun Maung attended to their needs and gave the concluding remarks.

Together with members of the Management Committee, Maj-Gen Lun Maung inspected preparatory tasks at Pyidaungsu Hall, meeting halls and mess halls for staff, arrangements for relaxation of National Convention delegates, preparations for hostels, installation of telephones and TVs, storage of provisions, display of 434 items of goods for welfare of the delegates at the shops of Government Employees Cooperative, Win Thuza Shop of the Ministry of Industry-1, Sarpay Beikman Book stall, Mon Mon Beauty Saloon, Myanmar optical shop, the post office and communication centre of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, decoration of the open-air theatre to present entertainment for the delegates, the foodstuff shop of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Kaungsan Ein Laundry Service, restaurants of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services and Ministry of Industry-1, TM Store, Lucky-1 Smile Tea Shop, the barber shop of Border Trade Department, arrangements for taking physical exercises at the playgrounds and gymnasium together with sports gear, the women's aerobic hall with modern devices, billiard tables, the training golf course and its equipment and the hospital.

Later, Maj-Gen Lun Maung gave necessary instructions to officials. — MNA

INSIDE

The Government has extended a warm invitation to all the people living on the same land and partaking water from the same source to walk along the correct path towards the common goal. Since the return of the 17 armed groups to the legal fold, the Government has launched a comprehensive border areas and national races development drive to make all the regions enjoy perpetual peace and prosperity.

(Page 9)

THIHA AUNG



Maj-Gen Lun Maung visits Win Thuza Shop of Ministry of Industry-1. — MNA