

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Tuesday, 15 February 2005

Walk straight on the way with full Union Spirit

The State has already declared its seven-point future political programme clearly and openly. The seven points show exactly the way in which all the national races will have to march towards a discipline-flourishing modern and developed democratic nation without fail. The national races who love the country will have to walk straight on the way with full Union Spirit and the spirit of national unity.



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

PM receives UN Secretary-General's Special Adviser

YANGON, 14 Feb — Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, received Dr Nafis Sadik, Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General and Special Representative of Asia and the Pacific Region Anti-AIDS Campaign, at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Ministers of Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint, Director-General at the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint, and Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Dr Nafis Sadik, Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General and Special Representative of Asia and the Pacific Region Anti-AIDS Campaign. —MNA

Dr Nafis Sadik was

accompanied by Mr Charles James Petric, Re-

gional Coordinator of UN Agencies, and Mr

Brian Willams, Coordinator of UN Anti-AIDS Unit.

At the call, they discussed matters related

to tasks for control of AIDS. — MNA

Minister inspects irrigation facilities in Bago

YANGON, 14 Feb — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-

Gen Htay Oo, accompanied by departmental officials, inspected crop

plantations and seed shops of Yemon Station, Hlegu Township,

yesterday, and there he explained the arrangements for the provision of qual-

ity strains and technological assistance, and gave instructions on the

extended cultivation of rubber.

At Sanpya Yarthi farm, the minister oversaw crop plantations, the sale of nurseries, and arrangements for supply of irrigation water to the farm. The minister attended to the requirements for the farm and inspected the plot chosen for the cultivation of rubber nurseries.

The minister also visited the construction site of the 10.75-mile-long canal of Lagunpyin Dam near Yemon Station and heard reports on
 (See page 6)



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects water supply of Lagunpyin Dam. —MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 15 February, 2005

Strive for industrial development

The Government of the Union of Myanmar is essaying to build the nation into an industrialized one based on agriculture. At present, the industrial sector has an annual growth of 20 per cent.

In accordance with its practice of market economy, the government has paved the way for the development of private industries. Private industries, though small in size, are spread all over the nation and their production is on the increase.

For industrial development, the government is encouraging and providing all the requirements to private industries through the committee for the development of small and medium industries. And the industrial development depends on industrial zones.

Therefore, private industrialists, making the best use of the government's encouragement and assistance, should strive for the development, standardization and modernization of small and medium industries. Moreover, they have to implement the practical plans for parallel development of all industrial zones according to the technological and financial power of the existing industrial zones.

The government started establishing industrial zones in 1995. So far there have been 19 industrial zones, all told and more than 150,000 people are working in these industrial zones. And the industrial zones succeeded in producing new items in the year 2004-2005.

Moreover, in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi industrial zones, foundry plants and forging shops will be put into commission with the support of the government at the end of April. Introduction of such modern machines is the turning point for the development of private industries. It would not be wrong to say that there is a great deal of potential for the development of private industries.

Therefore, it is necessary to give encouragement for further development of factories for powered tillers, light farm trucks, motorcycles, buses and lorries.

And we would like to call on all those responsible and industrialists to try to the best of their abilities for the development of the industrial sector by making the most of the support and encouragement provided by the government.

Buddhist Culture Course to be opened

YANGON, 14 Feb — A Special Buddhist Culture Course (English-Myanmar) will be opened at Maha Santisukha Buddhist Missionary Centre daily at 8am from 12 to 30 March. Application forms are available at the centre and should be submitted in person with two passport-size photos. Enrolment is limited.

MNA

* ကော်ဖီစိုက်ပျိုးဝင်ငွေတိုး
 * ကော်ဖီစိုက်လျှင်အရိပ်ပင်
 ယှဉ်တွဲစိုက်ပျိုးဒေသဖွံ့ဖြိုး
 လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့်ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန

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

Ministry of Industry-1 conducts courses

YANGON, 14 Feb — Organized by the Ministry of Industry-1, Management Course No 1/2005, Basic Computer Course No 1/2005 and Electrical Proficiency Refresher Course No 1/2005 were conducted at the training hall of the ministry this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thein Tun, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises, directors, general managers, deputy directors, factory managers, course

instructors and trainees.

During the ceremony, the minister delivered an address. He said the courses are being conducted continuously, aiming at promotion of proficiency of the service personnel. He urged the trainees to pay serious attention to studying lectures and to apply these in their fields efficiently.

A total of 141 trainees are attending the three courses which last four weeks.

MNA

Minister inspects drilling of parade companies of Fire Brigade

YANGON, 14 Feb — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thuang and officials inspected drilling of two parade companies of Fire Brigade that will be participating in the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade in Nawade sports ground in Mayangon Township this morning.



Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa inspects the drills practised by members of the fire brigade. — MNA

The minister gave care of health, observing instructions on taking discipline, military capability and other administrative matters.—MNA

New line of diabetic medicine introduced

YANGON, 14 Feb — A ceremony to give demonstration on Lipicard (Micronised Fenofibrate 200mg), a medicine for diabetes, took place at the Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road yesterday evening. The medicine is a product of USV Ltd.

The ceremony attracted professors of General Hospitals in Yangon, associate professors, physicians, officials of USV Ltd, and guests.

On the occasion, Mr Sanjeev Kumar Gupat, Country Manager of USV



Prof Dr Saw Naing addresses the ceremony for the introduction of a new diabetic medicine.—MNA

Ltd, extended greetings before Dr Saw Naing, Professor of Yangon Gen-

eral Hospital, gave a speech. Endocrinologist Dr Rama Chandra G Naik of India gave a demonstration of the diabetic medicine. — MNA

Development tasks inspected in Taikkyi, Hmawby

YANGON, 14 Feb — Officer on Special Duty of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Thu, accompanied by Director of Engineering Department U Kyaw Myint and Deputy Superintending Engineer of Yangon Division Development Affairs Committee U Thein Hlaing inspected progress in building district-to-district roads in Taikkyi and Hmawby Townships in Yangon Division on 8 February.

After hearing reports presented by Executive Officer of Taikkyi Township DAC U Tin Win and Senior Engineer U Min Maung with the help of charts, Brig-Gen Kyaw Thu gave necessary instructions to

officials. Next, the Officer on Special Duty and party looked into earth work and paving the gravel road.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

Thaksin pledges to continue poverty elimination work

BANGKOK, 14 Feb— Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra pledged to go on with the poverty-eliminating work by implementing concrete measures in his new term, local newspaper reported on Sunday.

In his first radio address following last week's general election, Thaksin said that in April he would push for a 50-billion-baht supplementary budget earmarked for an integrated scheme for the poor.

"I will personally supervise the measures aimed at improving the livelihood of selected families in order to set an example of how to eradicate poverty," Thaksin was quoted by *The Nation* newspaper as saying in the radio address.

After the election, the Prime Minister said he has started to consult with the relevant agencies on poverty-eliminating and visited poor families to listen to their needs.

Thaksin said he would come up with

a consistent solution for the poor, enabling them to earn sufficient income to make a living.

During the past four years, Thaksin's government launched numerous projects aimed at improving living conditions of grass-root civilians.

Moreover, village foundations were set up to provide easy access to cash-needed farmers, banks offered low-zero-interest loans to consumers and hospitals charged only 30 baht (about 0.75 US dollars) with patients under the government social security systems.

"I am grateful for every vote, and I will work hard to fulfil my campaign pledges," said Thaksin.

MNA/Xinhua



A mother (R) holds onto her daughter as they walk between rows of tanks while shopping for pet fish in Beijing on 13 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

India's exports likely to exceed yearly target

NEW DELHI, 14 Feb— India's exports grew 26 per cent in the first 10 months of the financial year 2004-05 to 61 billion US dollars, looking to exceed the 16 per cent growth target for the year to reach 75 billion US dollars, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported Saturday.

Exports in January 2005 were estimated at 7 billion US dollars, PTI quoted an official release as saying here.

Commerce Minister Kamal Nath indicated that the country's merchandise exports would exceed the target of 16 per cent growth set for the year to reach a level of 75 billion US dollars.

The country was clearly heading towards doubling of its percentage share of world merchandise trade and increasing its exports to 150 billion US dollars by the year 2009, he said.

India's exports in 2003-2004 were estimated at 63.4 billion US dollars. — MNA/Xinhua



This handout photo shows a Kunqu performer dressed up in her costume prior to a performance in Beijing recently. Kunqu is China's oldest opera form and is known for its graceful acting movement and poetic lyrics, combining song, body movement and dance but lacks the martial arts acrobatics well-known in Peking opera. — INTERNET

Iran warns US not to play with fire

TEHERAN, 14 Feb— Iran warned the United States on Sunday not to attack its nuclear facilities and said talks with European nations might produce a deal to defuse the dispute over its alleged ambitions to build atomic weapons.

"They know our capabilities. We have clearly told the Europeans to tell the Americans not to play with fire," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi told a weekly news briefing, referring to Washington's refusal to rule out the use of force.

He said Iran was determined to continue its nuclear energy programme despite pressure from Washington, which accuses Teheran of pursuing atomic weapons and says it does not rule out any option to stop it acquiring them.

France, Britain and Germany, on behalf of the European Union, have been trying to persuade Iran to scrap potentially weapons-related activities in return for economic incentives.

Iran has said repeatedly it will not give up plans to build a heavy-water reactor, which can be used to make weapons-grade material, in exchange for a light-water reactor offered by the Europeans, which is less useful for a weapons programme.

MNA/Reuters

1,461 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 13 Feb—As of Sunday, 13 February 2005, at least 1,461 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,111 died as a result of hostile action, the Defence Department said. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is 11 higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EST Friday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,323 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,002 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—Internet

Indonesia to launch anti-mosquito campaign

JAKARTA, 14 Feb— To prevent further spread of the tropical disease dengue fever, which has already killed 120 people so far in this country, the Indonesian Government is scheduled to launch a massive mosquito eradication operation in the coming week.

According to the daily *Jakarta Post* on Saturday, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono made the decision and will lead the nationwide campaign after visiting a number of patients in a Jakarta hospital.

Minister of Health Siti Fadilah Supari said the campaign would initially be kicked off in Jakarta, which is seen as the mostly hit area in the current dengue outbreak, caused by *Aedes aegypti* mosquito.

Although some countries have succeeded in effectively controlling the disease, the main difficulty many other countries face is to mobilize masses to join in the government's efforts to clean their houses and environment by eradicating the mosquito, the carrier and spreader of the dengue virus.

Official data showed that as of Thursday, Indonesia's health authority has recorded a total of 5,064 cases and 120 deaths, as compared with 20,000 patients and 280 deaths in February last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Kyrgyz, Bulgarian Presidents congratulate China on Lunar New Year

BEIJING, 14 Feb— Leaders of Kyrgyzstan and Bulgaria have sent congratulatory messages to China on the traditional Chinese Lunar New Year.

Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev said in his message that relations between Kyrgyzstan and China have made big progress in recent years.

The Kyrgyz people thank China for its support and hopes bilateral relations will have further advance, Akayev said, wishing the Chinese people progress, prosperity and fortune in the New Year.

Bulgarian Prime Minister Simeon Borissov Saxe-Coburg-Gotha wished the Chinese Government and people greater success in their modernization drive.—MNA/Xinhua

HK made new records for investment, tourism in 2004

HONG KONG, 14 Feb—The year of 2004 was a record year for Hong Kong with all-time high figures in investment promotion, tourism, and passenger and cargo movements.

According to Mike Rowse, director-general at Invest Hong Kong, the government department tasked with attracting foreign investment activities to Hong Kong, assisted 205 foreign companies to set up or expand operations in Hong Kong in 2004, a surge of 44 per cent over 2003.

In the first three quarters of 2004, Hong Kong attracted more than 24.8 billion US dollars in foreign direct investment, about twice as much as the whole of 2003.

The number of regional headquarters and regional offices also reached all-time highs, demonstrating that the city remained the preferred base in Asia for foreign companies to oversee their regional operations.

As of 1 June, 2004, there were 1,098 companies that were regional headquarters and 2,511 companies that were regional offices in Hong Kong.

Rowse said the encouraging figures showed that investors still regard Hong Kong as the ideal location to operate their businesses in the region. "Hong Kong's fundamental advantages including the free flow of information and low tax regime remain major attractions for foreign companies."

He noted that Hong Kong retained its position as the world's freest economy for the 11th consecutive

year in the 2005 Index of Economic Freedom.

Rowse added that the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) between Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland was one of the main considerations among foreign firms when making an investment in the city.

Out of 205 projects completed in 2004, 22 per cent said CEPA was one of the reasons for their investments. At the same time, visitor arrivals in Hong Kong jumped 40 per cent in 2004 compared to 2003 to a higher-than-expected record of 21.8 million. Arrivals from the Mainland passed 10 million for the first time.

Hong Kong Tourism Board Executive Director Clara Chong said it was truly a record-breaking year. The tourism industry had scarcely looked back since the start of the year, with every month's arrivals setting a new high for that month.

Hong Kong's hotel occupancy rate reached 91 per cent in December and 88 per cent for the whole of 2004, the highest since 1996.

Hong Kong Tourism Board also recorded double digit year-on-year growth in all of its long and short haul region markets including such key markets as the United States, Canada, Australia and Singapore.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်များအား ခေတ်တော်ကျော်ညွှား

More Beijingers donate blood voluntarily in holiday season

BELING, 14 Feb— A pair of anonymous lovers donated blood voluntarily at the ongoing Longtan temple fair on Sunday in China's capital to celebrate the upcoming Valentine's Day.

The blood centre under the municipal Red Cross Society called for more lovers to spend the romantic day by donating blood, so as to meet the clinical blood demand here in Beijing. And on the special day for lovers, the centre will prepare a small gift and a rose for each blood donor.

At the threshold of the Chinese Lunar New Year that fell on 9 February, the centre had only 1,000 units (one unit equals to 200 cubic centimetres) of blood in store, or one fifth of the normal standard of 5,000 units, sources with the centre said.

To satisfy its pressing needs, the blood centre has dispatched blood collection vehicles to seven temple fairs, including Longtan, the Temple of Earth and Chaoyang Park, and to the Beijing Railway Station as well as major downtown shopping malls, according to the sources. The centre has also invited 14 volunteers to explain basic knowledge about blood donation aboard every blood collection vehicle at the temple fairs and malls, the sources added.— MNA/Xinhua

China shut down 12,575 illegally-run Internet bars in 2004

BELING, 14 Feb — The government has been working hard to create a safer environment for young people in China by shutting down illegally operated businesses in 2004.

The government closed 12,575 Internet bars, 2,861 dance clubs, 3,434 video halls and 131,481 snack counters.

From October to December in 2004, eight ministries including Ministry of Education, Ministry of Public Security and Ministry of Justice, launched a nationwide campaign to close these illegal businesses, which were mainly located nearby primary schools and middle schools.

According to the ministries, Chinese parents had complained that the businesses had "severely affected students' cultural lives".

During the time, public security organs at all levels also cracked 5,926 criminal cases relating to the safety of students and teachers and made more than 200,000 arrests. — MNA/Xinhua

Four US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Feb— Three US soldiers died in a traffic accident and one US soldier was killed in combat on Sunday in Iraq, the military said.

According to a statement, the three soldiers from Task Force Danger were on a combat patrol early Sunday morning near the town of Balad, 80 km north of Baghdad.

The accident occurred when their military vehicle rolled into a canal, it added.

Internet



Engine assembly : A journalist looks at a CFM56-7 jet engine fan blade assembly on display at the Aero India 2005 airshow at the Yelahanka Air Force Station on the outskirts of Bangalore recently. — INTERNET

Iraqi official says US troops to withdraw from Ramadi

RAMADI (Iraq), 14 Feb— US forces will withdraw from the city of Ramadi in the restive Anbar Province to pave the way for Iraqi security forces to take up responsibility in the country, an official said Sunday.

"The US forces informed the governor of Anbar of the withdrawal, which will take place in the middle of this month," the official, who declined to be named, told Xinhua. "They will withdraw to two main bases outside the city," he said, adding the Iraqi Army and police will be responsible for the security in the city.

US troops have begun to hand over the security control in parts of Baghdad, including the flashpoint Haifa Street, to Iraqi forces, according to local reports.

MNA/Xinhua

Annan says hard for UN to mount Iraq peacekeeping
MUNICH, 13 Feb—United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Sunday it would be hard for UN peacekeepers to replace US-led troops in Iraq, saying the world body could make other contributions to postwar stability.

Asked if security operations in Iraq could eventually be transferred to the UN's blue-helmeted peacekeepers, Annan said this posed a "real problem." "Will the UN get the right troops, and the troops they need to go to Iraq to do the right amount of work?" he told a security conference in Munich, Germany.

"You've had a very robust presence. If it is going to be followed by a weak, ill-equipped force, it brings its own problems. But of course if the (Security) Council, in its wisdom, were to decide that we go this route, obviously we would have to consider."

Internet



Iraqi men look at a soldier of the Kilo Company 3rd Battalion Fourth Marines patrolling in downtown Fallujah, 50 kms west of Baghdad on 14 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

Minister, Commander inspect Patheingyi Airport

YANGON, 14 Feb—Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, accompanied by Managing Director of Inland Water Transport U Soe Tint and officials, inspected measures taken for bank erosion at the Maubin Bridge in Maubin, Ayeyawady Division, where officials of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems reported on measures taken for prevention of bank erosion and work to be carried out and Director U Hla Myint Thein on changes of waterways and construction of retaining wall.

In response to the reports, the minister gave instructions on proper flow of water and systematic construction of the retaining wall.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Patheingyi Airport Construction Project in Patheingyi, the minister and Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing heard a report presented by officials concerned on earth work, construction of drains and runways, and fencing.

The minister gave instructions on sooner completion of the work in accord with the guidance of the Head of State.

Next, the commander and the minister inspected earth work being carried out there.

At the briefing hall of Patheingyi Bridge Construction Project site, an official of Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems reported on construction of retaining wall, driving of pile piles and conditions of current to the commander who attended to the needs.

Afterwards, the minister and party proceeded to the office of IWT and heard a report on repair of vessels, strength of staff, condition of Yangon-Patheingyi passenger services, transport of cargo and passengers and others and gave instructions.

Next, the minister and party looked into work being carried out for durability of Bo Myat Tun bridge, driving of pile piles and clearing of waterways and gave instructions to officials.—MNA

Ceremony to honour Union Day and to support National Convention held in Kunlong

YANGON, 14 Feb — A ceremony to honour the Union Day and to support the National Convention was held in the compound of Holi village Basic Education Middle School, Kunlong District, Shan State (North) on 10 February.

Present on the occasion were Executive of Shan State (North) Union Solidarity and Development Association U Than Tun Lin and executives, Secretary of Kunlong District USDA U Tun Yin and executives, secretaries and executives of townships and wards in the district, members of War Veterans Organization, National Races Cultural Troupe, Women's Affairs, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society and Auxiliary Fire Brigade and local people numbering over 3,000.

During the ceremony, Secretary of Kunlong District USDA U Tun Yin presided over the meeting and Secretary of Kunlong Township WVO U Ni Toak

together with Executive of Kunlong Township USDA acted as MC and Organizer of Kunlong Township USDA Daw Tin Tin Lwan, co-MC.

After those in attendance had saluted the State Flag, Secretary of Kunlong District USDA U Tun Yin delivered an address on the occasion. Secretary of Kunlong District USDA U Khin Hsaung presented reports on honouring the Union Day, National Convention Delegate Dr Myo Tun on supporting the National Convention and Executive of Kunlong District USDA U Maung Sein on rural development affairs.

Next, Executive of Kunlong District USDA Daw Than Than seconded the motions on honouring the Union Day and supporting the National Convention and rural development affairs.

After the meeting chairman had sought approvals of the those present, the meeting ended with chanting of slogans. —MNA

Poem Omen of the Union

Honouring the 58th Anniversary Union Day:

- * East, West, South and North
Up, down, left and right, moving back and forth
The length and breadth of the Myanmar nation
Wherever you travel
You witness abundance of food supplies
As if scattered with gold and silver
Prominently bright emerald fields
Fascinating fisheries, broad rivers
The oceanic waves which form a silver dress
Whenever I see them, I proclaim
"This is our nation, this is our land
The true heritage of our ancestors."
- * Our land is where nationals
Find abode with equanimity
In various districts there's variegated beauty
Shadow of flower bushes is like the waxing moon
The many traditions and cultures
Are both tender, dainty and colourful
Also grand, yet simple and courteous
If you see the varied traditions
You'd like to perform and participate
With bravery, first, I'd proclaim
"This is our race, we lose no glory
In amity for a long period."
- * O,
For perpetuation of our land, our race
The true brethren of our land
Hands held helpfully, firmly
Reverberating bravery, resounding tenacity
What needs to be safeguarded and protected
The pride of Myanmar, the pride of place
Myanmar's pride, pride of roots
Always believe in internal strength
Omen of the Union.

Soe Moe (Patheingyi)(Trs)



National Convention delegates of Sagaing Division and Chin State being welcomed at the airport. (News on page 16) — MNA



National Convention delegates of Rakhine State being welcomed at the airport. (News on page 16) — MNA

Union Day delegates tour downtown Yangon

YANGON, 14 Feb — Union Day delegates from states and divisions and members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association led by Secretary of Reception Subcommittee for Observing the 58th Anniversary Union Day Commander of No 1 Transit Centre, dividing themselves into two groups, went on an excursion tour of downtown Yangon this morning.

They went to Myanmar Radio and Television to tape documentary film, Yuzana Plaza and Bogyoke Aung San Market. After the tour, they went back to their hostels. — MNA



MWEA Adviser Daw Yi Yi Myint and Daw Khin Aye Win present K 500,000 donated for Daw Nanacari Myanaung Nunnary. — MNA

K 1.5m for Buddhist monastery in Paris

YANGON, 14 Feb — Myanmar Women's Entrepreneurs Association members presented K 1 million to build a Theravada Buddhist monastery in Paris, France, to mark the association's 10th founding anniversary.

Chairperson of the MWEA Thirithudamma Theingi Daw Khin Myint Myint handed over the cash to chairman of the monastery building committee U Shein Win at association here today. A total of K 500,000 was also donated to Daw Nanacari Thameindawdara Yama Nunnary. — MNA

Union Day Exhibition continues

YANGON, 14 Feb — The 58th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition continued for the seventh day today at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road here. It attracted more than 4700 people including monks, teachers and students. At the exhibition, five high schools of Yangon Division competed in a quiz on English language skills conducted by Soft Guide Computer Co, and BEHS No 2, Kamayut township, won the first prize. The exhibition continues till 16 February. — MNA

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To work in concert with the people to achieve success in implementation of the seven-point Road Map for emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation
- To exert energetic efforts in carrying out the five rural development tasks
- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the twelve State Objectives while upholding Our Three Main National Causes
- To build a strong, efficient and modern Tatmadaw



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win cordially greets UN Secretary-General's Special Adviser Dr Nafis Sadik at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta. (News on page 1)— MNA

Minister inspects irrigation facilities in Bago...

(from page 1)

progress of the work site, which is now nearing completion.

Lagunpyin Dam can hold 148,800 acre-feet of

water to the brim. Now, it has stored 110,000 acre-feet of water. Next, the minister arrived at Aline Ni Dam in Bago Township, where he met with farmers, peasants and departmental officials and gave instructions on the undertaking of double cropping and the setup of rubber plantations.

Later, the minister went to the rubber research and nurseries farm undertaken by the Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise near Zayatkwinn village, Hlegu Township. At the farm, the minister inspected grafted rubber nurseries and gave instructions on the distribution of quality strains to rubber growers. —MNA



NCC Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Tin Htut inspects preparatory measures made at the hospital opened for the provision of health care for the delegates. (News on page 16)— MNA



NCC Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Tin Htut inspects preparatory measures taken at the staff mess hall at Nyaungnmapin Camp. (News on page 16) — MNA

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

YANGON, 4 Feb — Hkamti District Union Solidarity and Development Association held a mass rally to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention at Hsinthe Village in Hkamti Township, Hkamti District, Sagaing Division, on 9 February morning.

Present on the occasion were secretaries and members of USDA from the district, townships and villages, members of War Veterans Organizations, Women Affairs's Committee, Maternal Child Welfare Associations, Red Cross and Fire Brigade and local people numbering over 3,600.

Secretary of Hkamti District USDA U Aung Chit Lwin presided

over the meeting.

First, those present saluted the State Flag.

Next, the meeting chairman made an opening speech. Afterwards, Shan National U Sai Ohn Lwin of Hkamti Township pre-

sented a report on honouring the Union Day, Naga national Daw Win Win Tin of Hkamti Township on supporting the National Convention and Secretary of Homalin Township USDA U Chit Ngwe on

the rural development tasks in Hkamti District and future tasks. Next, the meeting chairman sought the approval of the participants, after which the rally ended with the chanting of the slogans.— MNA



Laukkai hails Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 14 Feb — A rally hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention at Hsiaw village, Laukkai Township, Laukkai District, northern Shan State on 10 February.

Meeting Chairman Laukkai District USDA Secretary U Maung Maung Tun gave a speech.

Laukkai Township USDA organizer Daw Nang Hkam Kya tabled a motion hailing the Union Day, Tarshwekyaw Village USDA Organizer U Aik Pan in support of the National Convention, and Laukkai Township USDA Executive Daw Nang Nwan Hkam in support of the rural development tasks.

Kongyan Township USDA Executive Daw Nang Myint Myint Htay seconded the three motions.

The members of the USDA, War Veterans Organizations, cultural troupes, organizations for Women's Affairs, Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, Red Cross brigades and local people over 2,000 unanimously hailed the Union Day, and supported the National Convention and the rural development tasks.

The meeting concluded with chanting of slogans.—MNA

The mass rally to honour the Union Day and to hail the National Convention in progress at Hkamti District. — MNA

National Convention laying foundation of democratic nation

Aung Moe San

The National Convention that is going to resume on 17 February will lay a foundation for the building of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

After regaining independence, Myanmar had practised two State Constitutions (1947 State Constitution and 1974 State Constitution) or two types of political systems. These constitutions were in no position to transform Myanmar into a modern developed democratic nation that could stand tall among the international community, so the time has come to formulate a new State Constitution to introduce democracy in the nation. The ongoing National Convention will see to that huge task.

That is why the Tatmadaw government is holding the National Convention to build a democratic nation through the market-oriented economic system for enabling the country to change the old systems into new ones. Now is therefore the most opportune time for the National Convention delegates representing the entire nation and people to do their utmost to carry out the tasks in unison with a sense of duty for emergence of a permanent State constitution that is in conformity with the human society of the nation, after conducting a thorough and objective review of the strengths and weaknesses of the previous constitutions.

A careful study of the two constitutions or the two types of political systems will reveal that the 1947 Constitution was just like a copy of the Western European democracy and was overwhelmed by deep-seated rightists views, leading to undesirable negative impact rather than fruitful results on the nation. The people have taken lessons from these evil consequences through personal experience or study.

And being based on the old leftists' socialism, the 1974 Constitution resulted in the 1988 anarchy-filled disturbances following the economic crisis faced by the entire nation.

Taking lessons from such events, the Tatmadaw Government is making earnest endeavours to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation through the 12 State objectives. In the process, top priority has been given to restoration of peace and stability, national reconsolidation, strengthening and modernizing productive forces, and raising the living standard of the people because the government has been well convinced that democracy cannot flourish in a country where the economy is on the decline. However, certain groups who want to directly copy the Western democracy and the elements who hold on

to the 1990 election results constantly resort to all possible ways and means to deter the government from carrying out the nation-building undertakings. Besides, certain powers are interfering in the internal affairs and imposing economic sanctions and pressure on the nation.

The practising of multi-party democracy in the post-independence period was the most apparent living proof that it was totally impossible for the nation to copy the western democracy directly. Some eastern European countries that tried to introduce western democracy got into troubles alongside bloody conflicts. It is a most valuable lesson to be taken from the crises and adversities being faced by Iraq and Afghanistan due to the fact that together with its allies, the US deeming itself to be the saviour for human rights and democracy has invaded the countries and is interfering in their internal affairs.

With respect to the adherence to the 1990 election results, it was an election merely for the fram-

The practising of multi-party democracy in the post-independence period was the most apparent living proof that it was totally impossible for the nation to copy the western democracy directly. Some eastern European countries that tried to introduce western democracy got into troubles alongside bloody conflicts.

ing of a State constitution for which the nation was desperate. The party that won a majority in the election was persistently making a demand for immediate hand over of State power and forming of an interim government, culminating in such a long delay for the emergence of the State Constitution.

Then, the government together with the delegates representing the people from all walks of life including all political parties convened the National Convention in 1993 in compliance with one of the four political objectives for the emergence of an enduring State Constitution. Yet, in 1995 when Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was lifted from the political restrictions, all the delegates of the National League for Democracy walked out of the National Convention which continued till its adjournment in 1996.

Holding fast to the State's seven-point Road Map adopted in 2003, the government resumed the National Convention with the delegates representing the

people from all strata of life on 17 May 2004. The first phase of the first step of the Road Map was completed, and the National Convention will resume on 17 February 2005. It depicts the government's step-by-step implementation of the political programmes for the building of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

To ensure proper emergence a discipline-flourishing democracy in accordance with the seven points is the very concern as well as the bounden duty of the entire national people. In such a time, political demands and dogmatism are causing a great hindrance to the development of the human society. So it is needed to employ modern methods effectively according to the prevailing situations and conditions in transforming the nation into a discipline-flourishing one in accord with the seven-point political programme.

The International Herald Tribune newspaper once carried a speech of Former Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohammed. It said that to follow and assess the advice and suggestions of the international community may bring benefits to a country, but no matter how wisemen gave advice and made sincere suggestions, they were to be in conformity with the prevailing situations of the country concerned.

It went on quoting Mahathir as saying that China was being forced to practise the systems and norms that benefited another nation and people. These systems and norms might bring remarkable progress to a nation, but as for China, it would not gain benefits through them.

So, Chinese leaders and intellectuals should choose the appropriate policy that was in conformity with the nation, he added. China has dismissed the policy of directly copying of the western democracy, which is in compliance with the wishes of the US and its allies, but managed, instead, to introduce the market-oriented economic system in the nation. Therefore, the nation is making miracle economy. Thanks to the correct reforms, China has been able to avert the adverse consequences like the complete collapse of Soviet Union.

In a word, it is incumbent upon the entire national people to make harmonious and combined efforts to contribute towards the National Convention that will resume soon in line with the seven-point Road Map for laying a foundation of a democratic nation suitable for the Myanmar society.

(Translation: MS)



The mass rally to honour Union Day and support the National Convention in progress at Laukkai District, Shan State (North) (News on page 16).— MNA



The 58th Anniversary Union Day Commemorative Exhibition at the Tatmadaw Convention Centre attracts teachers and students. — MNA

Hundred fruits from a common stem—Our Union



There is a saying, which goes, "Time and tide waits for no man." And another proverb says, "No opportunity comes twice to cross a river". The proverbs symbolize the changing situation in this world.

Ayeyawady River is flowing quietly and constantly day and night till reaching its destination, which is the sea.

The Ayeyawady rises in Kachin State in the north of Myanmar. It meets with Chindwin River in Sagaing Division. It also merges with a number of rivers and creeks which originate in

the mountains of Chin and Rakhine states. The mighty river has many tributaries that rise in the Shan and Kayah states in the east. It passes through Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady divisions and drains into the sea into which other rivers and creeks flowing from Yangon Division, Mon and Kayin states and Taninthayi Division also empty.

At the meeting on 2/2004 of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races held on 30 December 2004, Head of State Senior General Than

Honouring 58th Anniversary Union Day:

Ayeyawady Division marching to new golden land of unity and amity

Thiha Aung

Shwe gave guidance, saying, "It is a common knowledge that the Central Committee was founded with lofty aims. The Government has held negotiations with the armed groups to come back to the legal fold, so that it will cooperate with nationalities of border areas for national development, peace and stability.

"It has built mutual

Table C

Forest conservation

* square miles
* tree (million)

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Reserved forest*	2781	2781	-
Protected public forest*	1.34	53.12	52.78
Setting up of forest (acre)	7200	132610	125410
- acres of mangrove plantation	4450	39546	35096
- acres of teak plantation	-	14000	14000
- acres of commercial plantation	1800	32839	31039
- acres of village plantation	950	40085	39135
- acres of industrial plantation	-	10600	10600
- acres of Thitseint plantation	-	2250	2250
Tree planting community movement*	0.31	17.13	16.82

Table B

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Extended livestock breeding			
- buffello	297000	321000	24000
- cow	1119000	1190000	71000
- goat/sheep	31000	64000	33000
- pig	606000	843000	237000
- chicken	5460000	9237000	3777000
- duck	1789000	2374000	585000
- turkey, goose, muscovy duck	312000	358000	46000
Extended acres of fish and prawn breeding			
- acres of fish farming	978.97	84796.48	83817.51
- paddy plus fish	-	8230	8230
- number (1=100000)	-	14.15	14.15
- prawn breeding area	-	40157.98	40157.98
- fingerling production			
- production (1=100000)	6.41	791.16	784.75
- fish release(1=100000)	0.48	496.10	495.62
- sales(1=100000)	5.93	295.06	289.13
fish released into Ayeyawady river (1-100000)	-	48.50	48.50

trust with the groups, while striving to develop the border areas, to free the people of the areas from backwardness, and to improve the social standard of the national races for flourishing of the con-

solidated Union.

"Thanks to the formation of the respective committees, with firm ob-

jectives, the task is achieving success leading to promoting mutual understanding and amity among

the national people, and ensuring peace and stability in the border areas, and laying down sound foundations for regional development. The Committee has laid sound transport, health, education and economic foundations to raise the living standard of the locals.

"The task for progress of border areas must be accelerated in the regions where a development drive is needed, without losing sight of the project's objective of narrowing the gap between one region and another in the whole nation.

Greater efforts should be made to develop the health, education, transport and

(see page 10)

Table A

Per-acre yield— basket Gross production— basket (thousand)

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Land resource			
- sown acreage	4221126	4415592	194466
- acres of vacant & virgin land	629692	181103	cultivable land
Irrigation			
- dam, lake, reservoir, canal	72	82	10
- completed works	72	79	7
- works under implementation	-	3	3
- river water pumping tasks			
- completed works	-	35	35
- tasks under implementation	-	23	23
- tasks to be carried out	-	6	6
- damming creeks	-	6	6
- Total benefited area	-	726	726
Thriving double crops	1594508	2333817	739309
Extended paddy cultivation	571823	2322845	1751022
- acres of monsoon paddy	3132553	3508291	375738
- per acre yield*	62.80	72.46	9.66
- acres of summer paddy	-	1421860	1421860
- per acre yield*	-	88.12	88.12
- gross production	188196	370494	182298
- food sufficiency	-	296%	296%
beans and pulses (acre)	306018	1407104	1101086
cotton	-	675	675
sugarcane	-	304	304
jute	-	51959	-
maize	13024	70064	57040
rubber	92	2310	2218
pepper	-	3057	3057
acres of edible oil crops	-	-	-
- (groundnut, sesame, sunflower, niger)	-	384463	-

*** dams under construction**

1. Kunchaung 20000 acre (Kyangin)
2. Ma Mya 10000 acre (Myanaung)
3. Kanyin 25000 acre (Ingabu)

Table D

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Railways			
- miles	147.00	147.00	-
- miles of railroad	191.70	191.70	-
- passenger	2299500	2451800	152300
- miles of passenger transport	179002.1	183877.9	4875.8
- tons of cargo	61300	92200	30900
- miles cargo transport	3246.0	6190.8	2944.8
- stations	41	42	1
Airports			
- above 5000 ft runway	-	1	1
- under 5000 ft runway	1	-	upgraded
Motor road (mile)	440/0	1332/2	892/2
- tarred road	193/0	504/6	311/6
- gravel road	60/0	441/5	381/5
- hard road	144/0	174/2	30/2
- earth road	43/0	211/5	168/5
Bridge			
- above 180 feet long			
- completed bridge*	11	60	49
- bridge under construction*	11	51	40
- bridge to be built*	-	6	6
- bridge to be built*	-	3	3
- below 180 feet long	87	219	132

***Completed 14 bridges of special project**

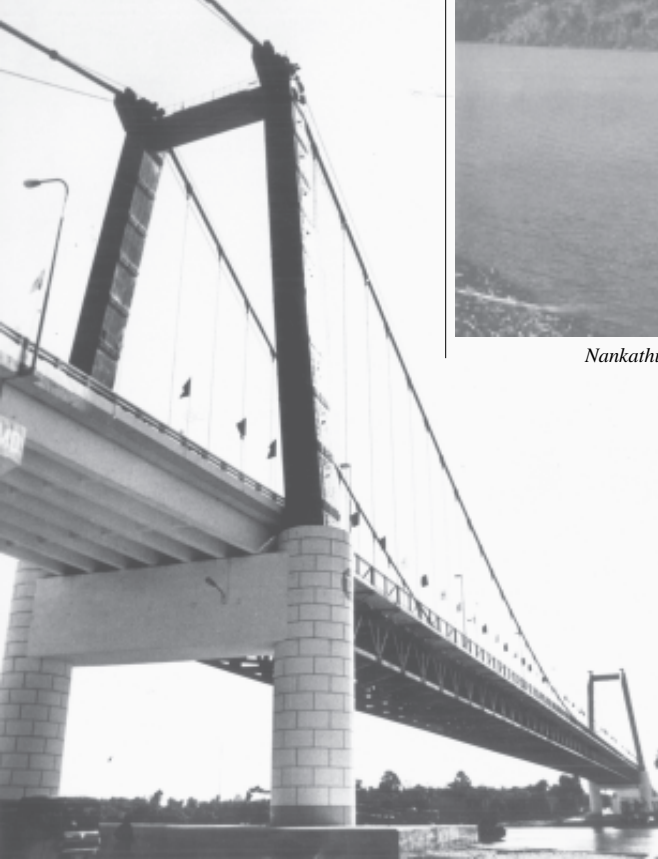
1. Khattiya Bridge (Maubin)
2. Dadalu Bridge (Pyapon)
3. Hseikma Bridge (Bogalay)
4. Natchaung Bridge (Bogalay)
5. Myaungmya Bridge (Myaungmya)
6. Maubin Bridge (Maubin)
7. Bo Myat Tun Bridge (Nyaungdon)
8. Labutta (Pinlelay) Bridge
9. Gonnyindan Bridge (Kyaiklatt)
10. Pantanaw Bridge (Pantanaw)
11. Daka Bridge (Kangyidaunt)
12. Wakema Bridge (Wakema)
13. Shwelaung Bridge (Shwelaung)
14. Pathein Bridge (Pathein)

*** Six bridges under construction**

1. Pyapon Bridge (Pyapon)
 2. Myinkaseik Bridge (Myaungmya)
 3. Mayangu Bridge (Myaungmya)
 4. Maung Biwa Bridge (Pathein)
 5. Kyaukchaunggyi Bridge (Pathein)
 6. Ngawun Bridge (Myogwin) (Ingapu)
- *Three bridges to be built**
1. Kyungon Bridge (Einme)
 2. Kyunpyathad Bridge (Mawlamyinegyun)
 3. Yazudaing Bridge (Maubin)



Development in Ayeyawady Division after 1988



Nankathu Dam in Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Division. — MYANMA ALIN

Honouring the 58th Anniversary Union Day

With the length of 2140 feet, Patheingyi Bridge is spanning Ngazun river in Patheingyi Township, Ayeyawady Division.

MYANMA ALIN



The 200-ton Pulp Factory Project (Thabaung) in Thabaung Township, Ayeyawady Division. MYANMA ALIN

The main building of Government Technological College in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Division. MYANMA ALIN



Ayeyawady Division marching to...

(from page 8)
economic sectors of the regions which lag behind in development to a certain degree. The progress in border areas will help the development drive reach the whole nation and further unify all the nationalities.

"Only if we can obtain constant progress phase by phase annually, will we be able to develop the whole nation and bring the nationalities closer as a unified strength.

"We will have to make harmonious efforts greater the following day than today in launching the border areas development drive for the nation's long-term interest, and further cementing the national solidarity."

The Tatmadaw Government is in the process of building the consolidated Union, and a peaceful, modern and developed nation without fail.

"There will be greater development tomorrow, and the development must continue throughout the future generations. The development drive must reach all the regions of the Union. There must be solidarity among the nationalities." And with those convictions, the Government has been striving to develop the entire nation including the Ayeyawady Division. Now, I will present the developments of the division.

Ayeyawady Division

Ayeyawady Division is located in the south-western part of the central plains of Myanmar. The 13,567 square-mile division is sharing a common land border with Bago Division in the east and north, Yangon Division

in the east, and Rakhine State in the north-east and touching the Bay of Bengal in the west and Andaman Sea in the south. The majority of its people are Bamar, Kayin and Rakhine races. Its population is 7,511,000 and its population density is 554 persons per square mile.

On the west stretch the Rakhine Yoma ranges forming a thin coastal strip of land facing the sea. As the division is a delta, it's land surface is flat and criss-crossed by numerous rivers and creeks. It has also a number of lakes. Of the rivers that branching out from the mighty Ayeyawady, Ngawun, Patheingyi and Toe are famous.

Table F

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
electricity consumption	100.114	170.798	70.684
maximum load*	12.500	45.448	32.948
Other plants			
- natural gas power plant	2	1	transfer
- diesel power plant	80	12	national grid
- present capacity of generator*	91.777	37.168	national grid

Agriculture

As it is a delta region and its soil is fertile, Ayeyawady Division is a reliable region for the nation in terms of economy. Production volume of its agricultural and fish and meat industries is large. The division is renowned as the rice bowl of Myanmar. But in the past successive eras, the division had not achieved progress as much as it deserved.

During his visit to the division on 14 November 2004, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said, "Human society never stops advancing at a place. We must always make efforts for its development. As the nation's

population is growing annually, it will have 100 million people in the next 30 years or so. From now on, we must systematically extend sown acreage and raise the per acre yield to ensure sufficient food for the growing population in the future.

"We will never let our new generations face anxiety rising from food insufficiency when we are no more. Thus, we will have to do what we should do for the future generations.

"In addition to the agricultural and fish and meat sectors, we will also strive to develop the industrial sector of the division. The division has bright prospects to further develop the agro-based industries, wood-based industries, and aqua-based

industries. "As the Government has used a large amount of financial power to build roads and bridges in the division, it can now facilitate its transport and is achieving sustainable development. As the government on its part has already rendered necessary assistance for Ayeyawady Division, it should develop itself more by effectively utilizing the rich land, water and forest resources. The division has an adequate number of human resources that can add value to the natural resources. What the division needs is innovative efforts."

If Ayeyawady Division serves the nation only

*1000 persons

Table E

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
post office	124	142	18
telegraph office	31	42	11
facsimile	1	66	65
computer telegraph	-	5	5
telephone service			
- telephone office	31	92	61
- number of line	4795	20184	15389
- exchange	31	66	35
- direct line	4389	18404	14015
- auto/carrier telephone	4389	17592	13203
- auto radio telephone	-	812	812
- telephone density*	0.78	2.49	1.71
microwave station	10	19	9
rural telephone exchange	-	26	26
e-mail, Internet	-	3	3
Local satellite station			
- VSAT	-	1	1
overseas underwater cable channel	-	1	1

Implementation of auto-telephone lines extension

	1988	12-2-05	Progress
1. Bogalay	500	700	Auto exchange project
2. Ngwehsaung	500	700	1. Nyaungdon
3. Chaungtha	500	700	2. Pantanaw
			3. Kyaunggon
			4. Wakema
			5. Mawlamyinegyun
			700
			6. Labutta
			600

Table H

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
- Industrial Zones	-	3	3
- works	-	1251	1251
- private industries	2008	6257	4249
- cottage industries	-	453	453
State-owned industries	59	64	5

Table G

Subject	1988	12.2.05	Progress
oil field (inland)	5	3	mission complete
oil field (offshore)	-	1	1
gas pipeline (mile)	46.51	323.03	276.52
crude oil production (barrel)	-	500378	500378
gas production (cubic feet) (million)	-	260974.22	260974.22

as a rice bowl, the nation will not advance. It should strive to increase its production volume many times. Only then will the local people enjoy prosperity and progress. The Government has added value to the natural re-

power consumption-million

*megawatt

sources of the division. The Government has reclaimed wet lands and inundated areas, and built dams for irrigation and sluice gates to store water the whole year.

It has built Panhlaing and Mezali sluices gates, each with 20,000-acre irrigation capacity, in Nyaungdon Township, Nankathu Dam, with 14,000-acre ir-

Table I

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Basic education			
- number of schools	5198	6324	1135
- BEHS	79	257	178
- BEMS	227	432	205
- Post-Primary	-	427	427
- BEPS	4883	5208	325
- multimedia classroom	-	182	182
- number of teachers	21944	27339	5395
- number of students	675424	1025254	349830
- pre-primary			
- number of school	-	36	36
- children	-	785	785
- teacher education			
- education college	3	3	upgraded
- teacher	138	121	(-17)
- trainee	1103	5819	4716
- KG enrolment	70.52%	97.78%	27.26%
- adult literacy rate	91.07%	98.90%	7.83%
School dropout rate			
- primary school level	46.88%	16.58%	30.30%
- middle school level	40.56%	13.63%	26.95%
Uplift of higher education			
- university/college/degree college	2	6	4
- professional institutes*	-	-	-
- arts & science university	-	3	3
- degree college	1	-	upgraded
- college	1	3	2
- Wide Area Network			
- No of WAN Sites	-	7	7
- academic programmes	8	62	54
- number of teachers	227	642	365
- number of students	4920	66993	62073
- Human resource development centre	-	3	3
- e-Learning centre	-	65	65

irrigation capacity, in Ingapu Township, Wadaw and Htani sluice gates, each with 15,000-acre irrigation capacity, in Maubin Township. A total of 23 waterworks have been built in the division to irrigate crops with river water.

Thanks to the assistance of the Government, Ayeyawady Division has increased over 200,000 acres of new cultivation fields. The division can now grow 3.5 million acres of monsoon paddy and 1.4 million acres of summer paddy.

The sown acreage of the division is 29 per cent of the total sown acreage of the nation. The division produces 370 million baskets of paddy annually. The 20,000-acres irrigation capacity Kunchaung Dam in Kyangin Township, the 10,000 acre irrigation capacity Mamy Dam in Myanaung Township, and the 25,000-acre irrigation capacity Kanyin Dam in

Ingapu Township are under construction at present. Thus, the division's annual paddy output will reach 400 million baskets in the near future. Hence, it is going to contribute one-third of the 1,200 million baskets, the nation's target.

Table A shows the development of the agricultural sector of Ayeyawady Division.

Livestock and fishery

The Ayeyawady Division is making significant progress in the livestock and fishery sector. The region has a lot of rivers, creeks and lakes and there are fish and prawn in abundance in the region. The government has upgraded the region's fish and prawn sector. Table B shows progress of the region's livestock and fishery sector.

Forest conservation

Ayeyawady Division is a delta adjacent to the Sea. It is conserving and protecting mangrove forests for maintenance of

Ayeyawady Division marching to...

(from page 10)
 The rivers and creeks. Table C indicates local people's active participation in the tasks for forest conservation.

Transport

Before 1988, there were no bridges across Ayeyawady River in the region. Due to many rivers and creeks, there was poor transport in the past. To make the matter worse, the British colonialists did

gion. Now, people can travel from Yangon to Pathein in comfort and ease. In 1988, there were roads with a total length of only 440 miles. Now the length of the roads in the region has increased to nearly 900 miles. On completion of the Pyapon Bridge Project and the Myinkaseik Bridge Project, local people can travel by car from one place to another in the re-

watts 15 years ago. Plans are being implemented in accord with the guidance of the Head of State to increase generation capacity to generate 2,000 more megawatts based on the nation's rich water resources. In accord with the head of State's guidance, the nation is implementing the 30-year power project and five-year short-term projects. The projects cover the 79-megawatt Yeywa Hydel Power

Table J

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
- Government Technological College (Hinthada)	-	1	1
- course numbers	4	5	1
- Government Technological College (Pathein)	-	1	1
- course number	-	10	10
- Government Technological College (Maubin)	-	1	1
- course number	-	7	7
- teacher	47	345	298
- students (graduate)	274	7837	7564
- present students	-	3947	3947
Government Computer College(Hinthada)	-	1	1
- course number	-	6	6
Government Computer College(Maubin)	-	1	1
- course number	-	6	6
Government Computer College(Pathein)	-	1	1
- course number	-	6	6
- number of teacher	-	63	63
- students (graduate)	-	211	211
- present students	-	958	958
- Government Technical Institute (Wakema)	-	1	1
- course number	-	3	3
- number of teacher	-	50	50
- students (graduate)	-	800	800
- present students	-	572	572
- Government Technical Highschool (Pathein)	-	1	1

not pay any attention to construction of roads.

The Tatmadaw members always made reviews of their experiences wherever they shouldered duties of national defence across the nation. Even local people did not notice all the requirements of respective regions, but Tatmadaw members did.

The government has implemented water supply projects where water is scarce. And it has restored peace and stability wherever there was lack of peace.

In consequence of its endeavours, Ayeyawady Division has enjoyed fruitful results of better transport. So far, it has constructed 40 bridges in the region including Pathein Bridge put into commission on 22-11-2004. There have emerged large bridges such as Ngawun river crossing Ngathaingchaung Bridge, Myaungmya Bridge, Labutta Bridge, Maubin Bridge, Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Gonnhindan Bridge, Shwelaung Bridge, Wakema Bridge, Dedaye Bridge, and Dahka Bridge in the re-

gion in a few hours. Table D reflects progress of the transport sector of Ayeyawady Division.

Communications

The communication network of the nation has covered even the rural areas at present. Table E indicates the development of communication sector in the division.

Electricity

The power consumption in the division in 1988 was 100.114 million units. The present consumption is over 170.114 million units. Thanks to the national grid, more power can be distributed to regions with greater consumption power.

All the sectors of the nation are developing rapidly because of the adoption of the market-oriented economy. More farm machinery are being used at modern farms. The number of private and State-owned industries is increasing. More towns have emerged and the living standard is rising. Thus, electricity consumption of the nation is increasing roughly at 15 per cent annually. Yangon consumes 450 megawatts, up from about 130 mega-

Table K

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
upgrading of hospital	65	75	10
- 200-bed	1	3	2
- 100-bed	4	2	upgraded
- 50-bed	5	7	2
- 25-bed	5	4	upgraded
- 16-bed	10	10	-
- station/ sub-township hospital	40	49	9
health units	236	247	11
- rural health unit	185	195	10
- maternal and child care unit	43	43	-
- regional health unit	2	3	1
- school health team	6	6	-
Health employee	1991	3184	1194
- doctors (specialist/assistant)	245	465	220
- nurses	275	762	487
- health staff	188	200	12
- midwives	1009	1297	288
- skilled staff	22	37	15
- township health in-charge	-	10	10
- health assistant-1	-	26	26
- health assistant	149	187	38
- supervisor (1)/(2)	102	200	98
traditional medicine			
- traditional medicine hospital	-	1	1
- traditional medicine dispensary	8	32	24
Training schools			
- nursing training school	1	2	1
- midwifery school	1	1	-

Project, the 280-megawatt Puanlaung Hydel Power Project, the 60-megawatt Kunchaung Hydel Power Project, the 30-megawatt Khaboung Hydel Power Project, the 40-megawatt Phyuhaung Hydel Power Project, the 75-megawatt Shwekyin Hydel Power Project, the 25-megawatt Yenwe Hydel Power

Table L

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
Urban development			
- urban road (miles)	490/4	617/6	127/2
- miles of tarred road	155/1	204/6	49/5
- miles of gravel road	89/4	101/4	12/0
- miles of laterite road	24/3	35/7	11/4
- earthen road	221/4	275/5	54/1
- urban bridges	-	1391	1391
- urban water supply work			
- works for town	26	11	15
- completed work	-	15	15
Rural development			
- Rural road (miles)	376/2	2998/5	2622/3
- Rural bridge	-	358	358
Rural Water supply tasks			
- work for village	4352	2361	1991
- completed work	-	2700	2700
- rural housing	-	170	170

Table M

Subject	1988	12-2-05	Progress
- TV retransmission station	1	4	3
- IPRD offices	-	32	32
- IPRD libraries	11	32	21
- departmental libraries	-	20	20
- rural library	-	1917	1917
- e-library	-	5	5

Project, and the 54-megawatt Kengtawng Hydel Power Project in southern Shan State are under construction. Efforts are being made for early completion of the 400-megawatt Shweli Hydel Power Project in northern Shan State. A 60-megawatt turbine of the 120-megawatt Tikyit coal-burn power station will soon be in operation. Please see Table F for more information.

Energy

Myanaung oil field

ducing oil and gas. The Yadana offshore oil and gas well was discovered in 1998. It is producing natural gas. More offshore wells are being drilled at present. Table G has more.

Industries

Like the parents who equally look after their children, the Tatmadaw Government is striving to ensure equitable progress for all the 14 states and divisions of the Union. The Government has been assisting the peo-

tals, schools and is rendering assistance to set up commercial livestock and fish and prawn farms. The Government has paved the correct way for all to march towards the national goal. The people have unitedly set up a number of milestones in their march to the golden land of unity and amity. Now they are in the process of building an industrial nation. Please see Table H to know the industrial development of the division.

Education

The Government has been implementing a programme to reduce the number of school dropouts due to certain reasons. The programme ensures youths to complete their studies, while helping the family business.

The Government's education plans include producing of teachers and professors at their own regions, ensuring rural people to pursue vocational education at their native areas and producing intellectuals and intelligentsia to help develop the motherland till standing on a par with other nations.

The Tatmadaw Government has built Pathein University, Hinthada University, Maubin University, Pathein Education College, Bogale Education College, and Myaungmya Education College. The division now has 66,993 students of higher education, up from 4,920 in the past. There are now 6,324 basic education schools in the division. The primary school enrolment rate and adult literacy rate are raising high in the division. Table I shows the education development of the division.

(See page 12)

ple of all the regions to become prosperous, developed and educated, as they are playing their own role in serving the national interest, while having the fraternal spirit among them.

Thus, the Government has been building dams and irrigation facilities, roads, bridges, hospi-

Ayeyawady Division marching to...

(from page 11)

Science and technology

At present, success has been achieved in building development, economic, and urban infrastructures with the strength of Myanmar engineers and architects. Please see Table J for more information.

Health

The government is stepping up its efforts to uplift the health and fitness standard of the entire people and to help the citizens to stay away from diseases. Its health care concerns have thoroughly covered the whole nation. So, the Ayeyawady Division has enjoyed fruitful results of better health standard. In 1988, there was only one 200-bed hospital, but now the region has been facilitated with three 200-bed hospitals. It has appointed more health staff in the

medical facilities in proportion with the regions and populations. Table K reflects the government's efforts to help local people of Ayeyawady Division to enjoy longevity and be free from diseases.

Development affairs

In the past, many parts of Ayeyawady Division were, like islands, surrounded by water. Now, with new roads and bridges, the region has developed remarkably. The total length of its rural roads has risen to around 3,000 miles, up from 376 miles and two furlongs in the past. It means the region has escaped from the position in which it had to rely mainly on waterways. Table L represents better transport the region is enjoying.

Information & public relation

I have presented

progress of the 14 states and divisions which are mini unions marching to the new land of unity and amity. I present progress of Ayeyawady Division and my article has come to an end here.

The Ayeyawady River rises from Kachin State and passes through Ayeyawady Division and flows into the Sea. Similarly, the Tatmadaw Government's nation-building endeavours have covered the border areas, the hilly regions and the plains. Like the Ayeyawady River that flows regularly in the nation, the Tatmadaw Government will always continue to carry out nation-building tasks in the interests of the people and posterity. Table M shows the government's efforts to enhance knowledge of rural people.

(Translation: TMT + MS)

CNN chief news executive resigns over comments on journalists in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 13 Feb — CNN's chief news executive Eason Jordan resigned Friday after being involved in a controversy over comments he made at the World Economic Forum last month about the deaths of journalists in Iraq, according to CNN's web site.

In a letter to colleagues posted on the web site, Jordan said: "After 23 years at CNN, I have decided to resign in an effort to prevent CNN from being unfairly tarnished by the controversy over conflicting accounts of my recent remarks regarding the alarming number of journalists killed in Iraq."

His statements at the gathering in Davos, Switzerland, on 27 January were "not as clear as they should have been," he added.

Several participants said Jordan told an audience at the gathering that US forces had deliberately targeted journalists.

Jordan strongly denied the charge, saying:

"While my CNN colleagues and my friends in the US military know me well enough to know I have never stated, believed, or suspected that US military forces intended to kill people they knew to be journalists, my comments on this subject in a World Economic Forum panel discussion were not as clear as they should have been."

At the heart of dispute is what Jordan said about the deaths of journalists in Iraq. CNN said it had no transcript of Jordan's statements and the Davos organizers also said session, like most at the forum, was off-the-record.

There have been 36 journalists and 18 support staff killed in Iraq since March 2003 when US-led coalition launched the Iraq war.

MNA/Xinhua



A gas pipeline linking Iraq's northern oil hub of Kirkuk to the Baiji refinery burns after being hit by a rocket, on 9 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

Donate blood

Castro warns US against plotting to kill Chavez

HAVANA, 13 Feb — Cuban President Fidel Castro warned the United States on Saturday against plotting to kill his most important ally, Venezuela's leftist President Hugo Chavez.

"I say to world public opinion: if they assassinate Chavez, the responsibility will fall squarely on the President of the United States, George W Bush," Castro said.

The Cuban leader, who was the target of CIA assassination plots after his 1959 revolution steered Cuba toward Soviet Communism, gave no evidence that Chavez's life was in danger.

He added: "If they can eliminate him, they will."

Populist Chavez has led oil-rich Venezuela into a close alliance with Cuba, raising fears in Washington of Cuban-style Communism taking hold in the South American country, a major supplier of oil to the United States.

Castro, 78, boasted that he had survived at least 100 attempts on his

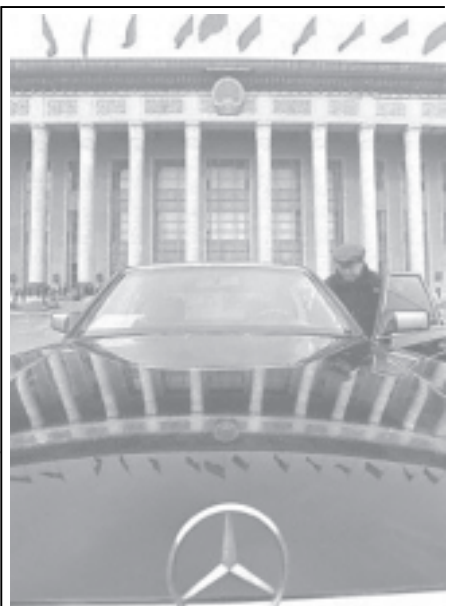
life. CIA plots against him included such capers as poisoned cigars, an exploding conch shell and toxin to make his beard fall out.

"This comes from a survivor. I have survived," he said in a nearly six-hour speech that lasted into the early hours of Saturday.

Closing a five-day conference of economists

on the evils of globalization and free-market policies, Castro said the United States would be wasting its time trying to bump him off because socialism was well established and irreversible in Cuba.

But in Venezuela, Chavez' so-called Bolivarian revolution was at a decisive stage, he said. — MNA/Reuters



A Mercedes in front of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 13 Feb, 2005. Sales of luxury cars in China last year slowed sharply, with Audi and Mercedes Benz of Germany both failing to meet sales goals.—INTERNET

Iran starts production of torpedoes

TEHERAN, 13 Feb — Iran launched a production line of torpedoes in order to promote its defence capability at sea as the United States has recently escalated its threats on Teheran, the official IRNA news agency reported.

Defence Minister Ali Shamkhani said at the launch ceremony on Sunday that the production marked completion of "the Islamic Republic's defensive cycle at sea".

"Iran's marine units have now achieved an effective weapon with a complicated and modern technology in confronting surface and under-sea threats," Shamkhani said, adding the torpedoes could be mounted on helicopters, surface vessels and submarines.

"Some of the important features of this weapon are the possibility to use it in shallow waters, without being spotted by radars, as well as its extraordinarily high speed, while being notably cost-effective," he said.

Iran has vowed to defend itself with deterrent power. — MNA/Xinhua

Malaria drug prompts concern among some US troops in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Feb — US military officials have stopped giving an anti-malaria drug called Lariam (mefloquine) to troops in Iraq following claims by some current and former soldiers that the medication causes disturbing, even dangerous behaviour. Relatives of some troops contend the drug caused the suicides of their loved ones, the Associated Press reported.

Claims of the drug's side effects are largely anecdotal. The US military, which developed the drug after the Vietnam War, insists Lariam is safe, although officials have expressed some concern and the military tells its pilots not to take Lariam, the AP said.

Last year, the Pentagon urged commanders to request a medical evaluation of anyone who showed behavioural changes after taking the drug, "especially... if they carry a weapon" -- which nearly all US troops in Iraq do, the news service said.

The drug's manufacturer, Roche Pharmaceuticals of Nutley, NJ, notes that more than 30 million people worldwide have used Lariam over two decades. "There is no reliable scientific evidence that Lariam is associated with violent acts or criminal conduct," Roche spokesman Terence Hurley wrote to the AP in an e-mailed response to questions.

The company does warn, however, of rare but severe side effects, including paranoia and hallucinations, the news service said.—Internet

**UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO SEALED TENDER**

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, for supply of the following Stores which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats:-

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity
1.	12(T)21/MR(M.YUG) 2004-2005	Spare Parts for Loco: (900 HP) (Engine, Body & Welding and Diesel Electric Spares)	29-Items

Closing Date. - 14.3.2005 (Monday) (12:00) Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon starting from 14.2.2005 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 291982, 201555 (Ext-602, 605, 612)

Deputy General Manager

Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung, Yangon

**ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူချောင့်ချေးအဖွဲ့**

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလ ၁၁ ရက်

ချိတ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာခေါ်ယူခြင်း

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၏ လုပ်ငန်းသုံးအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါပစ္စည်းများကို ဌာနအရောက် ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ပေးချေဝယ်ယူရန် ချိတ်ပိတ်ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာများ ဝိတ်ခေါ်ပါသည်-

- (က) CAT Excavator 320 L နှင့် 315 L စက်အချို့ပစ္စည်းများ 1 Lot
 - (ခ) အချွန်အပေါင်းစည်းပြေစာနှင့် Demand စာရွက်ပုံနှိပ်ပုံစံများ ၂၀၀၀၀၀ ရွက်
 - (ဂ) ကွန်ပျူတာပရင်တာသုံး Ribbon များ ၅၀ ခု
 - (ဃ) တန်ပိုချိန်စက်သုံး Load Cell များ ၂ ခု
 - (င) သတင်းစာရိုက်စက္ကူ (News Print) (၂၀" x ၃၀") ၁၀၀၀၀ ထုပ်
- ဈေးနှုန်းလွှာပိတ်ရက်မှာ ၂၀-၂-၂၀၀၅ နေ့ (၁၆:၀၀) နာရီဖြစ်ပြီး ဈေးနှုန်းတင်သွင်းလွှာပုံစံ တစ်စုံလျှင် ကျပ် ၁၀၀၀/- (ကျပ်တစ်ထောင်တိတိ) နှုန်းဖြင့် ဘတ်ဂျက်နှင့်ငွေစာရင်းဌာန၊ ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူချောင့်ချေး ဈေးဌာနမှတစ်ဆင့် ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။ အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ် - ၂၀၂၃၃၀၊ ၂၅၀၁၂ (လင်းဆွဲ)၊ ၂၃၅ တို့သို့ ဖုန်းချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

**ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူချောင့်ချေးအဖွဲ့**

မြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

TRADEMARK CAUTION
John Player & Sons Limited of 55 Park West Road, Park West, Naingor Road, Dublin 12, Ireland is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark -



(Reg. No. AN446/2004)
used in respect of "Class 34: Tobacco, whether manufactured or unmanufactured; cigarettes; cigars; tobacco products; tobacco substitutes, none being for medicinal or curative purposes; matches and smokers' articles. Class 35: Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions; the bringing together, for the benefit of others, of a variety of tobacco-related goods, enabling customers to conveniently view and purchase those goods".
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.
Hain Lin Co (LLB) Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtlp@mpmail.net.mm
Tel: 254037 G.P.O. Box: 686 Yangon. 15 February 2005

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Sealed Tenders are invited for the supply of Road Bitumen 80/100 Grade to Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Ministry of Energy. Tenders are to be submitted under the following terms and conditions:-

- Quantity - 20,000 ±10% MT
- Price (in bulk) - USD/MT CIF Exship Thanlyin
- Price (in drums) - USD/MT CIF (IO) Yangon
- Payment - LC at sight
- Country of Origin - Thailand
- Closing Date - 1.3.2005 12:00 HRS

Tender documents are available at Finance Department, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, # 23, Minye Kyawswa Road, Yangon starting from (15.2.2005) on payment of 100 FEC.

Only tender bids purchased officially will be accepted for consideration.

**Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (691)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT VOY No (691) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.2.05 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
Agent for: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
Phone No: 256908/ 378316/ 376797**

US actor jailed for violating probation by failing drug test

LOS ANGELES, 13 Feb — Actor Tom Sizemore has been jailed for violating his probation by failing a drug test after he was caught trying to use a prosthetic penis to fake the results, a Los Angeles County prosecutor said on Friday.

Sizemore, 43, who played a battle-hardened sergeant in the war movie "Saving Private Ryan", was placed in custody on Thursday. He was ordered to remain behind bars until a hearing on 24 February, unless he posts 25,000-US-dollar-bond, Deputy District Attorney Sean Carney said.

Last month, Judge Antonio Baretto had agreed to allow Sizemore to travel to Cambodia to shoot a new film on condition that he pass a drug test every day prior to his departure.

Carney said the actor's failed attempt to fake his

drug test results came on the first day of the new requirement.

The actor is required to undergo random drug tests as a condition of probation for his convictions on separate charges of methamphetamine possession and beating his ex-girlfriend, former Hollywood madam Heidi Fleiss.

During Thursday's proceedings, prosecutors told Judge Baretto that Sizemore failed three drug tests in three days, the first after he was caught using a fake penis sewn into his boxer shorts and filled with a clean urine sample kept warm by a heating pack.

Carney said the ruse was revealed when the temperature of the sample proved too cool to have come from Sizemore's body, and he was asked to remove his pants.

MNA/Reut ers

HK's wishing tree overburdened with too many wishes

HONG KONG, 14 Feb — The weight of expectations during the Chinese Lunar New Year seemed too much for the Hong Kong's famous wishing tree that the main branch of the tree was broken on Saturday.

The tree near Taipo is said to make dreams come true if you can throw your wish, written on a piece of red and gold paper and attached to an orange, into

its branches. Overburdened with oranges and wishes, the eight-metre main branch of the tree snapped off on Saturday, injuring a 62-year-old man and a 4-year-old boy, according to the *Sunday Morning Post*.

The injured suffered head wounds and were treated at a hospital, a police spokesman said. Despite the accident,

others seeking good fortune were undeterred and continued to throw their oranges onto other branches of the tree.

Staff from Hong Kong's Food and Environment Hygiene Department cleared the oranges from the tree after the accident. The broken branch was cut into pieces and removed from the scene. —MNA/Xinhua

Russia, Georgia eager to delineate borders

Moscow, 13 Feb—

Both Russia and Georgia have confirmed their desire to delineate the border between their two countries, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Friday. Russian and Georgian experts met on delineation of the Georgian-Russian border in Tbilisi on Wednesday and Thursday, the first such meeting in the past two years. They discussed the "progress of the process of border delineation and its further continuation", the ministry said.

The two sides have shown "mutual interest in activation of work in this direction and reached an accord to hold a regular meeting in March or April", it said. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov will visit Georgia on 18 February.

Bordering Georgia to the south and still having troops in the Caucasus country, Russia sees Georgia as a natural part of its sphere of influence. Moscow has been trying to counter the growing power of the west in Georgia, which is of strategic interest to Russia. —MNA/Xinhua

Turkish PM vows to fight corruption to end

ANKARA, 13 Feb — Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Friday that Turkey would take strong measures to wipe out corruption in his country, semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

On this week's detention of a group of senior bureaucrats and private businessmen in relation to alleged fraud and tender abuse in the energy sector, Erdogan was quoted as saying that government led by his ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party) was committed to eradicating corruption.

Also on Friday, Justice Minister Cemil

Cicek said the probes into alleged corruption in the energy sector had progressed to the judicial stage that no further comments should be made during this process.

However, despite the government's promises to wipe out corruption, main opposition Republican People's Party leader Deniz Baykal said that the alleged instances of corruption had taken place during the lifetime of the present government.

Baykal added that the government was refusing to debate corruption cases tabled by his party.

Meanwhile, Ramazan Er, the deputy director-general and spokesman of

the Police Department, said at the weekly news conference that six bureaucrats and seven civilians, who were detained in connection with alleged corruption in energy industry tenders, were expected to be transferred to Prosecutor's Office later Friday.

"The investigation into alleged corruption in energy bids was launched upon tip-offs. Thirteen people, including six high-ranking executives have been detained so far. The three-day additional detention period will end today (Friday)," Er said.

MNA/Xinhua

DONATE BLOOD

Sheffield United beat West Ham 3-1 in penalty shootout

LONDON, 14 Feb— Ten-man Sheffield United set up an FA Cup fifth round trip to Arsenal with a 3-1 penalty shootout victory over fellow Second Division side West Ham United in a fourth round replay on Sunday.

With the scores level at 1-1 after extra time, striker Andy Liddell converted the decisive spotkick after goalkeeper Paddy Kenny saved West Ham's first two penalties.

Liddell, who scored twice in United's shock 3-1 third-round win over Aston Villa, had given the home team an eighth-minute lead with a low free kick before captain Chris Morgan was sent off on the hour for a last-man foul on Marlon Harewood. The resultant penalty was converted by West Ham's 38-year-old former England striker Teddy Sheringham who later had his spotkick saved in the shootout.

"We practised (penalties) yesterday in the wind and if you'd seen us you would have thought that was it, we were that bad," Sheffield

United manager Neil Warnock told Sky Sports.

"Fortunately, they missed one more than us." Sheffield United's game against Premier League champions Arsenal on Saturday will be a repeat of the extraordinary 1999 fifth round encounter between the teams at Highbury.

Arsenal won 2-1 but, in an unprecedented move, offered to replay the match because Marc Overmars' winner was deemed "unsporting" as it came after Arsenal failed to follow protocol and return the ball to Sheffield United after an injury delay.

Arsenal won the replay 2-1. Arsene Wenger's team also beat Sheffield United 1-0 in the semifinals en route to winning the 2003 FA Cup.—MNA/Reuters

Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf

TORONTO, 14 Feb— US Masters champion Phil Mickelson was poised for his second successive PGA Tour win on Sunday, taking a six-shot lead into the last nine holes of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Mickelson, who began the day with a seven-stroke advantage over Britain's Greg Owen, stayed well ahead of his rivals in cool, windy conditions, despite bogeying the par-five sixth and the par-four ninth.

He reached the turn at 19 under for the tournament, with fellow left-hander and 2003 US Masters winner Mike Weir of Canada alone in second place after getting to three under for the day.

Owen, playing in his 10th PGA Tour event, was among a group of four players a further two strokes adrift at 11 under.

Fresh from a career-best five-stroke victory at last week's Phoenix Open that included a course record-equalling 11-under-par 60, Mickelson was on track for the 25th tour title of his career.—MNA/Reuters

Juventus defeat Udinese 2-1

ROME, 14 Feb— Serie A leaders Juventus got their title charge back on track with a 2-1 win over fourth-placed Udinese in Turin on Sunday.

The result gave Juventus 53 points from 24 matches, five ahead of champions AC Milan, who play Reggina later on Sunday.

Juve's cushion at the top had been slashed from eight points to two after they lost their previous two matches against Sampdoria and Bologna.

The 27-time champions scraped past a well-organized Udinese side 1-0 when they met earlier this season.

The return promised to be a much easier affair for the hosts when, with less than a minute gone, striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic squeezed between two defenders to score his 10th goal of the season.

The visitors almost equalized just after the half-hour mark, when Dino Fava narrowly failed to connect with a low cross that bounced dangerously across the face of Juve's goal.

Udinese's hopes of pulling themselves into the match were dented soon after the break, however, when Juve midfielder Mauro Camoranesi lashed a left-foot drive into the top corner after a neat one-two with teammate Alessandro del Piero.

Udinese were unlucky not to pull one back midway through the half, when Fava headed past goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon only for his effort to be wrongly ruled offside.—MNA/Reuters

Manchester United win 2-0 at local rivals Man City

MANCHESTER (England), 14 Feb— Wayne Rooney was Manchester United's inspiration as they won 2-0 at local rivals Manchester City on Sunday to keep alive their faint title hopes.

The 19-year-old England striker scored the first goal with a shot that flew in off City defender Richard Dunne after 68 minutes and provided a cross that the luckless Dunne miscued into his own net seven minutes later to settle the match.

United's win meant they cut the advantage of runaway leaders Chelsea to nine points with 11 games of the season left. Chelsea won 1-0 at fourth-placed Everton on Saturday to remain on course for their first English title in 50 years.

United, who face Chelsea at Old Trafford in April, have won seven of their last eight league games and manager Alex Ferguson refuses to give up hope of winning the title.

"It has happened (before)," he told Sky Sports. "They (Chelsea) are not playing well but they're getting results and that's all that matters.

"We're not doing much wrong. They are getting the breaks."

Jose Mourinho's team have 68 points, United have 59 and third-



The chase may appear a forlorn one, but Manchester United maintained their dogged pursuit of Chelsea with a 2-0 victory over near neighbours Manchester City courtesy of a Wayne Rooney opener (pictured) and a Richard Dunne own goal.—INTERNET

placed champions Arsenal, who host Crystal Palace on Monday, have 54 from a game less.

Mid-table City are the only team to beat Chelsea in the league this season and they won the equivalent fixture against old foes United 4-1 last term and 3-1 the season before.

Kevin Keegan's side squandered the clearest chance of the opening 45 minutes when former Liverpool winger Steve McManaman side-footed wide from close range after some dazzling wing play by England international Shaun Wright-Phillips.

Congolese midfielder Kiki Musampa also brought a fine early save out of United keeper Roy Carroll with a rasping half-volley.

United had most of the possession but rarely tested City keeper David James. Wayne Rooney warmed the England keeper's fingers with a free kick and Paul Scholes sent a free header over the bar in the visitors' best moments.

The match looked to be unending towards a stalemate until midway through the second half when Roy Keane fed Gary Neville and the England full back's cross was met by Rooney, the ball flying in via Dunne.—MNA/Reuters

Real Madrid to scramble 2-1 win at Osasuna

MADRID, 14 Feb— Late strikes from Michael Owen and Ivan Helguera enabled Real Madrid to scramble a 2-1 win at Osasuna that kept them in touch with arch-rivals Barcelona at the top of the Primera Liga on Sunday.

Trailing 1-0 to a Pierre Webo strike with just 13 minutes left, Owen threw himself at the ball to head home from close range and moments later Helguera stabbed in from a metre after Osasuna keeper Richard Sanzol spilled a David Beckham free kick.

The victory, Real's seventh in a row, left them four points behind Barcelona after 23 games, although the Catalans showed no sign of loosening their grip on top spot when they overpowered Real Zaragoza 4-1 at La Romareda on Saturday.

Sevilla leapfrogged Valencia into third place, a distant nine points behind Real, after a double from Julio Baptista helped them to a 2-1 win at home to Villarreal on Sunday.

The Brazilian striker put the Andalucians in front before halftime with a clever glancing header and doubled their lead from the penalty spot eight minutes from time.

Villarreal, who had won their previous five games, clawed a goal back in the closing minutes when Juan Roman Riquelme netted a penalty after Sevilla defender Aitor Ocio was controversially dismissed for being adjudged to have committed a foul in the area.

Espanyol drew level with Claudio Ranieri's side on 38 points after injury-time goals gave them a 2-0 win at home to Getafe.

Osasuna set a breathless pace in the driving rain at

El Sadar as they outfought Real in midfield, dominated possession and then proceeded to lay siege to the Madrid goal.

If it had not been for two sharp saves from their keeper Iker Casillas, Real would have been two goals down after the first 20 minutes.

The Spanish international tipped a Richard Morales header onto the bar after a Patxi Punal free kick and then produced a fine diving save to turn a Rafael Clavero drive around the post.

Embattled Real had to rely on sporadic counter-attacks and their only clear chance of the half came when Beckham found Ronaldo on the edge of the area but the Brazilian spurned his chance as he sent a weak shot into the arms of Sanzol.

The Real back four struggled to cope with Osasuna striker Morales and it was the towering Uruguayan who provided a neat headed assist for Webo to open the scoring after 36 minutes.

The Cameroon forward made the most of his chance as he touched the ball past Helguera with his right and then lashed past Casillas at the near post with a venomous left-foot shot.

Osasuna should have extended their lead on the stroke of halftime when the unmarked Morales sliced over from five metres after Pablo Garcia picked him out with a fine through pass.—MNA/Reuters



English Real Madrid player David Beckham shouts as he embraces his Spanish teammate Ivan Helguera congratulating him with his goal as Uruguayan Osasuna player Pablo Garcia, right, looks on during their Spanish league soccer match in Pamplona, Northern Spain, on Sunday, Feb. 13, 2005. Real Madrid won the match with 2-1.

INTERNET

Iranians to defend homeland against US threats

HAVANA, 14 Feb — An Iranian diplomat said here Saturday that the Iranian people is determined to defend its homeland, warning that the United States would have made a "big mistake" if it attacks the Persian nation.

The US will be trapped between the arms and anger of the Iranians, Iranian ambassador to Cuba Ahmad Edrisian said on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution in Iran. Over these years, there have been many US threats aimed at launching a psychological war to pressure the Europeans to join in the Washington strategy against Teheran, the ambassador told a Press conference.

As for Iran's development of nuclear energy, the US pretext to threaten Iran, Edrisian reminded that even before the Islamic Revolution, a nuclear plant in south Iran was developed with the participation of US and German specialists. The ambassador noted that it is the logical right of the Iranian people to make use of the advantages of nuclear energy and its peaceful use, as is the case in other nations.

MNA/Xinhua



NC delegates of Magway Division arrive at Nyaungnapin Camp, Hmawby Township. (News on page 16) —MNA

Over 40 killed in Venezuela's rains, landslides

CARACAS (Venezuela), 14 Feb — Rescue workers struggled on Saturday to reach remote villages in Venezuela's Andean mountains cut off by torrential rains and landslides that have killed more than 40 people in nearly a week.

Venezuelan authorities said they had found at least 25 bodies in Santa Cruz de Mora in Merida State and feared many more were dead after rains flooded rivers and sent scores of mudslides tumbling onto homes, roads and bridges.

"We've found 25 bodies," Alexis Rodriguez, mayor of Pinto Salinas District in Merida, told State television. "We're cut off from Merida and there is only access by air and they are opening a path to get people out."

Authorities and witnesses said several buses at a terminal in Merida were swept away by flood waters. Local television showed battered homes and cars covered with mud and debris.

Military helicopters

and Navy vessels this week evacuated more than 15,000 stranded tourists and residents from the coastal states near Caracas after mudslides and swollen rivers destroyed roads and shanty homes in poor neighbourhoods.

At least 18 people died in flooding and landslides in Caracas and neighbouring areas. The weather cleared up along the coast on Saturday, but heavy rains lashed Tachira and Merida states in the western mountains near Colombia.

President Hugo Chavez, touring a camp for people left homeless by floods, said earlier one child was washed away in Tachira and seven bodies had been recovered in Merida State.

Venezuela, the world's No 5 oil exporter and a key crude supplier to the United States, says the storms and floods have not affected its oil production or shipments.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Monday, 14 February, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been widespread in Kachin State, isolated in Chin State and weather has been generally fair in remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Putao (1.58) inches, Hakha (0.35) inch and Myitkyina (0.23) inch. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Mon and Kayah States, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Rakhine State and Magway Division, (7°C) to (8°C) above normal in Kachin State and Mandalay Division, (12°C) above normal in Northern Shan State and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (4°C), Heho (8°C) and Kentung (9°C).

Maximum temperature on 13-2-2005 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 14-2-2005 was 62°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 14-2-2005 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 13-2-2005 was (8.4) hours approx. Rainfalls on 14-2-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from West at (03:20) hours MST on 14-2-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 15-2-2005: Likelihood of isolated light rain in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-2-2005: Fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-2-2005: Fair weather.

"New Rainfall Record"

(Issued at 11:00 hrs MST on 14th February, 2005)
The amount of rainfall 40mm (1.58 inches) observed at 09:30 hrs MST on 14th February 2005 at Putao is the 24 hrs new maximum rainfall record of the station for the month of February during last (39) years. The former record was 34 mm (1.34 inches) on 16th February 1973.

Untimely Rain Warning

(Issued at 17:45 hrs MST on 14-2-2005)
Due to a low pressure area moving east from the west, isolated strong winds reaching 40 mph accompanied at some places by thundershower are likely in Mandalay Division, Sagaing Division, Chin, Kachin and Shan States during the next 48 hrs commencing this evening.



Tuesday, 15 February

Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: Over my shoulder
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: -Crocodile shoes
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: -Independent love song
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music: -She's a river
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music: -Hold on to the nights
- 9.00 pm English Speaking Course Level- (II) Unit (19)
- 9.15 pm Article/music
- 9.25 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm Music for your listening pleasure: -Give me one reason
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Tuesday, 15 February

- View on today:**
- 7:00 am 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
 - 7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise
 - 7:30 am 3. Morning news
 - 7:40 am 4. Nice and sweet song
 - 7:50 am 5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်
 - 8:00 am 6. အတီးမြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 8:10 am 7. Songs of yesteryears
 - 8:20 am 8. ကျောက်ကြီးပေါက်တံတား

- 8:30 am 9. International news
- 8:45 am 10. Let's go
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm 3. အဝေးသင် တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ဓမ္မတူဇော)
- 4:45 pm 4. Dance of national races
- 4:44 pm 5. ခံစားနားဆင်တေးဇာတ်ဝင်
- 5:05 pm 6. မြန်မာစား၊ မြန်မာစား
- 5:15 pm 7. Sing and Enjoy
- 6:15 pm 8. ရိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဇေယျာဇာတ်လမ်း" (အပိုင်း-၆၈)
- 6:30 pm 9. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 10. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 11. တပ်မဟာအစိုးရ၏ မကြောင်းမလဲ နိုင်ငံခြားရေးနှင့် ဒီမိုကရေစီ ထူထောင်ရေး ဦးတည်ချက်
- 7:20 pm 12. အခြားသားညီလာခံရက်ပြတေး
- 7:30 pm 13. သားငါးဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြည့်အထူးပြု
- 7:40 pm 14. The mirror images of the musical oldies
- 8:00 pm 15. News
- 16. International news
- 17. Weather report
- 18. ရိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သေဥပွဲရစ်လှ" (အပိုင်း-၃၉)
- 19. The next day's programme

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

Preparations for National Convention inspected

YANGON, 15 Feb — Accompanied by officials, Vice Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut and Secretary Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, NCC Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe and NCC Management Committee Chairman Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung this afternoon inspected preparations made at the Nyaungnnapin Camp in Hmawby Township where the National Convention will resume on 17 February.

First, they inspected the Pyidaungsu Hall, the venue of the plenary session of the National Convention and the mess hall and gave necessary instructions to officials. Next, they oversaw the hostel and recreation centre for NC delegates, cooperative shops, Win Thuza Shop of the Ministry of Industry-1, Sarpay Beikman Book Shop and book rental shop of the Ministry of Information, Mon Mon Beauty Salon, Myanmar optical shop, post office of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, upgrading of the open-air stage for entertainment programmes, commodity shop of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, restaurants of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Enterprise and the Ministry of Industry-1 and preparations made at the gymnasium, health and fitness centre and playground and hospital. Later, Maj-Gen Lun Maung and party gave necessary instructions to officials. — MNA



NCC Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Tin Htut and party inspect preparations in the Pyidaungsu Hall. — MNA

Kyaukme Dist hails Union Day, supports National Convention



The mass rally to honour the Union Day and to hail the National Convention in progress in Kyaukme Township, Shan State (North). — MNA

YANGON, 14 Feb — Members of Union Solidarity and Development Association, other social organizations, local people and cultural troupes totalling over 2,000 hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention at Nongpain model village in Kyaukme Township, Kyaukme District, Shan State (North), on 7 February.

Meeting Chairman Kyaukme District USDA Secretary U Ko Ko gave a speech.

Hsipaw Township USDA Executive Daw Nang Theingi tabled motions hailing the Union Day, and Kyaukme District USDA Executive Daw Tin Tin Ohn supported the National Convention and Kyaukme Township USDA Joint

Secretary U Sai Nyun reported the rural development tasks.

Kyaukme Township USDA Executive U Sai Ariya seconded the three motions.

The meeting unanimously hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention and rural tasks. The meeting ended with chanting of slogans. — MNA

More National Convention delegates arrive

YANGON, 14 Feb — The National Convention delegates of respective groups continued arriving here by air and by car this morning and evening.

Thirty NC delegates from Rakhine State and three NC delegates from Chin State arrived here by air this morning while 15 NC delegates from Shan State (South), three NC delegates from Chin State and one delegate from Mandalay Division arrived here by air this afternoon.

Moreover, sixty three delegates from Sagaing Division arrived here by train this morning.

Likewise, nine delegates from Chin State and seven delegates from Sagaing Division also arrived here in the evening.

The delegates were welcomed and accommodated by Chairman of the Reception and Accommodation Sub-committee Commandant of Defence Services Records Office Brig-Gen Myo Myint and officials. — MNA

INSIDE

“The Government has built mutual trust with the groups, while striving to develop the border areas, to free the people of the areas from backwardness, and to improve the social standard of the national races for flourishing of the consolidated Union.

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THIHA AUNG



National Convention Delegates of Shan State (South) and Chin State being welcomed at the airport. — MNA