

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Thursday, 24 February, 2005

## Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend Fourth Buddha Pujaniya of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image

YANGON, 23 Feb — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attended the Fourth Buddha Pujaniya of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image on Mindhamma Hill in Insein Township, Yangon Division, this morning.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws, members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Sayadaws, members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, members of the Sangha of the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon), International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Theravada Ovadaçariya Group and Division and Township Sangha Nayaka Committees totalling 45, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command and wife, the ministers, the



Secretary Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara delivers a sermon to share merits at Fourth Buddha Pujaniya of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image. — MNA

Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, the deputy ministers, senior military officers and their wives, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, the Chairman of the Pagoda Board of Trustees and members, social organizations, wellwishers and guests.

First, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing paid homage to the Image and offered flowers, water, 'soon' and alms to it.

After paying obeisance, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donated flowers, water, 'soon' and alms to the Image.

At 7.15 am, the ceremony to share merits was held at the Gandakuti Hall where the Buddha Image is being kept. Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thinn Hlaing acted as master of ceremonies.

The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*. Senior General Than Shwe

and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party took the Nine Precepts from Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññinda-bhivamsa.

Next, members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Afterwards, the Senior General and wife offered robes and alms to Secretary of the SSMNC Magway Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donated robes and alms to the Vice-Chairman Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw.

Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, also presented robes and alms to Vice-Chairman Thayet Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Kammathanaçariya Bhaddanta Kesara.

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**The Senior General and wife offered robes and alms to Secretary of the SSMNC Magway Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San donated robes and alms to the Vice-Chairman Aungmyebonsan Sayadaw.**



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party sharing merits gained at the Fourth Buddha Pujaniya of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image. — MNA

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

# PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 24 February, 2005

## Towards closer ties between Myanmar and Philippines

Since the Union of Myanmar became independent, it has always practised an independent and active foreign policy. As a result, it has maintained friendly relations with many nations of the world.

The main purpose of Myanmar's foreign policy is to keep good relations with all nations of the world, especially its neighbours and member nations of the ASEAN. Myanmar is giving priority to cooperation with the neighbours and ASEAN nations for the sake of mutual interests.

At the invitation of Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines, Lt-Gen Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, paid a goodwill visit to the Philippines on 21 February. The same day, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win met with Philippine President Arroyo at Malacanan Palace and they discussed bilateral relations, cooperation and matters of mutual interests in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

At the meeting, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win said that the more the two nations cooperated with each other, the greater their mutual benefits would be, that he thanked the Philippines for its understanding of Myanmar's internal affairs and for standing by Myanmar in the regional and international arena.

Philippine President Arroyo said that the Philippines did not accept the economic sanctions imposed on Myanmar by some big nations, that it would continue to stick to the constructive engagement in dealing with Myanmar and that it would strive for further cementing the Philippines-Myanmar relations.

The Union of Myanmar and the Republic of the Philippines established diplomatic relations in 1956 and, since then, they have kept a fine tradition of good relationship based on mutual understanding and goodwill. The reciprocal visits of the leaders and high-level delegations of the two nations have increased cooperation in numerous fields.

The first meeting of Myanmar-Philippine Joint Commission was held in Yangon, Myanmar, in April last year. The second meeting of the Commission will take place in the Philippines. Regular meetings of the Commission will be in the interests of the two nations.

We believe that the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of the Philippines will promote their mutual interests by further cooperating with each other and cementing their friendship.

## နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရရွာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့် နောက် ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေဖြစ်သည်။  
၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလအတွက် နောက်ဆုံးပတ်(တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)(၂၇-၂-၂၀၀၅)ရက်နေ့ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ မတ်လအတွက် (၁၃-၃-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့ နှင့် (၂၇-၃-၂၀၀၅)ရက်နေ့

## People's Desire

- \* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- \* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- \* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- \* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

## Development Affairs tasks inspected in Kyaukse



Development Affairs Department Director-General Col Myo Myint inspects sanitation tasks in Kyaukse on 18-2-2005.—DAD

YANGON, 23 Feb — Director-General Col Myo Myint of the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races, inspected development tasks in Kyaukse on 18 February. Afterwards, the director-general and officials looked into sanitation tasks around the town hall and urban area. After inspecting the construction of Minye concrete culvert on Yangon-Mandalay highway, the director-general gave necessary instructions.

Next, the director-general inspected tarring of 14th street in the township and left instructions on minimizing loss and wastage and growing the flowery plants.—NLM

## Doh Kyeywa Journal out

YANGON, 23 Feb — The Doh Kyeywa ( Our Village ) Journal, Vol II, No 5 came out today.

The journal carries articles, short stories, humour, cartoons, movies, prices of commodities, meteorology, astrology and others.

Manuscripts and advertisements may be sent to No 30/32, 10th street, Lanmadaw Township, Tel: 371342, 252452 and 379768.

MNA



Vol II, No 5 issue of Doh Kyeywa Journal.— MNA

## Prizes for Cycling Race

YANGON, 23 Feb — The prize-presenting ceremony of the 35th Inter-State/Division Cycling Race was held at the Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna), here, this morning, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint. After the race, President of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye and Secretary Daw L Khun Yi presented prizes to winners in the women's events and Directors of Sports and Physical Education Department U Naw Taung and U Zaw Lin and Vice-President of Myanmar Cycling Federation U Zaw Moe, winners of men's events. Afterwards, the vice-president of MCF gave away Best Player Awards to Myint Myint Htwe (Yangon) in the women's event and Min Min Han (Mandalay) in the men's event.

Next, the vice-president of MCF handed over sports gear donated by the Japanese wellwishers Mr Takahiro Saitoh and Mr Yoshihara Tsuchiya for MCF to Secretary U Cho Maung of Myanmar Swimming Federation.

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented championship shield and cash prizes to

## MYANMAR GAZETTE

YANGON, 23 Feb — The State Peace and Development Council has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Aung Than Myint	Principal Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Mandalay) Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs
(b) Col Soe Win	Managing Director News and Periodicals Enterprise Ministry of Information
(c) U Win Pe	Director-General Transport Department Ministry of Transport

The State Peace and Development Council has appointed U Myo Myint, Deputy Director-General of the Auditor-General's Office, as the Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

MNA

## New ATR-42 aircraft for Air Bagan

YANGON, 23 Feb — A new ATR-42 aircraft was added to Air Bagan, a private airline in Myanmar, for extension of domestic flights and development of tourism industry in Myanmar. The new plane arrived at the Yangon International Airport this evening.

Air Bagan operates its regular domestic flights from Yangon to Mandalay, Nyaung U, Heho, Kengtung, Tachilek, Thandwe, Sittway, Myitkyina, Putao, Patheingyi, Dawei and Myeik by three aircraft— Fokker-100, ATR-72 and ATR-42. Air Bagan also operates chartered flights to other cities.— MNA



New arrival of ATR-42 aircraft for Air Bagan.— MNA

Yangon Division Men's and women's teams. Later, President of MCF U Kyaw Win presented K 300,000, K 200,000 and 100,000 to the first prize, second and third winning teams respectively.—NLM

## Military Code of Conduct and Etempore Talks continue

YANGON, 23 Feb — The Military Code of Conduct and Etempore Talks of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day continued for the second day at the designated places this morning. The oral contest of military code of conduct continued at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters and the extempore talks, at the halls of the Ministry of Defence (Chawdwingon).

Attendance at the contests were senior military officers, members of the committee for holding the contest, judges and participants.— MNA

# HK sets up web site HealthyHK to promote public health

**HONG KONG, 22 Feb**— A public web site, HealthyHK, set up by the Department of Health (DH) to promote public health was officially launched here on Monday.

The web site is supported by the departments Public Health Information System (PHIS) which collects, collates and analyses health-related data from various sources including the Hospital Authority and government departments.

Through its various functions including an interactive inquiry application called InstantQuery, HealthyHK will serve as a platform which allows information sharing to suit the different needs of people from all walks of life.

"It will be useful for policymakers, health care professionals, researchers and businessmen to make evidence-based decisions on health policies, resource allocation, and the planning, implementation and evaluation of health services and programmes," said Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food of Hong Kong Carrie Yau at the launching ceremony.

"Students could also make use of statistical information on this web site to carry out health-related projects, and

the general public could have a better understanding on the health status of Hong Kong people so as to enhance their determination on the ways of disease prevention and health improvement," she added.

During the ceremony, the Director of Health of Hong Kong, Dr P Y Lam, said the PHIS was one of the initiatives in Hong Kong Chief Executive's Policy address in order to provide and maintain an information system to record the health conditions of the public and the disease pattern in the community.

"The PHIS will also help us in formulating effective strategies in the prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases," Dr Lam said.

To further arouse public awareness of the HealthyHK web site, the department will organize a series of roving exhibitions in a number of shopping arcades including New Town Plaza, Lok Fu Shopping Centre, Queensway Plaza and Kornhill Plaza between March and May this year.— *MNA/Xinhua*



A Japanese woman shows the Minox miniature Leica M3 replica digital camera in Tokyo on 23 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

## Roadside bomb attack killed three US soldiers in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 22 Feb** — Three US soldiers were killed and eight wounded on Monday when a roadside bomb detonated near a helicopter as it was carrying out a medical evacuation, the US military said.

The medical team was sent by helicopter to attend a soldier injured in a vehicle accident in a southwestern neighbourhood of Baghdad when the explosion went off, the US military said in a statement.

It gave no further details.

Guerillas attack US troops many times every day in Baghdad, although it is rare that three soldiers are killed in a single attack.

There have now been 1,124 US troops killed in action in Iraq since the launch of the war in March 2003 as they battle to suppress a Sunni Muslim-led insurgency determined to drive them out of the country.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Iraqi TV presenter kidnapped in Mosul

**BAGHDAD, 22 Feb**— Unknown gunmen have kidnapped an Iraqi television presenter with her son in the northern city of Mosul, an official from the TV said Monday. Raeda Muhammed al-Wazzan was abducted with her ten-year-old son as she was returning home Sunday night in Mosul, the official said on condition of anonymity.

TV workers and offices in the city have been attacked several times by the guerillas, said the official. No further details were immediately available about the incident.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## 1,484 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

**WASHINGTON, 22 Feb**—As of Tuesday, 22 Feb, 2005, at least 1,484 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 1,126 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

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

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, 1,346 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,017 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.— *Internet*

## Chinese, Sudanese foreign ministers talk over phone

**BEIJING, 22 Feb**— The Chinese and Sudanese foreign ministers spoke by phone recently, confirming the countries' mutual support.

"China supports the peace process in Sudan and is willing to join hands with Sudan to promote Sino-Sudanese cooperation," Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said in a telephone conversation with his Sudanese counterpart Mustafa Othman Ismail here Monday morning. Li said China would further strengthen consultations "with concerned parties" and make efforts to promote the resolution of the on-going humanitarian crisis in Sudan's Darfur region.— *MNA/Xinhua*



Overweight students follow instructions from their fitness teacher(L) during a free period at their school in Singapore as part of the government's 'Trim and Fit' (TAF) programme on 22 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

## US waging "dirty war" of propaganda to discredit Chavez

**CARACAS (Venezuela), 22 Feb**— Venezuela complained on Monday that Washington was waging a "dirty war" of propaganda to discredit President Hugo Chavez, but said it has no plans to cut vital oil supplies to the United States.

Venezuela's Information Minister Andres Izarra accused US officials and some media of working to isolate left-winger Chavez in the international community.

He was responding to recent statements from Washington branding Chavez a threat to regional stability and criticizing his government in the world's No 5 oil exporter.

"All these declarations together are part of clear policy," Izarra told a news conference. "This is a campaign from the United States to isolate and discredit the Venezuelan Government."

Both Administrations have stepped up a noisy exchange in recent weeks, but neither has taken any action to disrupt ties between the United States and Venezuela, a key oil supplier.

"Venezuela is not pursuing nor is it studying any measure to cut the supplies of oil to the United States," Izarra said.

Izarra said Foreign Minister Ali

Rodriguez would travel to the United States this week to present Venezuela's case before the Organization of American States.

He singled out the *Washington Post*, Fox News and the *Miami Herald* as among the media outlets he said were part of a US campaign against Chavez.

Izarra also named several reporters who he suggested were receiving funds from the US Government, but said he had no evidence to support this.

Among those named were Phil Gunson, a British journalist based in Caracas who writes for the *Miami Herald* and is head of the foreign correspondents' association in Venezuela.

Gunson denied the accusation. "I think it's surprising that the minister should demand accuracy and well-sourced reporting from the foreign press while at the same time he issues accusations by innuendo and admits he has no proof," he said.— *MNA/Reuters*

# Cambodia, Vietnam to enhance bilateral cooperation

**PHNOM PENH, 23 Feb** — Cambodia and Vietnam on Tuesday they will further strengthen cooperation in various fields to promote the development of bilateral ties.

The 7th meeting of the Cambodia-Vietnam Joint Commission was held here with the focus on further promoting bilateral cooperation between them.

Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Mien attended the meeting heading their respective delegations.

During the meeting, the two sides held in-depth talks on a wide range of bilateral issues including economic, trade, cultural, tourism, health and border issues, according to Hor Namhong.

They also informed each other of recent social and economic development of their countries.

Nguyen Dy Mien told reporters after the meeting that both sides highly evaluated the development of bilateral ties in various areas, and the two countries outlined future targets for further strengthening relations.

The two sides also agreed to closely cooperate to control along the border areas epidemics including malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and bird flu in particular, and prevent them from spreading to either side.

To further facilitate trade flows, they agreed to study the establishment of border markets with single-stop services at their border checkpoints.

Satisfied with their cooperation on border security cooperation and the immigration control, the two sides

stressed the importance to further enhance the bilateral and regional security cooperation.

They also stressed the importance of the Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam Development Triangle and the adoption of the Socio-Economic Development Master Plan for the triangle.

The meeting decided the joint commission to be gathered next time in Vietnam in 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

## Chinese Premier meets British guest

**BEIJING, 22Feb**— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao met here on Monday with British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown.

Wen gave positive appraisal for Sino-British relations, saying the cooperation between two countries is in the interest of the two peoples, and conducive to world peace and economic development.

The two sides also exchanged views on the

relations between China and European Union, international finance co-operation and poverty eradication.

Wen briefed the guest on China's current economic situation.

Brown is paying his first visit to China as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

He held talks with his Chinese counterpart Jin Renqing Monday morning, and both agreed to further the cooperation on finance, trade and investment.

Besides Beijing, Brown will also visit Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

MNA/Xinhua



A dancer sporting a mask performs Cham Dances at the Labrang Monastery on the second day of the Monlam (Great Prayer) Festival in Xiahe, on the remote fringes of the Tibetan plateau in western China's Gansu Province, on 22 Feb, 2005—INTERNET

## Brazil feels the pain of Iraq kidnappings

**RIO DE JANEIRO, 22 Feb**—Joao Jose de Vasconcellos Jr would have been celebrating his 50th birthday with his family in their apartment near the beach in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 24 February.

Instead the whereabouts of the Brazilian engineer kidnapped in Iraq more than a month ago, remain shrouded in mystery.

There has been no contact with his family and no news from the Brazilian government. There have been no threats or demands. There has been no images, and no proof that he is alive.

In fact, after his diving card was shown in a video sent to Aljazeera by the Mujahidin Brigades and the Army of Ansar al-Sunna on 19 January, there has been no further information of any kind at all.

Vasconcellos had been in Iraq for 12 months and was one of six Brazilian construction workers with the company Norberto Odebrecht in Iraq. The firm announced they were pulling the re-

mainder out the day after the abduction was announced.

The hostage case is marked by two unusual factors.

First, there is no political capital to be gained. Brazil has no troops in Iraq and refused a request to take part in the US-led "coalition of the willing". President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has been an outspoken critic of the war.

Secondly, unlike the hardline approach of many other countries which refuse to negotiate with hostage-takers, Brazil's foreign minister, Celso Amorim, made it clear that "if it is necessary to negotiate, we negotiate".

People wore T-shirts calling for his freedom in Portuguese and Arabic with an image of the engineer with the Brazilian and Iraqi flags. —Internet

ဝက်ပျံများအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

## Vietnam to test bird flu virus for waterfowls

**HANOI, 23 Feb**— Vietnam, from late February to early March, will test bird flu's virus for entire flocks of more than 500 waterfowls to quickly detect and fully deal with the disease.

If a waterfowl is tested positive to bird flu virus strain of H5, the entire its flock will be culled by burning. Vietnam's Animal Health Department will also test the virus for samples from quails, migrant and wild birds, said local newspaper *Saigon Liberation* on Tuesday.

Bird flu, which has killed and led to the forced culling of more than 1.5 million fowls in 35 cities and provinces of Vietnam since January, is cooling down. On 20 February, only four new bird flu- affected spots in three southern provinces of Vinh Long, Ben Tre and Bac Lieu were reported.

Ten provinces and cities nationwide have detected no new affected spots in their territories for at least 21 days.

MNA/Xinhua

## New system to track vehicles transporting hazardous materials

**SINGAPORE, 23 Feb**— A Hazmat Transport Vehicle Tracking System will monitor all the vehicles carrying hazardous materials within Singapore by April, local media Channel NewsAsia reported on Tuesday.

Employing the global positioning system, the tracking system has a capability of monitoring more than 10,000 vehicles fitted with required devices at the same time.

The system is expected to enable the Singapore Civil Defence Force to launch quick and proper actions in case of emergency.

Several other new technologies and equipment developed by the private sector for the purpose of emergency rescue have also been exhibited in the fire conference and exposition, which was opened on Tuesday.

MNA/Xinhua

## Nepali workers salary down in Gulf countries

**KATHMANDU, 22 Feb**— Although the attraction of the Gulf countries is high among Nepali workers, their earnings have gone down significantly in the absence of labour agree-

ments with these countries, according to the Nepali Labour Department.

A statement issued by the department here Monday said because of the absence of agreement, Ne-

pal is put among the unofficial source country meaning Nepalis are paid less than workers from other countries for similar jobs.

MNA/Xinhua



A traditional fishing boat sets off from a private wharf at sunset in the port city of Zamboanga, southern Philippines on 22 Feb, 2005. —INTERNET

## Panel of chairmen hold discussions with representatives



Members of the panel of chairmen and delegates of national races seen at the discussions.— MNA

YANGON, 23 Feb— The meeting of the panel of chairmen of delegates of national races and 14 representatives from 14 States and Divisions took place at the meeting hall-3 of Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township this afternoon for compilation of the delegates' proposals regarding the NCC Work Committee chairman's clarifications to detailed basic principles for distribution of the legislative power to be included in the framing of the State Constitution.

Present on the occasion were members of the panel of chairmen of delegates of national races U Mya Sein of Mandalay Division, U Kyaw Din (a) U Htay Yai of Kayah State, U Doo Wah Zok Daung of Shan State (North), and U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Taninthayi Division, and 14 representatives from States and Divisions.

U Mya Sein of Mandalay Division chaired the meeting together with U Kyaw Din (a) U Htay Yai of Kayah

State, U Doo Wah Zok Daung of Shan State (North), and U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Taninthayi Division.

Deputy Director U Than Tun acted as MC and Assistant Director U Tin Maung Oo as co-MC.

The meeting chairman gave a speech and submitted the 16 proposals, followed by a general round of discussions.

The meeting chairman gave concluding remarks at 1.30 pm.

MNA

## Proposals of delegates of workers discussed

YANGON, 23 Feb—A meeting took place at the meeting hall-5 of Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township at 1 pm today to deal with the papers of the delegates of workers to be submitted to the National Convention Convening Work Committee regarding the clarifications made on 22 February by the Work Committee chairman for

laying down detailed basic principles for delegation of the legislative power to be included in the framing of the State Constitution.

U Bo Thein chaired the meeting together with U Kyaw Win Tun and U Khin Maung Aye. Deputy Director U Zaw Win and Assistant Director U Aung Win acted as MC and co-MC.

A total of 48 delegates

attended the meeting, accounting for per cent per cent. The meeting chairman delivered a speech. Member of the panel of chairmen U Kyaw Win Tun read the papers of the delegates of workers. The meeting chairman sought the approval of those present, and delivered concluding remarks.

MNA



Members of the panel of chairmen and delegates of workers hold the discussions.— MNA

## Stimulant tablets, weapons seized

YANGON, 23 Feb — A combined team comprising members of Local Battalion, Tachilek Anti-Drug Squad and Tachilek District Police Station, acting on information, searched at 227, Htawkawt, Hongleik village tract, Tachilek Township on 17 January and seized Maung Aik San (a) Aik Kyaing with 400,000 stimulant tablets bearing WY letters in an unlicensed Toyota saloon with Number Plate 3 Kha/3418 and two US-made pistols, two magazines, 40 rounds of ammunition in the bedroom of Wilaza and orange colour WY brand 330 stimulant tablets in the cupboard.

The authorities continued to search the house of driver Aik Hsan (a) Aik Kyaing in Naungshan village, Kettaik village tract,

Kengtung Township, and seized 140 stimulant tablets in his jacket in his bedroom.

According to the information, the combined team searched the house of U Pae Li, at 227, Htawkawt village, Hongleik village tract, Tachilek Township.

They seized a US-made long barrel shotgun and nine rounds of ammunition in his bedroom and one pistol, one magazine and 30 rounds of ammunition in the room of Aik Yi.

Action is taken against Wilaza, 42, son of U Lone Hsaing of Wannalut village of Pangsan, Aik Hsan (a) Aik Kyaing, 35, son of U San Wi of Wannalut village, U Pae Li and Aik Yi under the Sections 15/19 (a)/21/22 (C) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

MNA



Aik Hsan (a) Aik Kyaing and Wilaza seized with weapons and drugs.— CCDAC

## Thai delegation leaves for Mandalay

YANGON, 23 Feb— The visiting Thai delegation led by Deputy Commandant Maj-Gen Prasitichai Pibulrat of National Defence College of Thailand left for Mandalay by air this morning.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Commandant Brig-Gen Than Maung of National Defence College of Myanmar, senior military officers, Military Attaché Col Prissapa Suvanarat of the Thai Embassy to Myanmar and officials.

MNA

## Seminar on IT on 25 Feb

YANGON, 23 Feb— The Seminar on IT Human Resource Development & Information Security co-organized by Myanmar Computer Federation (MCF) and Centre of the International Cooperation for Computerization (CICC), will be held at the Conference Hall of MICT Park in Hline Township from 9 am to 5 pm on 25 February.

Enthusiasts may attend the seminar free of charge and contact MCF, Tel: 652307 and 707503 for further information.

MNA



Vice-President U The Win of Myanmar Cycling Federation hands sports equipment to Secretary of Myanmar Swimming Federation U Cho Maung. (News on page 2)— NLM

## Myanmar archery team leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 23 Feb— The Myanmar archery team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Archery Federation U Tint Hsan left here by air this morning to compete in the 1st Asian

Circuit Archery Championships 2005 for World Ranking held in Bangkok, Thailand from 23 to 28 February. The 22-member Myanmar team was led by Leader Vice-president of

MAF U Tint Hsan.

Vice-President of MAF Dr Zaw Tun and Joint-Secretary Dr Myat Thura Soe left here for Thailand in advance on 20 February. — NLM



Myanmar archery team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Archery Federation U Tint Hsan seen at the airport.— NLM

## Myanmar places importance in ASEAN...

(from page 16)

On behalf of my delegation and on my own behalf, I would like to express our deep appreciation to the Government and people of the Philippines for the gracious hospitality extended to us.

Myanmar and the Philippines may be separated by oceans but we are bound by similarities in traditions and culture. Even before the advent of formal diplomatic relations in 1956, our two countries enjoyed contacts based on mutual respect and goodwill. The relationship has blossomed since Myanmar joined the ASEAN family of nations in 1997. More recently, the first meeting of the Myanmar-Philippines Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation convened in Yangon last April has provided the impetus to move the relationship forward.

We are encouraged to note that bilateral economic and trade relations have been initiated and that there is growing interest in the Philippine business community on developing those relations, including the establishment of transport linkages between our two countries. I am sure Your Excellency will agree with me that we should strive to realize the full potential for closer economic and trade rela-

tions for the benefit of our peoples.

We in Myanmar have followed with admiration the all-round progress made by the Filipino people in nation building endeavours. In recent years, you have scored impressive gains in the political, economic and social fields. The Philippines is now poised to move on to a new level. It is evident that the combination of the leadership of Your Excellency's Government and the hard work of the Filipino people are bearing fruits. I am happy to be able to say that our efforts in Myanmar to restore peace and stability have also been successful. As a result of the confidence-building measures we adopted, armed groups have now returned to the legal fold, paving the way for national unity and the transformation of the country into a modern discipline-flourishing democratic nation. We are now implementing the 7-step road map for democratization. The National Convention in which all the nationalities in the country and all strata of the society are represented resumed 4 days ago. Once its task is completed a new constitution will emerge and the aspirations of our people will be met. At the same time we continue to strive to raise the living standards of our people.

We in Myanmar re-

alize that in an increasingly integrated world, we must work closely with friendly countries and neighbours. We believe that the future of developing countries lies on promoting regional co-operation which does not diminish national identities but enhances political and economic strength. We therefore place importance in ASEAN and the association's commitment to moving towards closer cohesion and economic integration. In this regard, we consider the Philippines an important partner. I am confident that working bilaterally and in the framework of the ASEAN we can contribute to the peace, stability and prosperity of the region.

To conclude, I would like to once again express our sincere appreciation to Your Excellency for the warm welcome and the excellent arrangements made for us in your beautiful country.

May I now invite you to join me in a toast:-

- to lasting friendship between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of the Philippines;
- to the health and well-being of Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo;
- to the health and happiness of all the Distinguished Guests and friends present here this afternoon. — MNA

## Myanmar places importance in ASEAN...

(from page 16)

Myanmar in 1997, the year that Myanmar joined ASEAN. Prime Minister Senior General Than Shwe attended in 1998 ASEAN Summit in Manila and met with officials of the Philippine Government including Speaker de Venecia.

But on a bilateral basis, it's the leaders of the other three new ASEAN countries that we have had the pleasure of hosting, and it's good therefore and I

congratulate you Mr Prime Minister that you have embarked on a programme to visit your ASEAN neighbours and conduct a constructive bilateral dialogue with each one of your ASEAN neighbours. Your initiative to visit your ASEAN neighbours and conduct constructive dialogues with each one of us reflects your recognition that engagement in the regional and international community carries with it

profound responsibilities.

You have our fervent prayers that Myanmar and ASEAN will be equal to these responsibilities and to the great challenges of the times for the benefit of our peoples, the region and the global community.

Therefore, I would like everyone to join me in a toast to His Excellency, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and to the people of Myanmar.

MNA

**Your initiative to visit your ASEAN neighbours and conduct constructive dialogues with each one of us reflects your recognition that engagement in the regional and international community carries with it profound responsibilities.**

PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

## Philippine President hosts luncheon in honour of Myanmar goodwill delegation

YANGON, 23 Feb— President of the Republic of Philippines Her Excellency Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo hosted a luncheon in honour of Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party at Aguinaldo State Dining Room of Malacanan Palace in Manila on 21 February.

Also present on the occasion were former Philippine president Mr Fidel

V Ramos, ministers, the Philippine Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and officials, high-ranking officials, ambassadors of ASEAN nations to the Philippines, members of Philippine-Myanmar Economic Council, entrepreneurs, and magnificent guests.

Those present greeted the Philippine President and the Myanmar Prime

Minister.

The Philippine President delivered a speech. (reported separately)

The Prime Minister also delivered a speech. (reported separately)

The Philippine President hosted the luncheon to those present.

Before returning to hotel, the Prime Minister and party were seen off by the Philippine President.

MNA



Philippine President Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo greets Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win after the luncheon. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win being greeted by Senate President Mr Franklin Drilon. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win being greeted by Mr Jose C De Venecia. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives Mr Jose C De Venecia. — MNA

# Prime Minister concludes visit to Philippines

YANGON, 23 Feb— Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party who were on an official visit to the Philippines at the invitation of Philippine President Her Excellency Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, left the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel in Manila and arrived at Villamor Air Base at 3.45 pm local time on 21 February.

The Prime Minister and party were seen off by Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Tin Tun and wife Daw Nan Phaung, embassy staff and family members.

The Prime Minister took the salute of the Guard of Honour. He greeted Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Dr Alberto Romulo, Philippine Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources Mr Michael T Defenson, Commanding General of Philippine Air Force Lt-Gen Jose L Reyes, Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar Mme Phoebe A Gomez and Ambassador U Tin Tun, who would see him off at the airport.

The Myanmar delegation left Manila by air and arrived at Tan Son

Nhat International Airport in Ho Chi Minh City, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at 6.40 pm local time, where they were welcomed by Deputy Chief of Cabinet of the Office of the People's Council & People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City Mr Huynh Khanh Hiep and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Tin Latt, Military Attache Col Tin Soe and embassy staff.

The Prime Minister held a cordial meeting with Mr Huynh Khanh Hiep and officials at the special lounge.



The Prime Minister and party arrived here later in the evening. MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win greets Commanding General Lt-Gen Jose L Reyes of Philippines Air Force at Villamor Air Base in Manila. MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win being welcomed by Deputy Chief of Cabinet of the Office of the People's Council & People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City Mr Huynh Khanh Hiep at Tan Son Nhat International Airport.— MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win takes the salute of the Guard of Honour at Villamor Air Base in Manila.— MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win being seen off at Villamor Air Base in Manila by staff and families of Myanmar Embassy.— MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win cordially converses with Mr Huynh Khanh Hiep.— MNA

## Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives ILO officials

YANGON, 23 Feb — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win received and ILO delegation led by former Governor-General of Australia Sir Ninian Stephen at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall, Konmyinthta yesterday afternoon.

Present at the call together with the Prime Minister were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Science and Technology and Minister for Labour U Thauang, Director-General of the Government



Office U Soe Tint, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U

Aung Htet, Director-General of International Organizations and Eco-

nomics Department U Win Mra and officials concerned. — MNA

Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win receives ILO officials at Zeyathiri Beikman. MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer a 'soon' bowl and alms to a Sayadaw.— MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing donate 'soon' to Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San offer provisions to Vice-Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa.— MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San present a 'soon' bowl to a Sayadaw.— MNA

### Senior General Than Shwe... (from page 1)

Similarly, General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet offered robes and provisions to Vice-Chairman Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Gunesana.

Next, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe presented robes and offertories to State Ovadaçariya Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Naninda.

Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen

Thein Sein, offered robes and alms to State Ovadaçariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa.

The members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, the ministers, the Chairman of CSSTC, the Yangon Mayor and the deputy ministers donated robes and provisions to the

Sayadaws.

The Secretary Magway Sayadaw delivered a sermon, and the Senior General and wife and congregation shared merits gained.

The ceremony ended with three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Çiram Tithathu*.

After the ceremony, the Senior General and wife and party offered 'soon' and alms to 108 members of the Sangha led by State Ovadaçariya Sayadaws and member Sayadaws of the SSMNC.

(See page 9)



General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet donate robes and alms to Vice-Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gunesana.— MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet offer a 'soon' bowl to a Sayadaw.— MNA



## Senior General Than Shwe...

(from page 8)

At that time, artistes of the Fine Arts Department played religious songs.

Along the platform of the pagoda from southern to northern stairways, the Ministry of Defence, State Peace and Development Council Office, the Prime Minister's Office, the Adjutant-General's Office, the Quartermaster-General's Office, the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), ministries, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General's Office, the Auditor-General's Office, the Office of CSSTB, Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, Yangon City Development Committee, district and township PDCs and wellwishers donated alms to members of the Sangha.

On behalf of all the wellwishers, Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thim Hlaing shared merits gained.

After the ceremony, Senior General Than Shwe viewed tasks for all-round construction of Mindhamma Hill and the religious buildings on the hill.— MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer provisions to Secretary Magway Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara.—MNA



Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, donates robes and alms to Vice-Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara.—MNA



Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, offers a 'soon' bowl to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe present robes and provisions to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Naninda.—MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe donate a 'soon' bowl to a Sayadaw.—MNA



Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, presents robes and offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa.—MNA



Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, offers a 'soon' bowl to a Sayadaw.—MNA

## Further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State

YANGON, 22 Feb — On behalf of the Panel of the Alternate Chairmen, U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of the Delegates of National Races presented the panel of chairmen's collection of excerpts from the suggested proposals submitted by delegates to the National Convention on the management sector at the Pyidaungsu Hall of the Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division yesterday.

*The following is a translation of presentation made by U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint.*

In connection with the basic principles to be laid down for the judicial sector on grounds of 11 legislative matters relevant to the sharing of legislative power that shall be included in writing the State constitution, I will continue to present the panel of chairmen's collection of excerpts from the suggested proposals submitted by some delegate groups to the National Convention and from those by certain delegates to the National Convention.

**The practice of jurisdiction should be uniform across the country, and that the top legislature of the State is responsible to stipulate necessary law. It then agreed that all the points mentioned under the judicial sector are appropriate to be adopted as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative.**

At the Plenary Meeting of the National Convention held on 21 May 2004, the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee clarified that: "Of the basic principles already laid down by the National Convention, one of the aims and objectives of the State calls for 'Further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State'. The basic principle is an essential right of all the citizenry residing in the nation. Different levels of court and judges are to take special care to see that our citizens do not lose that right. Moreover, basic principles calling for independent administration of justice in accord with law; administration of justice in public except where restricted by law; and giving of the right of defence and the right of appeal by law in cases are laid down."

"It is therefore necessary to discuss whether the following matters mentioned in the judicial sector I have just explained should be adopted as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List."

"They are:

1. Administration of justice
2. Lawyers
3. Penal laws and procedures
4. Civil laws, contract, arbitration, civil wrong, insolvency, Trust and people who can administer because of the trust, guardians and wards, transfer of property and inheritance
5. Evidence Act
6. Limitation
7. Valuation of suit
8. Specific relief
9. Foreign jurisdiction
10. Admiralty jurisdiction
11. Robbery at sea, and crimes committed on land or in the international waters or in space in violation of the international laws."

As regards this clarification, the National Unity Party, which is a member of the delegate group of political parties, which is a delegate group to the National Convention, discussed that in the basic principles concerning the legislation, it is stated that the legislative power is vested in the Union Hluttaw, the Region Hluttaw, and the State Hluttaw, and that the legislative power will be vested in the self-administered areas in accord with the State constitution. The party continued that it found what the Chairman of the Work Committee clarified was complete in connection with the judicial sector and the legislative power to be distributed to the leading committees of the self-administered areas.

The Union PaO National Organization discussed that

the court and judges are responsible to make decisions according to law without any forms of corruption and without any discrimination between the rich and the poor, and between the high-ranking and the low-ranking, as the National Convention has laid down a basic principle "further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State".

It continued that in hearing the civil cases, they are to follow the principles laid down for contract, arbitration, civil wrongs, insolvency, inheritance, family laws and so on. The legislative power is vested in the legislatures at central level to deal with foreign jurisdiction, overseas jurisdiction, robbery at sea, and crimes committed at sea and in space. It agreed to the adoption of the 11 points of the judicial sector to be included as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List.

The Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization discussed that cut of the basic principles, the National Convention has laid down, one principle is "further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State".

It also agreed to the adoption of all the points of the judicial sector to be included as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative.

The Lahu National Development Party discussed that of the 11 sectors, the defence and security sector, the foreign affairs sector, and the judicial sector are what matters most for the whole affairs of the country. Therefore, the specific points under these three sectors should be adopted as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List so that law can be enacted when necessary.

The Union Kayin League discussed that it entirely agreed to the adoption of all the 11 points as detailed basic principles under the judicial sector as clarified by the Work Committee Chairman.

The Kokang Democracy and Unity Party discussed that basic principles have been laid down as regards the "further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State". The party continued that judicial stipulations have also been laid down for independent administration of justice in accord with law, administration of justice in public except where restricted by law, and giving of right of defence and right of appeal by law in cases.

It then agreed to what the Work Committee Chairman clarified in connection with the matters related to the smooth running of judicial machinery, the judges, and jurisdiction.

The Wa National Development Party discussed that in connection with the aims of objectives of the State, the National Convention has laid down basic principles such as the "further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State"; and "independent administration of justice in accord with law, administration of justice in public except where restricted by law, and giving of right of defence and right of appeal by law in cases". These principles are absolutely suited to the entire national people of the country.

The party continued that the practice of jurisdiction should be uniform across the country, and that the top legislature of the State is responsible to stipulate necessary law. It then agreed that all the points mentioned under the judicial sector are appropriate to be adopted as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative.

Of the five proposed papers submitted by the delegate group of representatives-elect, which is one of the eight delegate groups to the National Convention, the proposed papers of the National Unity Party and the Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization have been presented by the parties concerned, which are members of the delegate group of political parties. In like manner, it is found that other delegates concerned submitted their proposals.

Dr Hmu Htan, the independent representative-elect from the constituency of Thantlan township in Chin



*U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Delegates of National Races. — MNA*

State and U Aung Thein, the independent representative-elect from the constituency of Ywangan township in Shan State discussed that they agreed that all the points mentioned under the judicial sector are appropriate to be adopted as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative.

They also discussed the matters related to the practice of jurisdiction that should be included in the Region or State Legislative List, giving suggestion on allowing the people living in regions or states to continue the amicable settlement through customary practices which are not contrary to Union Law.

U Tin Win, the independent representative-elect from the constituency-2 of Kyaiklat township, U Thein Kyi, the independent representative-elect from the constituency-1 of Taungdwingyi township, U Hla Soe, the independent representative-elect from the constituency-2 of Minbu township, U Mya Hlaing, the independent representative-elect from the constituency-2 of Twantay township, U Kyi Win, the independent representative-elect from the constituency-1 of Mingaladon township, and U Tin Tun Maung, the independent representative-elect from the constituency-2 of Mingaladon township discussed that they agreed with the Work Committee Chairman on his clarifications on the judicial sector.

U Tun Kyaw, the independent representative-elect from Namhsan township in Shan State (North) discussed that the matters related to the judicial sector clarified by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List.

In his separate suggestion, he said the Union of

**U Tun Kyaw suggested that consideration be taken into the continued allowance of amicable settlement of cases which is not contrary to Union Law. He added in doing so, the friendly relations among national races will thrive and flourish all the more and this will amount to preservation of traditions.**

Myanmar is a country where a diversity of national races have been living through thick and thin since yore. He continued that every national race has their own cultures and traditions. There are customary practices in amicable settlement of cases, he added, that have been in practice in the regions, or the states, or the self-administered division or the self-administered zone. He suggested that consideration be taken into the continued allowance of this practice there which is not contrary to Union Law. He added in doing so, the friendly relations among national races will thrive and flourish all the more and this will amount to preservation of traditions.

*(See page 11)*

## Further burgeoning of the noblest...

(from page 10)

The delegate group of national races discussed that in accordance with the basic principles laid down by the National Convention, judges at different levels of court are to practise the uniform laws for the people residing in the nation regardless of the rich or poor, position or class in passing judgments. They have no right to administer justice as they please. To be able to keep the machinery of administration of justice in operation, the judges need to be well-versed in judicial affairs and efficient. At the same time, they need to be morally upright, free from bias and bribery.

They must be bold enough to pass judgments correctly. If such efficient and qualified judges administer justice they will win the trust and reliance of the public all the more.

**The matters covered by the administration of justice include foreign jurisdiction, maritime jurisdiction, robbery at sea, and crimes committed on land or in the international waters or in space in violation of the international laws.**

The group also agreed that all the matters mentioned in the judicial sector should be included in the Union Legislative List so that law can be enacted when necessary.

The delegate group of peasants discussed that it agreed to the adoption of the 11 points mentioned in the judicial sector as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List.

The group also gave a separate suggestion on strict supervision for bringing corrupt judges to justice.

The delegate group of workers discussed that it agreed to the adoption of the 11 points mentioned in the judicial sector as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List.

The delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia discussed that in connection with the aims of objectives of the State, the National Convention has laid down six basic principles. Of them, one principle goes "further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty and equality in the State". This principle is absolutely essential for the entire national people. The respective courts and judges bear the responsibility to administer justice in accord with the basic principles the National Convention has already laid down. They are: "independent administration of justice in accord with law, administration of justice in public except where restricted by law, and giving of right of defence and right of appeal by law in cases".

The group continued that the judges at different levels of courts are to practise the uniform laws for the people residing in the nation regardless of the rich or poor, position or class in passing judgments. To be able to keep the machinery of administration of justice in operation, the judges need to be well-versed in judicial affairs and efficient, morally upright, and free from bias and bribery. Only then will they win the trust and reliance of the public all the more.

The group then agreed to the adoption of the matters mentioned in the judicial sector as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List so that law can be enacted when necessary.

The delegate group of State service personnel discussed that in connection with the 11 points mentioned in the judicial sector, they should be included in the Union Legislative List to enact law when necessary.

The delegate group of other invited persons discussed that the judges at different levels of court are to practise the uniform laws for the people residing in the nation regardless of the rich or poor, position or class in passing judgments. Other matters covered by the administration of justice are those concerning lawyers, penal laws and procedures to be followed in hearing the cases, civil laws and procedures to be followed in hearing civil cases and the Evidence Act which is to be followed in hearing criminal and civil cases. They are to be practised uniformly throughout the country.

The matters covered by the administration of jus-

tice include foreign jurisdiction, maritime jurisdiction, robbery at sea, and crimes committed on land or in the international waters or in space in violation of the international laws.

The group then agreed to the adoption of the 11 points mentioned in the judicial sector as detailed basic principles in the Union Legislative List so that law can be enacted when necessary.

In a separate suggestion, the group said the term "robbery at sea, and crimes committed on land or in the international waters or in air space in violation of the international laws" should be changed to the term "crimes committed in international waters and in the water, land, and space of Myanmar".

They also gave a suggestion on allowing the national races to continue the practice of their traditional arbitration methods in their respective areas as long as they are not contrary to the laws the State enacted.

Now, I will present a collection of excerpts from the suggestions compiled by the panel of meeting chairmen concerning the 11 points of the legislative power of self-administered areas scheduled to be included in laying down detailed basic principles.

At the plenary meeting held on 21 May 2004, the Work Committee Chairman said, "The National Convention, in accordance with the basic principles laid down, has designated one self-administered division and five self-administered zones.

"In connection with the enactment of law for the self-administered areas, a basic principle has been laid down — the legislative powers of the State is distributed among Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Region Hluttaws and State Hluttaws. Legislative power stipulated by the State Constitution shall be distributed to self-administered areas. In connection with the bodies which will exercise the legislative power delegated to the self-administered areas, it is stated — the self-administered division leading body and the self-administered zone leading body of the respective self-administered division and zones will be constituted and these leading bodies exercise the legislative powers delegated by the Constitution.

"According to the detailed basic principle, it is required to prescribe in the Constitution which type of legislative powers are to be delegated to the self-administered areas. In studying the type of legislative powers to be delegated to the self-administered areas, it is important that such powers should be those the legislative leading bodies can manage."

He continued to explained, "Hence, in connection with delegation of legislative power to the self-administered areas, a detailed basic principle delegating the legislative powers to the self-administered division or self-administered zone leading bodies should be laid down for the following matters:

- (a) Town and village plan
- (b) Building, repair and maintenance of roads
- (c) Public health
- (d) Development affairs
- (e) Fire prevention
- (f) Pasture
- (g) Forest protection and conservation
- (h) Environmental conservation
- (i) Water and electricity supply in towns and villages
- (j) Town and village markets

"National Convention delegates are to discuss and make suggestions on whether to lay down detailed basic principles in the Constitution on delegation of legislative powers to the self-administered division or zone leading bodies in connection with the above matters."

Concerning the sector, National Unity Party said that in accord with a basic principle — the legislative powers of the State is distributed among Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Region Hluttaws and State Hluttaws. Legislative power stipulated by the State Constitution shall be distributed to self-administered areas — concerning legislation, the party has found the matters on judiciary and the legislative power of the self-administered areas explained by the Work Committee Chairman are comprehensive and appropriate.

Union Pa-O National Organization said that the legislative power of the self-administered division and self-administered zones should be in accord with the 10 points explained by the Work Committee Chairman, and the points should be laid down as detailed basic principles.

Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization said

that the clarifications including the legislative power of the self-administered areas are comprehensive. Thus, it said that it has no further discussions concerning the issue.

Lahu National Development Party said that the legislative power of the State is distributed among Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Region Hluttaws and State Hluttaws. Legislative power stipulated by the State Constitution shall be distributed to self-administered areas. In connection with the bodies which will exercise the legislative power delegated to the self-administered areas, it is stated — the self-administered division leading body and the self-administered zone leading body of the respective self-administered division and zones will be constituted and these leading bodies exercise the legislative powers delegated by the Constitution. It is important that such powers should be those the legislative leading bodies can manage.

The party said that the ten points explained by the Work Committee Chairman are appropriate to be laid down as detailed basic principles in drafting a constitution.

Union Kayin League said that members of the self-administered division leading body or self-administered zone leading bodies are mainly responsible for the development of the respective division or zones. They are to take care of health, smooth transport, high level of education and better condition of the basic needs of the people depending on the conditions of their areas. Appropriate legislative powers are to be delegated to them to enable them to carry out the duties.

A detailed basic principle — legislative power concerning the ten points is vested in the self-administered division leading body and the self-administered zone leading bodies — should be laid down.

Kokang Democracy and Unity Party said that the party has no further discussion on the legislative power of the leading bodies of self-administered areas and the matters concerning the sharing of the legislative power included on the Union legislative list of the Pyidaungsu, regions and states and leading bodies of self-administered division and zones, legislative power of Union territories, and the effectiveness of the laws enacted by the hluttaws at all levels and self-administered area leading bodies.

Wa National Development Party said that in the self-administered areas, there reside not a single national race, but numerous national races. As appropriate power has been distributed to the self-administered areas, the 10 points explained by the Work Committee Chairman are suitable to be laid down as detailed basic principles for self-administered division or self-administered zones.

Of the five papers presented by representatives-elect group, the papers presented by the delegates of the National Unity Party and the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization are the same as the ones presented by the delegates of the respective parties in the political parties delegate group.

Representative-elect Dr Hmu Htan of Thantlan Township constituency in Chin State, and Representative-elect U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township constituency in Shan State said that 10 points explained by the Work Committee Chairman are suitable to be laid down as detailed basic principles for self-administered divisions or self-administered zones for delegating the legislative power to them.

**According to the basic principles one self-administered division and five self-administered zones will emerge. The leading bodies will play key role in developing their own division or zones. Thus, the 10 points should be laid down as detailed basic principles in distributing the legislative power to the leading bodies.**

Representatives-elect U Tin Win of Kyaiklat Township constituency-2, U Thein Kyi of Taungdwingyi Township constituency-1, U Hla Soe of Minbu Township constituency-2, U Mya Hlaing of Twantay Township constituency-2, U Kyi Win of Mingaladon Township constituency-1 and U Tin Tun Maung of Mingaladon Township constituency-2 said that they have no further suggestions for the sector.

(See page 15)

# Putin intensifies fight against North Caucasus militants

Moscow, 22 Feb— Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday ordered the Interior Ministry to reinforce efforts to crack down on illegal armed forces in the country's restive North Caucasus region.

"I hope you will hold a comprehensive investigation which will have a good effect on the regional situation," Putin told Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev at a government meeting, praising the weekend military operation that killed three militants in Nalchik, capital of Kabardino-Balkaria Republic.

Putin said he hoped Russian troops and police will continue acting in the North Caucasus in the same way and treat the militants "more severely", the *Interfax* news agency reported.

Federal forces on Sunday uprooted a number of terrorist groups in Nalchik, killing three militants led by notorious Chechen rebel leaders Aslan Maskhadov

and Shamil Basayev who Russian authorities blame for a number of terrorist attacks across the country.

Russian troops carried out another operation in the early hours of Monday against militants in the breakaway Chechen republic, killing two aides to Basayev and Maskhadov.

Nurgaliyev said the police have launched similar operations in the North Caucasus regions of Ingushetia and Dagestan.

Russian authorities intensified operations against terrorists and rebel groups following the Beslan school hostage tragedy which left over 330 people dead last September in North Ossetia in the region. — *MNA/Xinhua*

# Tanzania to allocate land strip to train landmine sniffing rats

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 22 Feb — Tanzania is to set aside 100 acres of land in one of its universities to help train landmine sniffing rats.

The land strip, to be sealed from layman access inside the Sokoine University of Agriculture in the Morogoro region, will bury over 1,000 landmines with some of their locks removed to avoid unintended blasts caused by animals, according to reports reaching here on Monday.

The sniff rat-training project, being conducted in three African countries of Tanzania, Mozambique and Angola since 1998, is based on the fact that rats are too light to set off landmines.

Researchers have so far proved in laboratories that after approximately 18 months of training, sniff rats can detect landmine smells far better than any machines or dogs.

Researchers say that almost every landmine-detecting method has its drawbacks.

Sniff dogs often set off detonators,

armoured bulldozers only work on level ground while metal detectors cannot distinguish between coins and landmines. Sniff rats are superior to these methods for they seldom get blown up, apart from the fact that they are abundant, cheap and to move around easily.

The project's coordinator Robert Machangu said that the rats in the Sokoine university are trained to receive food such as groundnuts or bananas only when they successfully detect explosive devices.

Three sniff rats have already found some 60 landmines in an un-cleared land strip in Mozambique.

According to the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines, an estimated 100 million landmines have been laid worldwide, most of them in Africa, South America and the Middle East. — *MNA/Xinhua*

# Firefighters battle major blaze in Chile's National Park

SANTIAGO (Chile), 22 Feb — Hundreds of firefighters battled a major blaze on Monday in Chile's Torres del Paine National Park that forced wildlife to flee and obscured views of the famous Horns of Paine peaks at the height of the tourist season.

The fire, which was started when a Czech camper's stove turned over, has burned more than 14,000 acres in four days, the government's National Forestry Corporation spokesman Claudio Perez said.

An unusually hot summer in remote southern Chile, steep terrain, and strong winds typical of the season have complicated firefighting efforts, Perez said.

"It's really hard to say when we could have it contained," he said.

A few dozen tourists have been evacuated from campgrounds due to heavy smoke, and campgrounds have been shut down near popular lakes on the eastern side of the park, according to a report in *La Segunda* newspaper.

Chile, a South American nation with

the soaring Andes mountain range and miles of dramatic coastline, draws thousands from around the world to its national parks. Torres del Paine's glaciers and dramatic granite spires are a big draw for hikers.

Foxes, pumas, guanacos (a smaller relation of the llama) and nandues (a flightless bird related to the ostrich) are fleeing the flames from the fire, the worst in two decades.

The tourist whose camp stove accidentally started the fire paid the maximum fine of 200 US dollars and was allowed to leave the country.

Torres del Paine lies 1,500 miles south of the capital on the border with Argentina and its total area is 450,000 acres.

*MNA/Reuters*

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MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM  
E-mail: mtpl@mpml.com.mm Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:699  
Yangon. 24 February 2005

# Second transplant patient dies in Germany

FRANKFURT, 22 Feb — A second transplant patient in Germany believed to have contracted rabies after receiving an organ from an infected donor has died, medical authorities said on Monday.

"Despite great efforts, it was impossible to stabilize the recipient of the kidney transplant and prevent a fatality," a clinic in the central town of Hannoversch Munden said. The 70-year-old man had initially been brought into hospital about a week ago with suspected meningitis. On Saturday, a woman who received a lung from the same donor died.

Authorities in Germany said last week they suspected three people may have been infected with rabies following transplants from a woman thought to have contracted the illness before her death.

Doctors believe the donor, who died of heart failure in December 2004, may have contracted the virus during a holiday in India. She displayed no

symptoms of rabies — which can have an incubation period of several months—before her death.

Authorities said a patient in Marburg who received a transplant from the donor remained in a critical condition, while others being treated in Mainz and Heidelberg were doing well.

*MNA/Reuters*

# British military helicopter crashes in Bosnia

SARAJEVO, 22 Feb — A British military Lynx helicopter crashed in central Bosnia on Monday but three crew members suffered only minor injuries, a British spokesman for the European Union peace force said.

The helicopter went down near the central Bosnian town of Kakanj,

### TRADE MARK

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Dated: 24 February 2005

# Sky over China to be filled with planet sightings

BEIJING, 22 Feb— Chinese stargazers are expected to see a spectacular astronomical phenomenon Sunday night when Saturn will overlap the moon.

Expert Qi Yue with the Beijing Planetarium said that starting at 7 pm, stargazers across the country will be able to see Saturn clearly to the south of the moon. People with telescope of five centimetres or more will be able to see Saturn's rings, he said.

On 27 February, the moon will overlap Jupiter, and China will also be an ideal place to observe the planet sighting, Qi said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

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### Blair's party loses ground to Conservatives

LONDON, 22 Feb — British Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labour Party has lost ground to the opposition Conservatives since the start of intense campaigning for an expected general election in May, according to an opinion poll on Tuesday.

The ICM poll for the *Guardian* newspaper found Labour's lead over the Conservatives was down to three points, compared to seven points last month and nine in December.

The poll put Labour on 37 per cent, the Conservatives on 34 per cent, and the Liberal Democrats, who opposed the Iraq war, on 21 per cent.

The *Guardian* said the findings suggested Blair's attempts to regain the public's confidence in his leadership, severely damaged by the Iraq war which many Britons opposed, had failed.

The paper said the poll had also found that outside Labour's core support, many voters thought the Prime Minister was arrogant, out of touch and

untrustworthy.

Despite the apparent dip in support, Blair — who won power in 1997 and won another large parliamentary majority in 2001 — remains on course to win a historic third term according to analysts.

The latest poll's findings are at odds with a similar survey carried out by NOP last week which gave Labour 42 per cent compared to the Conservatives' 30 per cent — the party's biggest lead since May 2003.

No date for the poll has yet been set but campaigning by the major parties is well under way and the election is widely expected to be held on 5 May.

MNA/Reuters

### "Mermaid syndrome" baby's father appeals for help

LIMA (Peru), 22 Feb—Ricardo Cerron a 24-year-old mechanic, was so desperate when his daughter was born with "mermaid syndrome" — a condition called sirenomelia, which is nearly almost fatal — that he appeared on television to appeal for help.

The city of Lima has pledged to pay for years of gruelling operations that are his daughter's only shot at a normal life.

But the intensifying media interest about 40 days before Milagros' surgery has not translated into "a single diaper or any milk" to help the family, complained Cerron.

Cerron's appeal prompted a municipal hospital to bring baby Milagros to Lima when she was two days old.

Her doctor, Luis

Rubio, said the hospital would fund all her treatment and that media coverage of her case had led to donations of medicines and surgical thread.

Milagros — her name means "miracles" in Spanish — was born last April in the Andean town of Huancayo. Her mother, 19-year-old Sara Arauco, had no ultrasound scan so Milagros' appearance was a total shock.

The baby girl's abdomen flows seamlessly into her legs, which move sepa-

rately but are trapped in a "sack" of tissue and fat down to her heels. Her feet are splayed in a "V" like a mermaid's tail. She has a rudimentary anus, urethra and genitalia all located together.

Two weeks ago, doctors inserted silicone bags between Milagros' legs and began pumping in saline solution to stretch the skin in preparation for cutting her legs apart.

It will be one of only a handful of times the surgery has been tried. Many of the 1-in-60,000 to 1-in-100,000 "mermaid" babies lack kidneys and most die within hours. Tiffany Yorks, a 16-year-old American believes she is the only survivor.

Before surgery, Milagros is having therapy in a high-pressure hyperbaric chamber to boost oxygen to the skin.

Lying on her back, her splayed feet peeping out from a white gauze bandage, she seemed unfazed by the cameras and was soon craning her neck and smiling.

Rubio said doctors would cut as far as her knees, then divide her thighs five months later. Genital reconstruction will probably wait until adolescence.

MNA/Reuters

### Ministers to discuss UN's future work on environment protection

NAIROBI, 22 Feb— Ministers and national delegations from over 100 countries gathered here Monday to discuss ways on how to improve environment to reach the UN's millennium goals for poverty eradication.

Klaus Toepfer, head of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) re-commits his agency's efforts to strengthen environment protection as he stated at the opening ceremony for the 23rd Session of UNEP Governing Council and Global Ministerial Environmental Forum.

"Environment is one of the three pillars to support sustainable development. Let's work together to make that pillar stronger," said Toepfer, noting that in the conference, delegates will participate in discussion about the UNEP's future programme, as a way to help realize the UN's goal to

reduce poverty.

The UN Millennium Development Goals were set forth in 2000 in the Global Millennium Declaration and are expected to materialize by 2015. The goals include cutting poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, ensuring environmental sustainability among others.

The environment "is a golden thread" running right through the UN's development goals. "If you damage the environment, all the millennium development goals are going to be harder to achieve," said Toepfer in an earlier Press briefing.

According to him, the

meeting which is looking at how to bolster global, regional and national environments so as to improve the prospects for achieving the MDGs, and will feed its conclusions into the September Summit-level meeting of the UN General Assembly for a five-year review of the goals.

The 23rd Session of UNEP Governing Council and Global Ministerial Environment Forum entitled "Protecting the Environment: the thread that runs through the Millennium Development Goals" will be held from February 21 to 25 in the UNEP headquarters based in Nairobi.—MNA/Xinhua



A porcelain doll by Seymour Mann is displayed recently at the 2005 American International Toy Fair at the Jacob Javits Convention Centre in New York City.—INTERNET

### Singapore launches anti-cocaine ads in two magazines

SINGAPORE, 23 Feb— Singapore is launching anti-cocaine advertisements in two high-society magazines in an unprecedented campaign to stem drug use in one of Asia's wealthiest societies.

The full-page ads to appear in next month's issues of Singapore *Tatler* and *The Peak* magazines have a prominent message reading: "I can stop taking cocaine anytime I want."

In the background will run a list of names of people who have been convicted and their sentences, the latest use of "name and shame" justice in a country famous for its strict laws and authoritative government.

"We decided on the two magazines because its readers, the rich and famous, are the next group of abusers that we will be targeting," said Central Narcotics Bureau spokeswoman Dawn Sim.

The campaign follows a rare cocaine drug scandal in October that ex-

posed a high-society world of drugs amid celebrities and the rich in Singapore, whose drug laws are among the world's toughest and include the death penalty for trafficking.

Of 23 people arrested in October, six — including a British-born editor of *Tatler* magazine, the son of a former High Court judge, a prominent British-born financial broker, an award-winning chef, a shipping executive and the daughter of an entertainment mogul — have been convicted.

Those sentences were the first in Singapore for cocaine consumption since 1971 and followed a year in which synthetic "club drugs" overtook heroin as Singapore's drug of choice.—MNA/Reuters



Crane-shaped lanterns are seen at Baotu Spring Park in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 20 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

## Alex's header helps Eindhoven to win over Monaco

EINDHOVEN (Netherlands), 23 Feb—An early header from Brazilian centre back Alex helped PSV Eindhoven to a 1-0 first leg win over Monaco after their first appearance in the Champions League knockout stage on Tuesday.

Alex rose unchallenged to powerfully nod home the excellent Mark van Bommel's eighth minute corner for what was a rare highlight in an otherwise dull encounter.

In the first half both sides laboured on a slippery surface, caused by snow before the match, and Monaco's midfield especially struggled to link the play to their strikers as they frequently resorted to the long ball. After 25 minutes Van Bommel found Johann Vogel in a good position on the edge of the penalty area but his hurried shot went wide.

In the opening period of the second half Monaco looked more threatening but it was Eindhoven defender Andre Ooijer who had the best chance to double their lead after 56 minutes only to blaze over the bar from a good position.—MNA/Reuters

## Liverpool defeat Leverkusen 3-1

LIVERPOOL (England), 23 Feb—Liverpool had to settle for a bitter-sweet 3-1 victory over Bayer Leverkusen in the Champions League knockout round on Tuesday after a goalkeeping blunder by Jerzy Dudek in stoppage time.

Spaniard Luis Garcia gave Liverpool a 15th minute lead, Norwegian John Arne Riise arrowed in a free kick 20 minutes later and German Dietmar Hamann curled home another free kick in stoppage time to put them on track for the quarter-finals.

But there was still time for Dudek to fumble a hopeful shot and Brazilian substitute Franca to poke the ball

home from close range to give the Germans a chance of qualifying if they can manage at least a 2-0 win in the second leg.

Liverpool, looking to avenge their 2002 Champions League quarter-final exit to Leverkusen, made light of the absence of suspended captain Steven Gerrard and cup-tied Spanish striker Fernando Morientes and could have won by a far bigger

margin.

The turning point on the night came midway through the first half when Leverkusen striker Dimitar Berbatov missed a golden opportunity to equalize and minutes later Riise pulled the trigger to make it 2-0 to the home side.

Before that Leverkusen had carved out the first chance of the game following a mazy run by midfielder Paul Freier but Robson Ponte could only meet his cushioned cutback with a shot over the bar.

Liverpool made no such mistake with their first break when Croatian midfielder Igor Biscan threaded in a defence-splitting pass and Garcia ran on to tuck the ball under keeper Joerg Butt.

The Bundesliga side should have been level after 29 minutes, though, when Liverpool defender Steve Finnan completely botched a header back to Dudek, putting Berbatov clean through.

However, the feared Bulgarian striker put his shot wide of the left hand post with Dudek completely at his mercy.

Leverkusen paid for the error when Riise beat Butt at his near post with a free kick that flew over the German wall.

Klaus Augenthaler's side never really recovered from the blow and were lucky not to be three down soon after the break when Riise skipped past a defender and laid the ball back for Milan Baros but the Czech striker squandered the chance.

MNA/Reuters

## Pizarro strikes twice to lead Bayern 3-1 win over Arsenal

MUNICH, 23 Feb—Claudio Pizarro struck twice to lead Bayern Munich to a 3-1 win over Arsenal on Tuesday that put the Bavarians on course for the Champions League quarter-finals, despite the late Kolo Toure goal that gave the Londoners a lifeline.

Pizarro took advantage of Toure's dreadful mistake to put Bayern into the lead in the fourth minute with a low volley and headed in a second, with a deflection off the hapless Toure, 13 minutes into the second half.

Hasan Salihamidzic made it 3-0 six minutes later when Jens Lehmann could only get a finger-tip to a Torsten Frings cross, leaving him unmarked to smack into an empty net. Bayern were in complete control but were shocked a minute from time when Toure made up for his earlier mistakes by firing past Oliver Kahn, after Patrick Vieira's strike had come back off a post.

Arsenal, desperate to do well in the Champions League after falling way behind in the race for the Premier League title, created virtually nothing else.

They scarcely deserved it, but Toure's late strike gives them a glimmer of hope of overturning the deficit at Highbury on March 9.

"At 3-0 it looked impossible for us to go through, but now we have a chance in two weeks, we only have to win 2-0 and we are through," said Lehmann.

Arsenal's poor defending could in part be explained by the absence of England defenders Sol Campbell and

Ashley Cole from the starting line-up through injury and illness.

There could be no excuses for their complete lack of invention in midfield, with Thierry Henry and Jose Antonio Reyes seeing little of the ball and Kahn forced into just one save.

The game had been billed as a showdown between Kahn and Lehmann, rivals for the number one spot for the 2006 World Cup hosts.

Kahn got the better of the personal duel, but hardly in the way he would have imagined.

It was Kahn's long punt forward that led to Toure's mistake, the defender heading the ball straight up into the air instead of clear of danger.

It was his misfortune that Pizarro reacted in a flash to volley the ball low past Lehmann and give Bayern an early confidence boost. After their bright start, Bayern found themselves unable to get the ball forward to Pizarro and Roy Makaay because of pressure from the aggressive Arsenal midfield and there were no further clear chances for the home side in the first half.

There were no chances for Arsenal either, just a series of hopeless balls forward for Henry to chase.—MNA/Reuters

## Helguera's header gives Real 1-0 win over Juventus

MADRID, 23 Feb—A glancing header from Ivan Helguera gave a dominant Real Madrid a slender 1-0 win over Juventus in the first leg of their Champions League knockout tie at the Bernabeu on Tuesday.

The Real centre-back was forced out with what appeared to be a knee injury, but they continued to take the initiative against the unambitious Italians.

Roberto Carlos was a constant threat with his rampaging runs down the left, while Zinedine Zidane, who gave an outstanding performance against his former club, probed for gaps in the crowded Juve defence.

The Brazilian created a great chance for his side in the 25th minute when he fired a cross into the area after Zidane had put him clear on the left, but Raul hit the top of the bar with

his shot.

Real, though, made no mistake six minutes later when Helguera flicked a header past Buffon and into the far corner.

Juve's only threat in the first half came from a couple of wayward shots from midfielders Emerson and Pavel Nedved around the half hour mark.

But the Czech international, who was making his first start in a month after recovering from a knee injury, left the field a few minutes later after a clash of heads with Real substitute Raul Bravo.

MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's John Arne Riise celebrates his goal against Bayer Leverkusen during their Champions League soccer match at Liverpool, England, on 22 Feb, 2005.—INTERNET

## Yoshikatsu to miss World Cup qualifier in Iran

TOKYO, 23 Feb—Japan goalkeeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi could miss his country's World Cup qualifier in Iran on 25 March after breaking a finger, his club Jubilo Iwata said on Tuesday.

Kawaguchi fractured his right index finger in training and will miss Iwata's J-League season opener on 5 March. Club doctors told the player the injury will take a month to fully heal.

The 29-year-old could also miss out on Japan's home game against Bahrain on 30 March. Nagoya's Seigo Narazaki would be Kawaguchi's natural replacement.

"It's a blow for the team and for (Japan coach) Zico," Japan Football Association (JFA) president Saburo Kawabuchi said.

"But it's a chance for someone else to step up—like (Masashi) Oguro did against North Korea."

MNA/Reuters



For long cricketers were the only sportspersons to get mobbed in India, but tennis player Sania Mirza now enjoys similar star status.—INTERNET

**Further burgeoning of the noblest...**

(from page 11)

Representative-elect U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township constituency in northern Shan State said that according to the already-laid-down basic principles, there will be one self-administered division, and five self-administered zones. The 10 points are suitable to be put on the legislative list of the self-administered area leading bodies.

The national race delegate group said that a detailed basic principle — legislative power concerning the ten points is vested in the self-administered division leading bodies and the self-administered zone leading bodies — should be laid down.

Peasant delegate group said that the National Convention has laid down basic principles to form leading bodies at the self-administered division and self-administered zones.

According to the basic principles one self-administered division and five self-administered zones will emerge. The leading bodies will play key role in developing their own division or zones. Thus, the 10 points should be laid down as detailed basic principles in distributing the legislative power to the leading bodies.

Worker delegate group said that a detailed basic principle — legislative power concerning the ten points is vested in the self-administered division leading body or the self-administered zone leading bodies — should be laid down.

Intellectuals and intelligentsia delegate group said that legislative power concerning the ten points should be vested in the self-administered division leading body or the self-

administered zone leading bodies.

State service personnel delegate group said that the National Convention has already designated one self-administered division and five self-administered zones. And it is required to prescribe in the Constitution which type of legislative powers are to be delegated to the self-administered areas. In studying the type of legislative powers to be delegated to the self-administered areas, it is important that such powers should be those the legislative leading bodies can manage. The distributing of legislative power concerning the ten points to the self-administered division leading body or the self-administered zone leading bodies should be included in the Constitution.

The group has also suggested to substitute the term in item (h) of the ten points "Environmental conservation" with the

term "Environmental conservation in accord with the law enacted by the Union."

Other invited persons delegate group discussed in support of the ten points concerning the legislative power of the self-administered areas as it sees them as comprehensive and appropriate.

In giving a separate suggestion, the group said that the State should consider adding of the following two more points in the ten points explained by the Work Committee Chairman, in enacting laws for the self-administered division or self-administered zones:

- (1) Preservation of literature and culture
- (2) Administration and judicial affairs as required by specific nature of areas, border trade and cross border permission

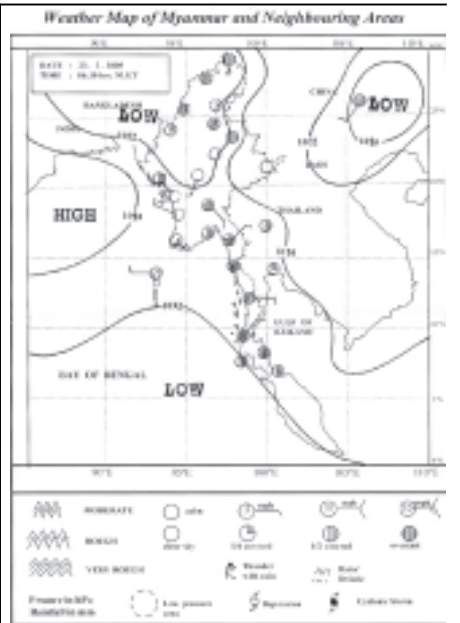
Moreover, it gave a proposal to substitute the term "Building, repair and maintenance of roads"

with the term "Road and bridge construction and maintenance of roads and bridges", and the term "Forest protection and conservation" with the term "Conservation and protection of natural forests and private forest plantations including teak."

The panel of chairmen's collection of excerpts from the suggested proposals submitted by

delegates to the National Convention on distribution of legislative power in connection with other matters not stated in the legislative lists of the Union, Region or State, and self-administered division or zone leading bodies presented by U Mya Aye of Delegates of Peasants will be published in tomorrow's issue.

MNA



**WEATHER**

**Wednesday, 23 February, 2005**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours**

**MST:** During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Mon State, Mandalay, Bago Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Lashio (8°C).

Maximum temperature on 22-2-2005 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 23-2-2005 was 65°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 23-2-2005 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 22-2-2005 was (7.6) hours approx. Rainfalls on 23-2-2005 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 (15) mph from Northwest at (21:30) hours MST on 22-2-2005.

**Bay inference:** Weather is partly cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 24-2-2005:** Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin and upper Sagaing Division and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**State of the sea:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Slight increase of night temperatures are likely in Central Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24-2-2005:** Fair weather.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24-2-2005:** Partly cloudy.

**EARTHQUAKE REPORT**

(Issued at 10:00 hours M.S.T on 23-2-2005)  
An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.5) Richter Scale with its epicentre outside of Myanmar about (654) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye Seismological Observatory was recorded at (23) hrs (43) min (46) sec M.S.T on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2005.



Myanmar traditional Htamane preparation contest in progress at the Kandawgyi Karaweik Natural Garden on Full Moon Day of Tabodwe (23-2-2005). — NLM



Thursday, 24 February

**Tune in today:**

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music: -The light
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music: -Sunshine
- 8.50 am National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am Music: -Around the world
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music: -Absolutely
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm LUNCHTIME MUSIC -Up where we belong -Real love -Ain't nothing like the real thing baby -Faxing a broken heart
- 9.00 pm Aspects of Myanmar -The month of Tapodwe
- 9.10 pm Article
- 9.20 pm Pouri -China from Marco Polo travelogue becomes prosperous again -Alcoholic drinks are as bad as tobacco and high blood pressure -Study finds worms squirming of fish-hook feel no pain
- 9.30 pm Favourite songs chosen by music lovers -If we hold on together -I'm not a girl but not a woman
- 9.45pm News/Slogan
- 10.00pm PEL



Thursday, 24 February

**View on today:**

- 7:00 am 1. ဂျော့ရှူးရှင်မင်းထွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာယော နာယကအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်အားကျွမ်းအားစေဟောပြောရုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာစာပေ ယောသဒ္ဓမ္မအဘိဓာ၊ တိပိဋကဓမ္မ မေတ္တာဏှာဂါရိကာ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒိန္ဒ၊ ဝိစိတ္တ သာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am 2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ မေတ္တာဏှာဂါရိကာ အရှေ့ဟောပြောတက္ကသိုလ်နိဗ္ဗာန်သံဃာ (ပေတဆရာတော်)မဟာကြားတော် ဗုဒ္ဓအိမ်သာ ဥပါတသန္တံပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am 6. Dance of national races
- 8:10 am 7. Dance variety
- 8:20 am 8. အဝိသွားတံတား
- 8:30 am 9. International news
- 8:45 am 10. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm 5. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ဂျင်ပြင်သင်ကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒ၊ သတ္တဗေဒ အထူးပြုများ) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)
- 5:15 pm 6. Cute little dancer
- 5:30 pm 7. "ဧကံပုထုပ်ဆင်လုပ်ငန်းတွင်" (အကယ်ဒမီစင်ပိုင်၊ အကယ်ဒမီမင်းမော်ထွန်း၊ အကယ်ဒမီ မိုးရီမြင့်အောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းထွန်းထွန်း)
- 5:40 pm 8. လက်ဆွဲကမ်းပေးဂီတတေး
- 5:50 pm 9. Musical programme
- 6:00 pm 10. နိုင်ငံအဝန်းသစ်တောရွမ်းဖြင့် စိမ်းလန်းစေရမည်
- 6:15 pm 11. Musical programme
- 6:30 pm 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm 14. နိုင်ငံခြားတော်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်အောင်ပီ" (အပိုင်-၉)
- 7:30 pm 15. ကမ္ဘာ့ကမ္ဘာ့သားသားသားသား (ကမ္ဘာ့သားသားသား ကမ္ဘာ့သားသား) (အချစ်ပါရ)
- 7:50 pm 16. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံဂုဏ်ပြုတေး
- 8:00 pm 17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. Myanmar video feature "ရွာတစ်ရပ်အချစ်ဆုံး" (အပိုင်-၁) (ရန်အောင်၊ ဓမ္မာနန်း၊ ဓမ္မာနန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မြင့်ကျော်)
- 21. 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

We in Myanmar realize that in an increasingly integrated world, we must work closely with friendly countries and neighbours. We believe that the future of developing countries lies on promoting regional co-operation which does not diminish national identities but enhances political and economic strength.

**PRIME MINISTER LT-GEN SOE WIN**

**Senior General Than Shwe sends congratulatory message to Croatian President**

YANGON, 23 Feb— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a congratulatory message to His Excellency Mr Stjepan Mesić, President of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of his inauguration for the second term.— MNA

**Myanmar places importance in ASEAN and its commitment to moving towards closer cohesion and economic integration**



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win delivers an address at the luncheon.— MNA

YANGON, 23 Feb — The following is the full statement of Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win at the luncheon given in his honour by the President of the Republic of the Philippines Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on 21-2-2005.

I am deeply touched by Your Excellency's kind words of welcome. The warmth with which we have been received since our arrival in Manila no doubt reflects the close bonds of friendship between our two countries. It is a pleasure to be among friends. (See page 6)



Philippine President Madame Gloria Macapagal Arroyo delivers an address. — MNA

YANGON, 23 Feb— The following is the full statement of President of the Republic of the Philippines Gloria Macapagal Arroyo during the luncheon for Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar Lt-Gen Soe Win on 21-2-2005.

I wish to welcome Your Excellency, Lieutenant General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar and the members of your delegation to the Philippines. Myanmar is one of the four new member countries of ASEAN. President Ramos visited Myanmar on 21-2-2005. (See page 6)

**Prime Minister meets Philippine Senate President, Speaker of House of Representatives**

YANGON, 23 Feb— Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win met Philippine Senate President Mr Franklin Drilon at the Imperial Suite on the 11th floor of the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel in Manila at 2 pm local time on 21 February.

The Prime Minister received Philippine Speaker of the House of Representatives Mr Jose C De Venecia, Jr at the same venue at 2.30 pm local time the same day.

Also present at the calls were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Tin Tun, and Director-General of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Thaug Tun. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win of the Union of Myanmar receives Senate President of Philippines Mr Franklin Drilon. — MNA

**INSIDE**

The main purpose of Myanmar's foreign policy is to keep good relations with all nations of the world, especially its neighbours and member nations of the ASEAN.

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**PERSPECTIVES**