

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Tuesday, 22 March, 2005

The Tatmadaw and the entire people have become one and indivisible

Our Tatmadaw is a patriotic Tatmadaw that arose out of national politics. During the time of anti-fascist movement, our Tatmadaw hand in hand with the entire people, practised the people's militia strategy. The Tatmadaw and the entire people have become one and indivisible.

Senior General Than Shwe

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From address delivered at the parade of the 58th Anniversary Armed Forces Day)



Shweli Hydel Power project will generate 400 megawatts PM inspects Hsinshweli special high yield hybrid paddy plantation, construction of Shweli Hydel Power project in Lashio

YANGON, 21 March—Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win together with member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Chairman of Shan (North) State Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, the ministers, the deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental

officials inspected Hsinshweli special high yield hybrid paddy plantation of North-East Command in Lashio on 18 March.

Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint reported on Hsinshweli special high yield hybrid paddy and Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing gave a supplementary report.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo also

reported on measures to be taken for high quality paddy and rice.

The Prime Minister and party observed a thriving two-acre Hsinshweli model farm. They went to the Hsinshweli special high yield hybrid paddy plantation of Shan State (North) Police Force.

Secretary of Shan State (North) Peace and Development

Council Lt-Col Kyaw Shwe reported on yearly efforts for sufficiency of rice in the region and 103 per cent sufficiency of rice in 2004-2005. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing also reported on establishment of model farms in Muse and Namhkam Townships beginning from 2003-2004, achievements and extended cultivation of 1,380 acres of paddy in 2004-2005 monsoon cultivation season, maximum production of 222 baskets of paddy per acre from the farm of U Ngin Tain in Naunglong Village in Muse Township, cultivation of 920 acres of sum-

mer paddy and efforts for reaching the target per acre yield of 200 baskets in Lashio District.

Police Commander of Shan State (North) Police Col Win Naing reported on thriving of the paddy farms. The Prime Minister and party inspected Hsinshweli special high yield paddy farms and quality paddy

Hsin-shwelihmwe and Hsinshweli sunflower.

The Prime Minister and party proceeded to Kyaukkway Dam project site near Manhso Village in Lashio Township. Deputy Director U Kyaw Win of Irrigation Department in Shan State (North) reported on objectives of the project and progress of work.

(See page 6)

INSIDE

According to the social science, man cannot establish new eras of their choice. There needs material preconditions to flourish an era or system. Therefore, respective human societies practise the policies that are in conformity with their way of living.

(Page 11)

AUNG MOE SAN

Kyaukkway Dam project will supply drinking water to the people of Lashio and irrigate 843 acres of summer and monsoon paddy. The Kyaukkway earth dam is 1,080 feet long and 116 feet high and will generate 100 kilowatts.



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party inspects construction site of Kyaukkway Creek Dam. —MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 22 March, 2005

Eradication of narcotic drugs, a national duty

Narcotic drug problem is not a concern of a nation or a people only but that of all nations and the whole mankind. In reality, drug abuse is a social problem facing every nation of the world. Narcotic drugs can harm the national dignity and social values.

The Union of Myanmar is launching anti-drug campaigns as a national duty and constantly fighting the problem of growing poppy and producing opium and heroin and trafficking narcotic drugs. As a result, production of opium and heroin has been on the decrease year after year.

The fifth destruction of seized narcotic drugs, precursors, chemicals and paraphernalia of Shan State (North) organized by Shan State (North) Committee for Drug Abuse Control was held at the people's sports grounds in Lashio on the morning of 19 March and it was attended by Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win.

In his address on the occasion, Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win said that Myanmar had a tradition of fighting the narcotic drug problem in the interests of its national people as well as of the peoples of the world, that it would continue its efforts to rid the danger of narcotic drugs with or without outside help and that great strides were being made in its anti-drug campaigns.

In the Union of Myanmar, cultivation of poppy and production of opium has remarkably dropped and it is due to the leadership of the government and the active cooperation of regional authorities, leaders of national races, local people and social organizations. The result is that the Mongla region of Shan State (East) was declared a drug-free zone in April 1997, and cultivation of poppy has come to a full stop in Kokang region since 2003. Other national races are enthusiastically essaying to be able to declare their regions as drug-free zones.

Myanmar has destroyed seized narcotic drugs 18 times in Yangon and 33 times in border areas and other cities. Moreover, according to the New Destiny Project, poppy growers surrendered poppy seeds and pods of their own accord and regional authorities have torched them 11 times.

It is our belief that, if all the national races seriously consider it a national duty to eradicate narcotic drugs and cooperate with the government, the danger of narcotic drug problem will be totally wiped out from our soil once and for all.

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

Parade columns carry on marching drills



Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi inspects the drill practising of the parade columns. — MNA

YANGON, 21 March — The parade columns comprising Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Services and Red Cross Brigade participated in the drill practising by marching from the Myoma Grounds to the Resistance Park, here, from 5 am to 9 am today.

Under command of Parade Commander Brig-Gen Nyi Tun, the parade columns — Anawrahta Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Kyaw Oo, Kyansittha by Col Tha Aung, Bayintnaung by Col

Aung Kyaw Oo, Nawade by Captain Aung Zaw Win (Navy), Aungzeya by Col Myo Win, Hsinbyushin by Col Khin Aung Myint, Bandoola by Col Khin Maung Oo, Myawady by Col Win Swe and Aung San by Col Thein Zaw— will take part in the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade.

Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi and senior military officers inspected the drills of the parade columns.

MNA

Dry Day Supervisory Committee meets



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint addresses at meeting of Dry Day Supervisory Committee. — MNA

YANGON, 21 March — A coordination meeting No 1/2005 of Dry Day Supervisory Committee was held at Thiri Yadana Hall of the Ministry of Mines this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, members Deputy Minister for

Construction U Tint Swe, Provost Marshal Maj-Gen Saw Hla and members, heads of department and officials.

Joint-Secretary of DDSC Yangon Division Wireless and Traffice Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Naing reported on progress of functions and Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe gave necessary instructions.

After Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint had made concluding remarks, the meeting came to a close. — MNA

Coord meeting of Calendar Advisory Board held

YANGON, 21 March — A coordination meeting of Calendar Advisory Board of the Union of Myanmar was held at the Fine Arts Department under the Ministry of Culture on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road on 10 March.

Present on the occasion were Director-General of the Fine Arts Department U Ngwe Tun and officials, the secretary and members of Calendar Advisory Board and technicians. During the meeting, secretary Dr Pe Nyan presided over the meeting and delivered an address.

Next, members of Calendar Advisory Board calendar technicians submitted a calendar (Draft) for Myanmar Era 1369 and sought approvals. — MNA

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

မော်တော်ယာဉ် ဖောင်းနှင့်သူအနေဖြင့် အရက်သောက်စား မူးယစ်မောင်းနှင်မှုကြောင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ မကြာခဏ ဖြစ်ပွားလျက်ရှိရာ ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာနယ်နိမိတ်အတွင်း အရက်သေစာ သောက်စားမောင်းနှင်ခြင်း မပြုရန်နှင့် လိုက်နာခြင်းမရှိပါက ၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလ(၁)ရက်နေ့မှ စတင်၍ ခေတ်မီအရက်မူးတိုင်းကိရိယာ (ALCOHOL TESTER) ဖြင့် တိုင်းတာ၍ မူးယစ်မှုတွေ့ရှိပါက တရားဥပဒေအရ ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးနိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်ကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

နှစ်(၆၀)ပြည့်တစ်မတော်နေ့ပြည့်
 တစ်မတော်စစ်သမိုင်းပြတိုက်
 (ရွှေတိဂုံဘုရားလမ်း)
 (၂၆-၃-၂၀၀၅ မှ ၄-၃-၂၀၀၅)
 (မည်သူမဆို အခမဲ့ဝင်ရောက်
 ကြည့်ရှုလေ့လာနိုင်ပါသည်)

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Objectives

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



A shopkeeper checks items featuring pictures of Mount Everest in Kathmandu recently. A group of Chinese researchers have set off on an expedition to check a theory that Mount Everest is growing by about one centimetre (0.4 inch) a year, state media reported.—INTERNET

Indonesia differs with Malaysia over East Asian Summit

JAKARTA, 20 March — Indonesian has reiterated its stance on the presence of India, Australia and New Zealand in the first ever East Asian Summit in Kuala Lumpur in December this year, a local newspaper reported Saturday.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman, Yuri Thamin, said a plan to exclude those countries from involvement in the East Asian Summit would make the group ineffective, reported *The Jakarta Post* newspaper.

"If the participants of the East Asia Summit and the current ASEAN-plus Three are still the same, it will not be beneficial,"

Yuri was quoted as saying.

"Therefore, a number of ASEAN countries, including Indonesia, see the possibility to include countries from outside the ASEAN+3 grouping, such as Australia, India and New Zealand to the East Asian Summit," he said.

Indonesia and Malaysia have sharp differences over who should attend the summit.

Korea.

The main objective of the East Asian Summit is to enhance cooperation between ASEAN and Japan, China and South Korea and jointly move toward an East Asian Community.

The ASEAN meeting in Vientiane agreed to host the summit in Kuala Lumpur this year. It also agreed to further discuss the participation of Australia, New Zealand and India in Kuala Lumpur's meeting.

The idea to host the summit was first proposed by Malaysia in 1990 but Indonesia objected to the proposal at that time.

MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak said earlier that the three countries should be excluded from the summit because it was meant to be only the ASEAN+3 countries — the 10 ASEAN members along with China, Japan and South

Thais urged to use right visa when travelling to Japan

BANGKOK, 20 March — The Thai Government has warned its citizens to get the right type of visa when travelling to Japan, which has recently tightened measures against illegal immigrants.

The Foreign Ministry called on Thai women not to seek student visas as a pretext for overstaying and working in Japan, otherwise they would face tough punitive measures, *Bangkok Post* reported on Saturday.

The ministry made such a warning after the Thai Embassy to Tokyo reported harsh measures

taken by the Japanese authorities against schools that take in fake students.

Many Thais have gone to Japan for working with a student visa, which was applied with the help of certain agencies.

"We would like to beg and warn those with immoral objectives to think about the 95 per cent real Thai students and tourists

experiencing more difficulty in getting visas approved," a senior official was quoted as saying said.

Around 5,000-10,000 out of a total of 50,000 Thai travellers to Japan each year end up in prostitution or illegal work, according to *Bangkok Post*.

Those Thais working illegally in Japan often face miserable living and

working situation, due to lack of legal documents.

MNA/Xinhua

China donates giant excavators to Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 20 March — The Chinese Government on Friday donated 20 units of giant excavators to Cambodia to support the country's construction and development.

At a handing-over ceremony, Cambodia's Minister of Water Resources and Meteorology Lim Kean Huor thanked China's assistance.

Lim said Cambodia and China are two friendly neighbours. "We, Cambodian people, will never forget the consistently help and support offered by the Chinese Government and people in our political, economic and other fields."

He expressed the belief that the excavators will play an important role in Cambodia's national construction and development.

Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia Hu Qianwen said the donation demonstrated again the importance the Chinese Government has attached to the traditional friendly relations between the two countries. — MNA/Xinhua

45 dead in Iraq unrest

BAGHDAD, 21 March — At least 45 people have died in violence in Iraq, including a US soldier, as Washington defended its decision to lead an invasion exactly two years ago amid protests around the world.

With talks on a new governing coalition still dragging on seven weeks since landmark January elections, Iraq was plunged into a diplomatic crisis with neighbouring Jordan as the two countries recalled their respective envoys after accusations of a Jordanian's involvement in a deadly suicide bombing.

Guerillas struck around Iraq yesterday hitting the fledgling security forces hard at a time when the US Government is channelling all its resources into training and equipping them to pave the way for

the exit of US-led troops.

In the main northern city of Mosul, a suicide bomber with a fake badge slipped into a building housing the provincial anti-corruption department and blew himself up inside the office of its chief, General Walid Kachmoula, killing him and two of his guards.

Attackers struck again hours later opening fire on the procession bearing Kachmoula's coffin as it made its way to the cemetery, killing two people and wounding 14, hospital sources said.

In another flashpoint

town, gunmen attacked a police station in Baquba killing at least four police and wounding two as a truck bomb rammed into the entrance of an Iraqi army barrack wounding 17 people, a police official said.

In the capital, 24 Iraqi guerillas were killed and six coalition soldiers wounded in a firefight, the US military said.

In the northern oil centre of Kirkuk, a US soldier was killed and three others wounded when a roadside bomb hit their patrol, the US military said.

Internet



The wife and children of Mohammad Kamil visit their home which was destroyed by a US airstrike in the beginning of the war two years ago in Baghdad on 19 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Over K 17 million and US \$ 100 donated for Armed Forces Day Parade

YANGON, 21 March—Honouring the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day cash and kind was donated for the third time for the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade at the Defence Services Museum on Shwedagon Pagoda Road here at 3.30 pm today.

Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attended the ceremony and accepted the donations.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of the Management Committee for Observance of the



Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win accepts cash and kind donated by wellwishers to parade columns of 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. — MNA

million by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries; 10,000 cans of sardine worth K2 million by Marine Fisheries Product Co; 25 bags of rice worth K 225,000 by Chairman of Thakayta

500,001 by U Maung Shwe (Goinga family); bottles of purified drinking water worth K 500,000 by PGS Co Ltd; K 500,000 each by Eagle Garden Restaurant, Nanhtaik Tawwin

Shwepyanhwa Transport, Yoma Bank, U Hla Shwe-Daw Khin Htay Htay and U Win Kyaw-Daw Khin Mya; K 106,060 by (U Nan Oo)-Daw Sein Sein; K 100,000 each by U Aung Shwe Saw-Daw Nwe Nwe Win and U Aung Thu; K 50,000 by U Tin Ngwe-Daw Nilar Mon; K 20,000 by U Kyaw Tint; K 15000 by U Win Myint; K 20,000 by U Kyaw Nyein-Daw Aye Aye Tint; K 51100 by All Myanmar Hindu Religious Association; K 25,000 by U Ba Bi; K 50,000 by U Khin Aung-Daw Khin Myint Thu; K 10,000 each by U Shan Lun; U Myo Aung and U Kyaw Tint; K 50000 by Daw Khin San Htwe; K 30000 by Haji U Min Lwin; K 35000 by U Aung Thi Ha; K 20000 by (Lt-Col Maung Htwe)-Daw Tin Myint; and K 100,000 each by U Myint Tun and Police Lt-Col Sai Aung Min (Retd).

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win spoke words of thanks and the ceremony ended. The donations amounted to K 17,055,361 including K 7043161 and kind worth K 10012200 and US \$ 100.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected arrangements to stage literary competition and show to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road and attended to the needs. —MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash and kind donated by a wellwisher to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. — MNA

60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, senior military officers and well-wishers.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Maj-Gen Myint Swe accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the well-wishers. The donations included 5,000 cans of sardine worth K 1

Township Bhaddanta Vimala-buddhi; K 300,000 by U Ottamasiri; US\$ 100 by U Tejavudha; K 300,000 by Road Transport Administration Department; 3000 postcards worth K 90,000 by Myanmar Women Affairs Federation; K 200,000 by Mobile Link Co; K 400,000 by Myanmar Hockey Federation; K 300,000 by U Ohn Kwe-Daw Khn San Yi; one Neon Light Box worth K 2 million by Idea Co Ltd; 7500 soap creams worth K 1.2 million by U Khin Maung Lay; four sets of body searching machines worth K 850,000 by Myanmar Shweyin International Co; traditional medicines worth K 450,000 and posters worth K 225,000 by Sein Brand Family; K

Restaurant-1 and -2, Patamya Yaungchi Co, Grate Nine Co Ltd and U Aung Zaw Win; 20 bags of gram worth K 450,000 by U Kyu family; Freshing Towers worth K 400,000 by U Myo Min Maung; K 300,000 by U Myint Naing; K 50,000 and pocket books worth K 175,000 by Haji U Than Maung; K 200,000 each by Peinnegon Jamay Mosque and Rice Merchants Association; 20 bags of rice by U Bo Gyi-Daw Than Than and family; K 200,000 by U Tun Shwe-Daw Thin Thin Swe; 35 packets of biscuit by Hsan Ko Ko Co; traditional medicines worth K 100,700 by Dr Thin Nwe Win; K 110,000 by U Khin Aung; K 100,000 each by U Maung Phyu, Ko Tin Hla and Ko Latt,

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara elected chairman of two highest religious bodies

YANGON, 21 March — The Fifth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha continued its meeting in Maha Pasana Cave at Kaba Aye, here today.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe supplicated on all-round renovation of the Maha Wizaya Pagoda.

Vice-Chairman of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Acinnabhivansa presided over the meeting and Joint Secretary Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osadhahbhivamsa acted as master of ceremonies.

Sayadaws discussed the report covering Viniya, religious affairs, and religious education, of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee.

The meeting elected Secretary of State Central Working Committee of the Sangha and State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhaddanta Kumara of Maha Withutayama Monastery of Magway as the chairman of the two religious bodies. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara, age 82 and vasa 63, was elected by the Sayadaws of the two bodies. The meeting then elected Joint Secretary of the two bodies Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Osadhahbhivamsa as the secretary. The meeting also elected Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Candasiri as the joint secretary.

U Aung Din and family of No 48, 4th Street, Ngwekyayan Ward 3, South Okkalapa Township, offered day meal to the Sayadaws of the State Oavadacariya, State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, State Central Working Committee of the Sangha and other monks attending the meeting.

Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko and officials also attended the meeting, which continues on 22 March.

MNA



Wellwisher Mr Ran Jan Dutta and Dipit Dutta of Calacutta, India presents cash donation K 110,000 to Secretary U Soe Myat Aung to build Myanmar monasteries in France. — MNA

Armed Forces Day Exhibition to be opened

YANGON, 21 March — The 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commemorative Exhibition will be staged on a grand scale at the Defence Services Museum from 26 March to 4 April 2005.

The exhibition includes booths of the ministries, the office of Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the office of Commander-in-Chief (Air), the office of Chief of Armed Forces Training and commands, booth on 12 State objectives, booths on nation-building tasks implemented by ministries concerned, booths of Yangon City Development Committee and Mandalay City Development Committee and booth on history of the Tatmadaw.

MNA

Proposal papers on detailed basic principles...

(from page 16) and Commission members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairmen of subcommittees and officials, representatives of Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, National Unity Party, Union Kayin League, Union Pa-O National Organization, Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization and in-

Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of State Service Personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President's Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General's Office, the Auditor-General's Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the Civil Serv-

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of NCCMC Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairmen and officials of the subcommittees, representatives of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel and other invited delegates signed the attendance registers at the Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall for the National Convention delegates.
Member of the NCCWC U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) presided over the meeting along with



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein signs the attendance book at NC Plenary Session. — MNA

delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia, Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin of the delegate group of State service personnel and Dr Ma Nan Tu Ja of the delegate group of other invited persons. Director (Meeting) of the office of the National Convention Convening Work Committee U Than

He said to lay down detailed basic principles for drafting an enduring State constitution, the National Convention resumed on 17 February this year. On 3 March, detailed basic principles on power sharing of legislation and formation of the financial commission were laid down, he said. On

time for the delegate groups to read out their proposal papers that include power sharing of executive and judicial sectors.
Later, U Khin Maung Gyi of National Unity Party, U Aung Khin of Union Pa-O National Organization, U Maung Pein (U Khin Maung Thein of



Member of NCC Work Committee U Myo Thant presides over the meeting. — MNA

dependent representatives-elect, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady

ice Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Development Committee and ministries, other invited delegates, delegates of 17 armed groups who exchanged arms for peace, and representatives of other or-

U Saw Philip (a) U Philip Hsam of the delegate group of political parties, U Law Hsin Kwan of the delegate group of representatives-elect, U Kyaw Din (a) U Htay Ral of the delegate group of national races, U Kyi Tint of the delegate group of peasants, U Bo

Aung acted as MC and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi as co-MC.
First, the MC announced the validity of the meeting as 1,070 out of 1,081 delegates attended the meeting, accounting for 98.98 per cent.
NCCWC member

7 and 8 March, the NCCWC Chairman explained to the delegates the detailed basic principles concerning the sharing of powers of executive and judicial sectors. Regarding these sectors, respective delegate groups made open discussions and have submitted their pro-

Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organization, and U Kyar Har Shal of Lahu National Development Party read proposal papers of their parties.
Afterwards, the plenary session of the National Convention concluded at 11.35 am.



Members of panel of chairmen seen at NC Plenary Session at Pyidaungsu Hall. — MNA

Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon,

organizations.
Before the plenary meeting, NCCC Chairman

Thein of the delegate group of workers, Dr Thein Nyunt (Nyunt Wai-Katha) of the



NC delegates attending NC Plenary Session. — MNA

U Myo That (Maung Hsu Shin) delivered a speech.

posals papers, he added. In conclusion, the meeting chairman said now is the

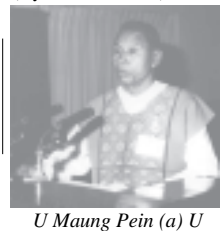
The plenary session continues at 9 am tomorrow. — MNA



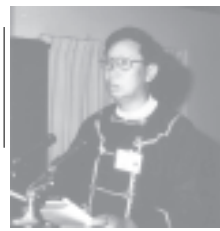
U Khin Maung Gyi of National Unity Party reads out proposal. — MNA



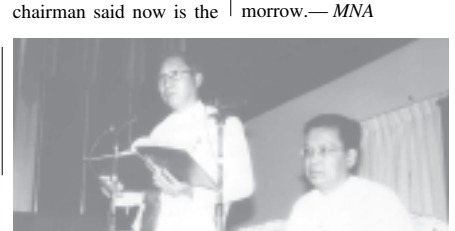
U Aung Khin of Union Pa-O National Organization reads out proposal. — MNA



U Maung Pein (a) U Khin Maung Thein of Mro (a) Khami National Unity reads out proposal. — MNA



U Kyar Har Shal of Lahu National Development Party reads out proposal. — MNA



Director U Than Aung acts as MC together with Deputy Director U Aung Kyi as co-MC — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party view Shweli Hydro-Electric Power Project.— MNA

Shweli Hydel Power project will generate 400 megawatts...

(from page 1)

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on supply of water from Kyaukkway Dam to Humon Dam and Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing on supply of drinking water from the dam and generation of power from it. CEC member of USDA Brig-Gen Pyi Sone gave a supplementary report on power supply. The Prime Minister gave instructions on regional development and boosting production in

and put fingerlings of Tilapia and golden carp in the dam.

They proceeded to special high yield hybrid paddy model farm of regional battalion. Commanding Officer Lt-Col Tin Win reported on success of the farm. They inspected feeding of fertilizer.

The Prime Minister and party attended opening of new office of Shan State (North) USDA on Pyidaungsu Road in Lashio on 19 March. Patron of

Nan Soe Soe Aung spoke words of thanks. Director U Kyay of Asia World Co Ltd handed over related documents to Secretary General of USDA Maj-Gen Htay Oo.

Member of Central Panel of Patrons of USDA Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presented a computer and a TV to Joint Secretary of Shan State USDA U Aye Thaug and Executive U Sai Aung Pwint.

Director U Kyay of Asia World Co Ltd handed over cash donations for Shan State USDA office. Next, Member of Central Panel of Patrons of USDA Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win delivered a speech.

On 19 March, the Prime Minister and party went to Shweli Hydel Power project site in Namkham Township by helicopter. They were welcomed by Col General Staff of North East Command Col Zaw Min, the director-general of Hydro-electric Power Department, Chairman of Namkham Township Peace and Development Council Major Aung Zaw Latt and officials.

Director-General of Hydro-electric Power Department U Win Kyaw reported on Shweli Hydel Power project and data, Deputy Director-General U Aung Hlaing on progress of work and Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing on construction of road from Hinlon Village to the project site and Shweli Bridge (Namkham).

Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein reported on construction of Shweli Bridge (Namkham). In his address, the Prime Minister said with the high standard of living of the people, power consumption is on the increase. It is true that generating of power has increased, but it is not sufficient for the people yet. That is why electric power projects are being implemented in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Shweli Hydel Power project is an important one. Staff in the project are to work hard based on their expertise and experience.

(See page 7)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party together with Chinese technicians pose for documentary photo at Shweli Hydro-Electric Power Project. — MNA

agricultural sector and inspected the site.

Kyaukkway Dam project will supply drinking water to the people of Lashio and irrigate 843 acres of summer and monsoon paddy.

The Kyaukkway earth dam is 1,080 feet long and 116 feet high and will generate 100 kilowatts. The Prime Minister and party went to Humon dam

USDA Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Secretary General of USDA Maj-Gen Htay Oo and CEC member Brig-Gen Pyi Sone formally opened the new office.

Member of Central Panel of Patrons of USDA Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win, formally unveiled the signboard of the USDA office. Executive Dr



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party inspect construction of intake tunnel at Shweli Hydro-Electric Power Project. — MNA

Shweli Hydrel Power project will generate 400 megawatts...

(from page 6)

Next, the Prime Minister presented fruit baskets to Chairman of Board of Directors and President Mr Feng Ke of Yunnan Machinery and Equipment Import/Export Co of the People's Republic of China and Deputy Director U Aung Hlaing of Hydro-electric Power Department.

The Prime Minister and party inspected the project area, construction of entrance of intake tunnel and diversion tunnel and they posed for documentary photos together with officials and Chinese technicians.



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party views round new building to mark 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day in Shan State (North). — MNA

They also inspected progress of work of the diversion tunnel. Shweli

Hydel Power project that can generate 400 megawatts is being built on Shweli River near Mantet Village, 17 miles south west of Namkham. The 25 miles and seven furlong long gravel road linking the Union Highway and the project site was built by Asia World Co Ltd. It was completed in June 2004.

The 600 feet long Shweli Bridge (Namkham) on Mandalay-Lashio-Namkham-Bhamo Road is being built by Public Works. It is a suspension Bridge.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back here in the evening on 19 March.

On 18 March, Deputy Minister for Health

Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day:

POEM

We'll defend our country, our land

- * Myanmar, the land we love
The faint blue hills, the formidable wall
Stand out as mountain waves
The ornamental traditional decorations
Adorn the pagoda halls, adjoining buildings
The curlicues take a golden hue
The natural water works are a breath-taking sight
They been there for a good many years.
- * Myanmar, the land where we reside
'Heroic men, beloved sons of the country
'Prominent, they're still well-known today
'Anawrahta, Razadirit
'King Kyansittha, all took the path of fame
.....These beloved flowers of the land
.....Unbelievably brave, in many ways
.....Their proud prowess, like flower-scent
.....Brilliant, have spread worldwide.
*.....We will defend the land of Myanmar
.....Using the strategy of heroes profusely
.....The Tatmadaw is crushing
.....All who fall in the category of enemies
.....Above land and under, also under water
'Sparing none, we'll crush them
.....Till they're decimated, we'll uproot them
.....The power of sovereignty
.....In the midst of the world, humankind
.....To shine like the sun and the moon
.....To sacrifice tenfold, life it be
.....Our soldiers have vowed...
.....For the people, crimson red blood...
.....The victory flag fly perpetually.

Soe Moe (Pathein) (Trs)



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win and party inspect thriving special high yield Hsinshweli sunflower in Lashio Township. — MNA

Dr Mya Oo inspected Lashio Hospital and Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen

Aung Myo Min No 6 Basic Education High School.

MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win formally unveils the singboard of Shan State (North) USDA office. — MNA



Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win makes an introductory speech at opening of USDA's building in Shan State (North). — MNA

Tatmadaw for the people



ter. The Indian governor-general sent an official to open a trial. He also sent an ultimatum to the Myanmar government to let the official alone hear the case. Myanmar replied to the Indian governor that a certain ally of the British and Myanmar should hear the case. The Indian governor-general sent an insulting ultimatum to the Myanmar government to decide the case only by

Myanmar people politically, economically, and socially. Politically, they crushed anti-colonialist heroes and activists. When caught, they were beheaded in public. The British even showed the cut heads with the aim of

of the British colonialists. Similarly, how much the BOC company of the British colonialists exploited the crude oil, the major resource of Myanmar, can be seen in the Table A, which shows how much the

Year	Profit from crude oil sale (£)	Total profit from crude oil and its products (£)
1939	2298328	4684361
1940	2768233	3769498
1941	3530711	4867894

The country like a fish in little water in the absence of the Tatmadaw

The British colonialists waged the first aggressive war on Myanmar in 1824 and occupied Rakhine and Taninthayi; waged the second aggressive war in 1852 and occupied Bago of Lower Myanmar including Yangon; and waged the third aggressive war in 1885 and occupied the Upper Myanmar including Yadanabon Palace in Mandalay.

Myanmar lost her independence and sovereignty on 29 November 1885. In the Konbaung Period, the third Myanmar Empire was enslaved. The crying of the people with their fists clenched and their lips tightened wafted across Gaw Wein jetty. The way the wavelets moved on the surface of the river at the jetty was like bidding a farewell to the royal couple. The whole environment was filled with bitterness, sorrow and sadness.

A study of the past events reveals that since 1824 the British government had drawn plans to wage an aggressive war on Myanmar and exploit her land and water resources. King Thalun allowed East India Company of the British government to open its outlet in the town of Thanlyin in 1647. In the time of King Alaungphaya, it was

Kyai Phyu

moved to Hainggyi island near Patheingyi.

However, the East India Company did not carry out business transactions honestly. Instead, it sowed confusion and dissension among national brethren. Furthermore, it provided some national races with arms and cash assistance and set them against one another. In this way, the colonialists showed their true colour. Therefore, King Alaungphaya ordered the closure of the company on the island.

Later on in the time of King Bodawphaya, the East India Company asked for the lease of the island. The request was dismissed on grounds of unscrupulous acts they conducted in the time of King Alaungphaya. The Indian governor-general of the British government released a false announcement that Myanmar invaded British-owned Assam, Manipur and Bengal regions. And they waged war of aggression against Myanmar on 5 March 1824.

Likewise, in the time of King Bagan, the British waged the second war of aggression against Myanmar in April 1852 and occupied Bago in Lower Myanmar including Yangon. They ac-

cused Yangon mayor of unfairly making Lewis and Sheppard pay fines. The two were the captains of a British-owned steam ship. In fact, the two captains were fined as they imported commodities into the country without paying any duty.

J Mamed, an Indian national living in Mawlamyine who was a subject of the British colonialists, deceitfully complained in a letter to the Indian governor-general that Myanmar killed 40 British subjects. The British government used it for their own benefit and waged the second aggressive war against Myanmar and occupied Patheingyi, Yangon, Bago, Toungoo and Pyay.

In 1885, the British Bombay Burma Company doctored the number of timber logs it had extracted. They showed 30,000 logs of timber. In reality, they extracted 80,000 logs, and they stole 50,000 logs. Therefore, the Myanmar king punished the company with a fine. As the company disobeyed the king, Myanmar confiscated elephants and properties belonging to the company according to law. The company complained to the Indian governor-general of the mat-

the British official and Myanmar officers, to protect the British official during the trial, to let a British troop station in Mandalay, and to place Myanmar's foreign relations matters under the British. Later, the British occupied Upper Myanmar including the Yadanabon Mandalay Palace.

Myanmar armies fought the British colonialists bravely during the three aggressive wars. However, Myanmar was not in a position to compete with the British in terms of weaponry. So, Myanmar lost her independence and sovereignty. If Myanmar had had the weaponry the same as the British's, Myanmar would have defeated the aggressive wars.

After colonizing Myanmar, the British government suppressed

undermining the anti-colonialist sentiment. The British committed inhumane atrocities.

The British also introduced the 'divide-and-rule' policy to destroy the unity and amity flourishing among Myanmar nationals.

Throughout the colonialist era, the British government made Myanmar farmers grow paddy, cotton, groundnut, sesame, maize, sugarcane and so on. There were only 600,000 acres of farmland across the country in 1852-53. The sown acreage rose to 12,009,717 in 1935. The sown acreage of other crops also rose.

The British government's extension of sown acreage was not in the interest of Myanmar farmers, but in the interest of foreign capitalist companies including Steel Brothers Company

British colonialists had exploited the crude oil.

After occupying Myanmar, the British government also exploited rubies and precious stones besides crude oil. The value of rubies they exploited reached one-sixteenth of the value of crude oil in 1919 as they employed modern techniques in exploiting the gems. In 1914, Namatu mine yielded 2,300 tons of tungsten. During that time, Myanmar ranked fifth in the world output of tin. However abundant were the gems, they were not in the interest of Myanmar nationals. Myanmar people were struck in the vicious circle of deep poverty. British government-run companies and partners were the only ones who enjoyed the benefits and privileges.

(See page 9)



The Yangon mayor and his party that punished the colonialists with fines for their failure to pay duty.

The country like a fish in little water in the absence of the Tatmadaw

(from page 8)

The life of Myanmar farmers was in the sea of debt. Moreover, they had to succumb their ancestral farmland to Indian profiteers if they could not settle their debts. The 1930 world economic recession put Myanmar farmers below the poverty line. **Table B** shows the loss of farmland by Myanmar farmers.

In this way, the socio-

Table B

Year	Succumbed acreage of farmland
1929	107995
1930	144777
1932	645188
1933	454431
1934	395102
1935	287136
1936	220070
1938	327970

economic life of Myanmar national farmers and workers living under the yoke of colonialist rule was at its lowest stage.

Table C shows how much the British capitalist companies like Steel Brothers exploited the national economy.

In like manner, **Table D** shows how much the British capitalist companies like BBTC and Makrika exploited the teak, the second major product in Myanmar. The British capitalist companies disbursed loans to Myanmar farmers at high interest rates to leave them in deeper sea of debt. If the loaned money could not be set-

tled, the British capitalists took farmland from farmers. British banks like Dawson Bank came to possess lots of farmland. British banks did not disburse loans directly to farmers, who had to borrow the money from Chiteers. Chiteers drew money from British banks at one per cent interest rate. However, they lent money to farmers at as high as 20 per

cent interest rate. In this way, Myanmar farmers endured the impact of poverty. The British government did not provide Myanmar nationals with education. In particular, they lowered the level of education to prolong the existence of their colonialist government. They only gave educa-

tion that just enabled Myanmar nationals to work as town officer or clerk. They did not prescribe subjects on modern science nor an education system that enabled the youths to reconstruct the motherland.

The economy and social life of the entire national people including workers and peasants were at the mercy of the imperialists. In addition that, they oppressed the national people socially by practising the relationship between a master and his servant. The British officers put pressure on the national subordinates to answer "Phayar" (word to be used when answering to a monk) whenever the latter were called. But, the latter had to call the

former "Thakhingyi" (master). Besides, the British colonialists established mission schools to deeply inculcate Myanmar generation youths with western culture and to entice them to think highly of it. The British colonialist government exploited the economic life of the national people in such a covetous way, but it absolutely restricted all the ways that could raise the nation's education standard. In 1885-1886, three government basic education high schools and eight middle schools were all the nation got in the education sector. It opened Yangon Teachers Training School in 1871, and a medical institute (the same level as health assistant course at

present) in 1907. Of the 44 students that went to the institute in 1912, more than half the number were not Myanmar nationals. It opened an institute of forestry in Thayawady in 1899, and shifted the facility to Pinyinman in 1910. The colonialists opened five survey institutes in 1844-1845. It also opened some technical institutes in some cities. The intention of these technical institutes and some vocational training schools was just to contribute towards the colonial economy and administration. Up to 1920, there was no university in the nation. Yangon College and Judson College were opened but they were under Calcutta University in India, and the latter was the decision-maker for the academic matters of the former.

Table D

Year	Export teak to India		Export teak to other country	
	Tonnage	Turnover	Tonnage	Turnover
1893-1894	—	—	—	—
1899-1900	—	—	—	—
1921-1922	160540	24706488	14757	4289631
1922-1923	156405	24542992	28180	7386087
1923-1924	175628	24838216	38549	10385403
1924-1925	184974	26654411	45339	11229503
1925-1926	189056	28549505	63074	16742187

lish Yangon University as an independent education facility in the nation in 1920. However, the facil-

ity was not within the reach of the majority of Myanmar national youths, and only the children of British officers, capitalists, Myanmar lackey high-ranking officials and the landlords had an access to the university. In such a well-organized way, the intruders oppressed the national people in numerous fields especially in social, education and cultural areas. The whole economic life of the national people went downhill in the colonial days.

If one studies the situations in that period, one will find out the completely bitter experiences. In order not to face such evil experiences, the Tatmadaw and the people are to be one in crushing all the situations that can put the nation under alien subjugation or make Myanmar lose her independence again. To do so, it is necessary to take an analytical approach to the cause of being en-



The colonialists granted audience by Myanmar king in their early attempts to invade and annex Myanmar.

slaved. Why so? The lack of a Tatmadaw which is strong enough to crush the danger of the colonialists and the internal and external destructive elements. In other words, due to the lack of a strong Tatmadaw at that time, the strength of the nation weakened. As a result, the national people were similar to the motherless child and the fish in little water. National people were drowned in the sea of aggression and insults of the colonialists.

This being the case, it is necessary to have a Tatmadaw that is strong enough to remove all the danger within and without the country.

Only then will the national people not encounter the bitter nightmare the same as their ancestors suffered once. Moreover, in line with the saying that goes "the higher the level of water, the more splendid the beauty of lotus flower", all the danger can be warded off and removed as long as the Tatmadaw and the people stand in solidarity. It is necessary for the national people to render their cooperation and assistance to strengthen the Tatmadaw. Here goes another slogan: "With Tatmadaw and the people in eternal unity, who will dare to challenge?".

(Translation: KTY + MS)

Myanma oil wells, destroyed by colonialists after being exploited, seen at Yenanchaung and Chauk oil fields on the bank of Ayeyawady River.



Myanma oil wells, destroyed by colonialists after being exploited, seen at Yenanchaung and Chauk oil fields on the bank of Ayeyawady River.

Manhsaung suspension bridge on Tiddim-Reed Lake Road...

(from page 16)

In addition to the roads linking the north and south of the nation, new roads connecting the east and west of the nation have emerged.

In his guidance, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that roads and bridges, the infrastructures for national development, have been built one after another on self-reliant basis. With the assistance of the Government, Myanmar engineers are building new transport infrastructures and upgrading the existing ones. Thanks to the infrastructures built by the Government, Chin State has seen progress in all sectors.

As the Government has been building transport infrastructures with goodwill, the people will have to strive for all-



Lt-Gen Ye Myint formally unveils stone plaque of the Manhsaung suspension bridge in Tiddim Township, Chin State. — MNA

And with Union Spirit and national solidarity, the national races will have to build a modern, strong and united nation.

The nation now is in the process of drawing a constitution that will

Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye said, the construction of Manhsaung Bridge started on 18 December 2002 and was

completed on 30 June 2004.

A local, on behalf of the entire region, thanked the Ministry of Construction and the Government for the bridge.

Commander

Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Chairman of Chin State Peace and Development Council Col Tin Hla

formally opened the bridge. Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the stone plaque of the bridge.

MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint addresses the opening of Manhsaung suspension bridge in Tiddim Township, Chin State. —MNA

round development of the economic sector. Moreover the facilities have helped national races of the different regions to contact one another and share knowledge among themselves. The Transport infrastructures have been built in the entire nation to further strengthen Union Spirit and national solidarity.

guarantee a peaceful, modern and developed nation in accord with the wishes of the entire nationalities.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun said that the nation has now over 18,640 miles of roads, up over 5,005 miles from 13,635 miles in 1988.

Chairman of



Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun gives clarifications on building of Manhsaung suspension bridge in Tiddim Township, Chin State. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye addresses opening of Manhsaung suspension bridge in Tiddim Township, Chin State. — MNA

အပူဒဏ်အန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ရေးနည်းဆော်ချက်

ယခုအခါတွင် နွေရာသီရောက်လာပြီဖြစ်သဖြင့် ရာသီဥတု ပူပြင်းလာပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုအပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပြီး နွေရာသီအတွင်းရှိ ရေနှင့်ခါတ်ဆားများ ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများ ပြားပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ဆုံးရှုံးမှုကြောင့် မိတ်နှင့်ယာဖုများထွက်ခြင်း၊ ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ မူးမောခြင်း၊ ကြွက်တက်ခြင်း၊ ရွေးခြောက်ခြင်းကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းတို့အပြင် အသက်အန္တရာယ် ခိုးရိမ်ရသော အခြေအနေ အထိဖြစ်တတ်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် မလိုလားအပ်သော အကျိုးဆက်များ မဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန် အောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များကို လိုက်နာကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

- (၁) နံနက် (၁၀)နာရီမှ ညနေ (၅)နာရီအတွင်း လွင်တီခေါင်ပြင်း၊ မြစ်ကမ်းနား၊ ရေဆိပ်စသည်တို့တွင် ရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်၍ အရိပ်ရ အေးမြသောနေရာများတွင် နေပါ။
- (၂) နေပူထဲမှပြန်လာပြီး ချက်ချင်းရေချိုးခြင်းမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၃) နေပူထဲတွင် ပြင်းထန်သောကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှုများ မပြုလုပ်သင့်ပါ။
- (၄) အရက်သောက်ခြင်းသည် အပူဒဏ် အန္တရာယ်ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လွယ်စေခြင်းနှင့် ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ပြင်းထန်စွာ ခံစားရခြင်းကြောင့် ရှောင်ကြဉ်သင့်ပါသည်။
- (၅) နေ့ခင်းဘက် အပြင်ထွက်သည့်အခါတိုင်း အရိပ် လုံလောက်စွာ ရရှိနိုင်သည့် ထီး၊ ဦးထုပ်များ ဆောင်းပါ။
- (၆) အလင်းရောင်ပြန်သော အဖြူရောင် သို့မဟုတ် အရောင်ဖျော့ဖျော့ အဝတ်အထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၇) ပွပျော့ချောင်း ချည်ထည်များကို ဝတ်ဆင်ပါ။
- (၈) ရွေးထွက်လွန်ပါက ကိုယ်တွင်ရှိရေနှင့်ခါတ်ဆားဆုံးရှုံးမှုကို ပြန်လည်ဖြည့်တင်းနိုင်ရန် ခါတ်ဆားရည် သောက်ပါ။
- (၉) ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ပါက ရေအေးဖတ် နိုင်နိုင်တိုက်ပါ။
- (၁၀) ဆီချိုရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါ အစရှိသူများ၊ ကလေးသူငယ်များနှင့် သက်ကြီးရွယ်အိုများအနေဖြင့် နေ့လည်နေ့ခင်းတွင် အရိပ်ရ၍ လေဝင်လေထွက်ကောင်းသော နေရာမျိုး၌ နားနေပါ။
- (၁၁) မိတ်ဖုယားနားများထွက်ပါက ရေအေးဝတ်ကပ်ခြင်း၊ သနပ်ခါးလိမ်းခြင်းတို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ပါ။
- (၁၂) အပူဒဏ်ကြောင့် ပင်ပန်းနွမ်းနယ်ခြင်း၊ ကိုယ်အပူရှိန်တက်ခြင်း၊ သတိလစ်ခြင်းနှင့် အတက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပါက နီးစပ်ရာ ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနတွင် ပြသပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Panoramic view of Manhsaung suspension bridge in Tiddim Township, Chin State. — MNA

Observe Myanmar's democratic transition correctly

Aung Moe San

Some are observing events based on the subjective personal opinions instead of dealing with the prevailing situations and events just as they are.

One should search for the truth in one's unaffected life if one would like to. At this point, truth means right understanding of prevailing situations and events. Misunderstanding things means that one is deducing things wrongly. Some have correct understanding while some have wrong understanding. According to the social science, misunderstanding means one fails to understand things in the right way and one understands things based on one's wishes and desire.

The fall of the Burma Communist Party was due to the fact that the BCP members had failed to remedy their mistakes and destructive acts through correct understanding, but remedied their misdeeds in a wrong way; they mistakenly acknowledged that the fall of party chairman Thakhin Than Tun and vice-chairmen Thakhin Zin and Thakhin Chit contributed towards their political conviction. The BCP's downfall was because of completely ignoring the prevailing situations and clinging on to their misconceptions. Similarly, in the history of Myanmar's politics, so-called politicians had committed rightist and leftist blunders resulting from concepts that were not in conformity with the prevailing conditions of the nation.

Nowadays, certain groups are holding negative views and opposing the Tatmadaw Government's drive for democracy transition in the nation. It is indeed like the opposition to the government prompted by anarchic tendency. And it just reflects their destructive attitude. Holding negative attitude, they are absolutely opposing whatever the government does. Such anti-government elements are not capable at all of nation-building works, and are entirely caught in a circle of destructive acts and negative views to the government. The relations between Myanmar and international community are yielding constructive results, but they are still clinging on to negative attitude.

The Tatmadaw Government has been making unremitting efforts to put into reality the 12 objectives so as to introduce the market-oriented economic system, then to build a democratic nation. In consequence, the whole nation has witnessed unprecedented progress. It has managed to make peace with the 17 national races armed groups and achieve national reconsolidation that previous governments had never done. So, the entire nation including border areas has enjoyed considerable development with peace and stability. Now, the State's seven-point Road Map is well under way to transform the nation into a democratic one. The National Convention, the basic and the most important step of the Road Map, is being held on a grander scale with the delegates representing the entire national people.

When the nation regained its independence in 1948, Myanmar communists thought that the independence was just a sham and rebelled against the government, leading to internal armed conflicts. Thus

the entire national people faced the evil consequences and disintegration of national solidarity. It is a very valuable lesson the people should take from historic events.

The entire national people are to be united and harmonious in building discipline-flourishing democratic nation in accordance with the seven-point programme. Only then, will there be the desired nation through the least extent of hardship and adversity.

According to the social science, man cannot establish new eras of their choice. There needs material preconditions to flourish an era or system. Therefore, respective human societies practise the policies that are in conformity with their way of living.

There is tangible proof that the seven-point Road Map is based on the wishes of the entire people. More than 1,000 delegates from various national races and all strata of life are representing the entire people at the National Convention. The State Constitution will be drafted in consistency with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles to be laid down by the National Convention. And the State Constitution (draft) will be approved through a referendum. (It depicts approval for the State Constitution in accordance with the wishes of the entire national people.)

In conclusion, I would say the purpose of this article is to enable the destructive elements, who ignore the nation's developments and are holding negative views to the drive for democratic reform, to realize the truth.

And free and fair elections will be held according to the new State Constitution for forming Hluttaws (legislative bodies). (It reflects elections by the people.) Hluttaw meetings will be held with the Hluttaw representatives in accordance with the new State Constitution. Then, State leaders elected by the Hluttaw and the government and administrative bodies formed by the Hluttaw will have to take over the responsibilities to build a modern and developed democratic nation.

Now is therefore the most opportune time for all the national forces to make endeavours in concert to translate into reality the open market-economic system in the economic sphere; to enable the entire national people to become good citizens of the new democratic nation and to inculcate them with a sense of duty, awareness and self-reliant mentality in the social sphere; and to ensure the national reconsolidation and introduce the genuine multi-party democracy system in the political sphere.

Turning a blind eye to these measures, internal and external destructive elements are resorting to all possible ways to obstruct and block the drive for the nation's democratic transition. However, just and fair neighbouring countries, ASEAN countries, Asian countries and world countries, holding a positive atti-

tude, have taken a correct approach to and support the nation's democratic transition that has come up since 1988.

In order to enable those holding negative views to get clear outlook on Myanmar, I would like to present as much as I remember the replies of Myanmar affairs expert Professor Robert Taylor of Britain in an interview by the BBC.

When asked if it was true that the National Convention represented the entire national people as it was in progress without the NLD that won the majority of votes in the elections held in 1990, the SNLD and the ALD, Professor Robert Taylor said that it was referred just to the election results of more than 14 years ago. He said he did not think the governments in the world were based on elections held 14 years ago.

The BBC said that there were comments on the representation of the delegates to the National Convention. Some were pointing out that the delegates did not represent correctly and widely the public and the national races. It asked if the comments were firm or not.

In response, Professor Robert Taylor said that more than 1,000 delegates were attending the National Convention. Of the delegates, 60 per cent were Barmans and 40 per cent, national races. On average, it was in proportion with the ratio of the nation's population of national races. It was very hard to meet such correct proportion of population in drawing a constitution. The proportion of the delegates of tribes in framing of the US State Constitution was not as proportionate as that of the National Convention.

The BBC said that some assumed that the Tatmadaw Government's efforts to write the State Constitution through the National Convention meant implementation of the drive to become an official government. It asked him if he thought that the National Convention would make the present government become a legal one. He said that it did not matter whether the government would become legal or not. It concerned with just the framing of the State Constitution. It was the matter of framing of the State Constitution for how a government would be formed in future. He thought that it would need to hold coordination and discussions for the emergence of the State Constitution, and it was to be in conformity with the changes. But, whatever constitution would emerge, it was better than the condition without a constitution, he said. Professor Robert Taylor is a Myanmar affairs expert and simply understands the nation's prevailing situations. He replied to the queries raised by the BBC, being free from sectarianism and subjective sensation.

In conclusion, I would say the purpose of this article is to enable the destructive elements, who ignore the nation's developments and are holding negative views to the drive for democratic reform, to realize the truth.

Myanmar Alin + Kyemon: 21-3-2005
(Translation: MS)

Study group goes on field trips to Lashio, Muse

YANGON, 21 March — A study group comprising Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Patron of Foreign Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar Mme Phobe A Gomez and ambassadors, diplomats and representatives of UN organizations, accompanied by officials concerned of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs left here by special flight at Yangon International on 17 March and arrived at Lashio Airport.

They were welcomed at Lashio Airport by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Develop-

ment Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint, senior military officers and national race leaders. Next, they paid homage to Tilawkawizaya Pagoda in Lashio and observed water supply to public. Afterwards, they visited Myoma Market and took relaxation at hot spring resort in Lashio Township.

Members of the study group, on 19 March morning, attended fifth ceremony to incinerate narcotic drugs, precursors and poppy seeds seized in Lashio Township Sports Grounds and took part in the cer-

emony. On their way to Muse, they were welcomed by Director of Border Trade Department Lt-Col Hla Maw Oo and officials at Mongyu (105) mile post of border trade check point and arrived at Muse and went round there. Members of the study group, on 20 March, went to Nandaw Gate (Star-1) at Myanmar-China border and Shwenandaw Travel Centre Booth and posed for documentary photo. They were seen off at Lashio Airport by Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Hla Myint, senior military officers and national race leaders and arrived at Yangon by Tatmadaw Special Flight. — MNA

ADVERTISEMENT

**The Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Construction
Public Works**

Extension of Invitation for Quotation

The Project Management Unit, Public Works, Ministry of Construction has invited Quotation for Myanmar-Laos Friendship Suspension Bridge.

On behalf of the Ministry of Construction of the Union of Myanmar, Project Management Unit gives notice that the date for completion and return of the Quotation has been extended to 2nd May, 2005 instead of 31st March, 2005.

**Managing Director
Public Works**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (079)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (079) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

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FDA approves

new diabetes drug

WASHINGTON, 20 March — The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Thursday approved the drug Symlin for the use in addition to insulin by diabetes patients to help lower blood sugar.

The drug, made by Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc. of San Diego, California, is intended only to be used in combination with insulin, to help lower blood sugar during the three hours after meals, the FDA said.

Symlin can be taken by adult patients with either Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes. But it has not been tested for use in children.

The FDA said mixing Symlin with insulin in the same syringe can affect the activity of the insulin.

Symlin therapy may lead to low blood sugar, particularly in patients with Type 1 diabetes and in patients with stomach problems.

The drug's side effects include nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, headache, fatigue and dizziness, according to the FDA.

MNA/Xinhua

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 24 March (Thursday) Full Moon of Tabaung 2005, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

**Central Bank
of Myanmar**

**Chinese folk music band to perform
at Paris festival**

URUMQI, 20 March — An eight-member Maqam band, a traditional folk music of Xinjiang's Uygur people, will perform at an international folk art festival which is now being held in Paris from 7 March through to 24 April.

Zhou Ji, a Maqam scholar with the Xinjiang Arts Institute and a guide for the band, said the

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(such as, television appa-
ratus, radios, VTR camera,
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P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 22 March 2005.

Diesel price hike to be capped in Thailand

BANGKOK, 20 March — Diesel prices in Thailand will increase by no more than 3.5 baht per litre so as to prevent the country's economy from severe disruption, local Press reported Friday.

At a meeting attended by Finance, Industry, Commerce and Energy ministers, green light was given to the price hike, however, complete float and elimination of state subsidies were ruled out.

Since the oil subsidy

was initiated in January last year, the state oil fund has spent more than 75 billion baht (1.786 billion US dollars) to keep retail diesel prices below market rates.

As a result of diesel price adjustment, economic growth will slip below 6 per cent this year, said Industry Minister Watana Muangsook.

"Growth this year, in the worst scenario, would fall below 6 per cent, possibly to 5.25-5.50 per

LONDON, 20 March — A British tabloid reporter said Friday he had used false references to get a job at Britain's Parliament and was even given Prime Minister Tony Blair's direct office telephone number.

"I spent six days working as a switchboard operator at the Houses of Parliament, a job obtained with false references and giving access to virtually all areas," Daniel Boffey wrote in Friday's *Daily Mirror* newspaper he works for.

"I was never searched and was asked to show my pass just once. Office,

mobile and pager numbers of Cabinet ministers, MP (member of Parliament) and peers were at hand," he said.

"I was given Tony Blair's direct office number and came face-to-face with Home Secretary (Interior Minister) Charles Clarke," said Boffey.

He said he got his job in Parliament last week with two bogus references and lies about his educational background.

The parliamentary authorities had 92 days to make checks, including a simple Internet search that would have uncovered the hundreds of assignments

that he had carried out for the *Daily Mirror*, said the journalist.

The newspaper quoted the House of Commons Administration office as saying that Boffey was given the pass because he had not been considered a security risk.

"All applicants for passes are security-cleared to the appropriate level and subjected to a criminal records check," said the office.

"The fact that Mr Boffey was issued with a pass indicates that he was not a security risk," it said.

MNA/Xinhua

British troops face helicopter shortage

LONDON, 20 March — The British troops are facing an "alarming" shortage of battlefield helicopters, according to a report published Friday by the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee.

The gap between the number of helicopters needed and those available to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) was between 20 per cent and 38 per cent, the report said.

Pointing out that the shortage was exacerbated by the ministry's 259 million pounds (about 497

million US dollars) of eight *Chinook* helicopters, which remain grounded due to technical problems, the report also warned of shortfalls in helicopter protection equipment, nuclear biological and chemical protection for aircrew and

communications capacity.

"The (MoD) is no longer proposing to fill this gap and this will potentially increase risks, including the risk of overstretching equipment and pilots," the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

**Cost of goods imported into US
rose in February**

NEW YORK, 20 March — The cost of goods imported into the United States rose in February as oil prices soared, and higher prices at the gas pump in recent weeks put a damper on consumer confidence, economic data showed on Friday.

Michael Englund, chief economist at Action Economics in Boulder, Colorado, called February's import price rise "just the tip of the iceberg".

"We are starting to see what is the start of what will be a period of oil strength," he said.

Import prices were 0.8 per cent higher in February compared with January, and 6.1 per cent above February levels last year, according to Labour Department data. Export prices were unchanged in February on month and up 3.4 per cent on the year.

Petroleum prices jumped 3.9 per cent last month and were nearly 30 per cent higher than a year earlier. Higher prices for commodities also fuelled a 2-per-cent rise in industrial supply prices from the previous month and a 19.2-per-cent increase on the year. — MNA/Reuters

**Oil prices hold within \$1
of record price of \$57.60**

LONDON, 20 March — World oil prices held within a dollar of the record on Friday as traders doubted OPEC's moves to hike production would be enough to quench the world's growing thirst for crude.

A refinery glitch at BP Plc's Texas City plant — one of the largest in the United States — added to fears of possible short supply during the high-demand summer, dealers said.

US light crude settled

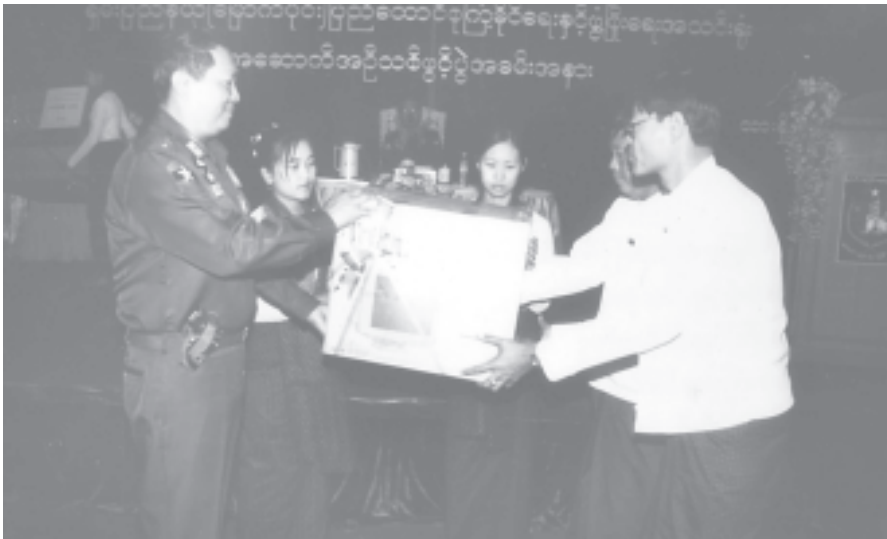
up 32 cents at 56.72 US dollars a barrel, less than a dollar under the all-time peak of 57.60 US dollars hit on Thursday. London Brent settled up 53 cents a barrel to 55.59 US dollars after hitting 56.15 US dollars in the previous session.

"Record demand growth and limited spare production capacity — it is a recipe for volatility," said Geoff Pyne, consultant to Standard Bank in London.

MNA/Reuters



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Maj-Gen Htay Oo and Brig-Gen Pyi Sone open the new building of USDA in the presence of Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win. (News on page 1) —MNA



Lt-Gen Aung Htwe presents a computer set to U Aye Thuang and U Sai Aung Pwint. (News on page 1) —MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing presents a report on thriving Hsinshweli strain paddy. (News on page 1) —MNA



Brig-Gen Pyi Sone accepts cash donation made by Director U Kye of Asia World Co Ltd, (News on page 1) —MNA



Director U Kye of Asia World Co Ltd presents documents relating to USDA building to Maj-Gen Htay Oo. (News on page 1) —MNA

Printing Course No 1/2005 of PPE concludes

YANGON, 21 March— The Printing Course No 1/ 2005 organized by Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information concluded at the training hall of the GTC Printing Press in Aung San, Insein Township this morning with an address by Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein.

Also present on the occasion were heads of department and officials of the ministry, officials of PPE, course instructors and trainees.

In his address, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein said that the govern-

ment has adopted and is taking a series of important measures for the nation to keep abreast of the international community in the knowledge age like today.

He added that printing plays a greater role in an effort to ensure a constant learning society. That is why the printing course has been conducted to produce new generation technicians in the printing field, he noted. The deputy minister called on trainees who attended the course to strive to be able to effectively use the knowledge of printing in practical field and continue pursuing the ad-

vanced printing that keeps pace with changes and developments.

Next, the deputy minister presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Afterwards, Acting Managing Director of PPE Daw Mya Mya presented completion certificates to trainees.

Altogether 35 trainees from the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Cooperatives, the Union Solidarity and Development Association and Myanmar Red Cross Society attended the 6-week course.—MNA

Commander, Minister inspect project for upgrading of Mandalay Industrial Zone

YANGON, 21 March— Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang on 19 March morning met factory managers and divisional heads in Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions under Myanmar Foodstuff Industry at the Mandalay Brewery and gave necessary instructions.

Secretariat member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister U Aung Thuang inspected sale of beans and pulses at the commodity depot in Mandalay and gave instructions to officials.

At the Mandalay Zaycho market, the minister met market supervisory committee members and shopkeepers and gave instructions.

Next, Secretariat member U Aung Thuang met secretaries and executives of Kyaukse, PyinOoLwin, Myingyan, NyaungU, Yamethin USDas and Township USDas in Mandalay District and fulfilled the requirements.

Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye

Myint and Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister U Aung Thuang inspected progress of construction at the Industrial Zone Upgrading Project in Pyigyitagun Township.

At the foundry shop, the minister inspected the installation of power tank, air tank, dust collectors and related machines and arrival of machines.

Later, the minister met members of the Zone Supervisory Committee and the Board of Directors and attended to their needs.

MNA

Bekele retains world cross country men's short course title

ST ETIENNE (France), 21 March— Kenenisa Bekele, still devastated by the sudden death of his teenage fiancée, retained the world cross country men's short course title on Saturday in what he declared was the most momentous victory of his glittering career.

The 22-year-old Ethiopian sped away from the field in the second and final lap of the 4-kilometre race on a hot, sunny day in southern France to complete the first half of what promises to be his fourth consecutive long and short course double.

No other male athlete has ever won both events once since the short course race was introduced in 1998.

Bekele, the male athlete of the year in 2004 after winning the Olympic 10,000 metres gold and breaking the world 5,000 and 10,000 metres records, said Saturday's win overshadowed even his Athens triumph.—MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard, left, scores from a free-kick against Everton during their Premier League match at Anfield, Liverpool, England, on 20 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Liverpool close gap on Everton to four points

LONDON, 21 March— Liverpool revived their hopes of qualifying for next season's Champions League with a 2-1 victory over Everton in a passionate Merseyside derby on Sunday.

Liverpool led through first-half goals by captain Steven Gerrard and Spanish playmaker Luis Garcia before a 77th-minute red card for their Czech striker Milan Baros threw Everton a lifeline at Anfield.

Everton's Australian midfielder Tim Cahill capitalized with a fine strike on 82 minutes but Liverpool held on during a thrilling finale for a priceless win in the race to finish fourth. They now trail Everton by only four points.

Birmingham City beat Aston Villa 2-0 in the Midlands derby and two Peter Crouch goals hauled Southampton out of the Premier League relegation zone, giving them a 3-1 win at Middlesbrough.

Chelsea moved ever closer to the league title after Saturday's 4-1 rout of Crystal Palace, maintaining an 11-point lead over Manchester United, who beat Fulham 1-0, and a 13-point lead over champions Arsenal, who edged Blackburn Rovers 1-0.

However, Sunday's spotlight was firmly trained on Merseyside and the frantic battle for England's final slot in the Champions League qualifying round.

Everton kept hold of that prized fourth place on 51 points despite their defeat, but the lead was cut to four points over fifth-placed Liverpool and to five points over Bolton Wanderers with eight games to play.—MNA/Reuters

Clijsters beats Davenport to win Pacific Life Open

INDIAN WELLS (California), 21 March— Belgium's Kim Clijsters beat world number one Lindsay Davenport 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 to win the Pacific Life Open on Saturday as she capped a remarkable comeback to the top level of the game following wrist surgery.

In only her second tournament after spending most of the past year recovering from an operation on her left wrist, 2003 champion Clijsters played confidently and aggressively to beat her American opponent in two hours and five minutes.

The unseeded 21-year-old Belgian matched number one seed Davenport blow for blow from inside the baseline and accurately found the corners on the big points.

"It's incredible," said Clijsters after winning her second Pacific Life Open title. "It couldn't be any better."

Davenport came out firing in the first set, racing to a 4-0 lead and extending her streak of consecutive games won to 24.

The American had won the final seven games of her quarterfinal against Natalie Dechy and then shocked Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova 6-0, 6-0 in the semifinals.

But the Belgian began to find her consistency, showing her legendary speed and tripping up Davenport in lengthy rallies.

Clijsters won seven straight games before Davenport held serve for 1-1 in the second set.—MNA/Reuters

FSV Mainz defeat Schalke 04 2-1

FRANKFURT, 21 March— Schalke 04 handed the Bundesliga title initiative straight back to Bayern Munich on Sunday when they suffered a 2-1 defeat at struggling FSV Mainz.

Schalke, who beat Bayern 1-0 last weekend to take over at the top, found the role of front-runners a lot tougher to play and Mainz took the lead within 60 seconds via a Fabian Gerber header.

Lincoln pulled Schalke level from the penalty spot in the 70th minute but a Michael Thurk volley nine minutes later earned Mainz a valuable win in their battle to avoid the drop.

The result confirmed Bayern as lead-

ers once again following their 3-1 home win over Hansa Rostock on Saturday.

With eight games left to play, Bayern and Schalke each have 53 points, with Bayern ahead on goal difference.

VfB Stuttgart moved back into third place on 48 points with a 1-0 home win over bottom club SC Freiburg.

Werder are fourth on 47 after their 2-1 win at FC Nuremberg on Saturday.

MNA/Reuters

Russian wins Women's gold medal at world skate c'ships

MOSCOW, 21 March— Local favourite Irina Slutskaya of Russia won the women's gold medal at the world championships on Saturday after a near-perfect free skate.

Slutskaya's accurate jumps and flowing movements earned her a personal best from the judges and with a final score of 222.71 she finished a comfortable eight points clear of her nearest rival. "I'm really overwhelmed, my hands are still shaking and tears are still running down my cheeks," Slutskaya told reporters.

"It will be the most precious (medal)

in my collection — you can hardly find an athlete here who has suffered and withstood so much," she added, referring to the last couple of years in which she has been plagued by injury and illness.

Last year's silver medallist, US skater Sasha Cohen, secured another silver despite a couple of stumbles during her artistic routine to Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker.—MNA/Reuters

Arsenal cruise to 1-0 victory at Blackburn

LONDON, 20 March— A patched-up Arsenal side cruised to a 1-0 victory at Blackburn Rovers on Saturday in a dress rehearsal of next month's FA Cup semifinal.

Trailing leaders Chelsea by 13 points and already missing the likes of Dennis Bergkamp, Thierry Henry and Robert Pires, the champions were dealt a further blow minutes before kickoff when Freddie Ljungberg was ruled out by injury in the warm-up.

However the Swede's misfortune gave a late starting berth to Dutch striker Robin van Persie and the former Feyenoord player seized the chance to impress manager Arsene Wenger by scoring the game's only goal.

Three minutes before the end of a low-key first half van Persie received an incisive pass from Ashley Cole, spun smoothly and then glided round goalkeeper Brad Friedel to slide the Gunners ahead.

Spaniard Jose Antonio Reyes should have increased Arsenal's lead in the opening minutes of the second half, shooting tamely at Friedel after a storming run by

compatriot Francesc Fabregas.

Arsenal's superior movement began to pick holes in Blackburn's defence and van Persie was unlucky to see a curling left-foot shot from the right edge of the area glance the crossbar.

Rovers, who are still scrapping to stay clear of the relegation zone, barely mustered a shot on target although some late pressure could have brought them an undeserved point.

Brett Emerton lashed one shot wide nine minutes from time while Steven Reid had a much better opportunity, shooting harmlessly wide after racing through in stoppage time.

Arsenal's 10th away victory of the season moved them temporarily into second place with 64 points, 10 behind Chelsea who were in later action against Crystal Palace. Manchester United, on 63 points, can reclaim second spot if they beat Fulham.—MNA/Reuters



Blackburn Rovers' Brett Emerton, left, challenges Arsenal's goalkeeper Jens Lehmann and Lauren, centre, during their English Premier League soccer match at Ewood Park, Blackburn, England, on 19 March, 2005.—INTERNET

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 22 March— The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mr Friedrich Hamburger as the Head of Delegation of the European Commission to the Union of Myanmar.

Born in 1943, Mr Friedrich Hamburger obtained his Doctorate in Law from the University of Vienna in 1969 and the Diploma in International Affairs for the Vienna Diplomatic Academy in 1971. He joined the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Austria in 1971. Subsequently, he served at the various home and foreign diplomatic postings. His foreign postings included the Austrian Embassies at Pretoria, Ottawa, and London. He has been in the service of the European Commission since 1995.

Ambassador Friedrich Hamburger will reside in Bangkok and serve concurrently as the Head of Delegation of the European Commission to the Union of Myanmar.

MNA

US estimates over 2.2 million Ethiopians will need aid

ADDIS ABABA, 21 March— The United States estimates that more Ethiopians will need food aid this year than the 2.2 million the Ethiopian Government said in an aid appeal, a US humanitarian affairs official said.

The Ethiopian Government said in December that 2.2 million people were in need of emergency food assistance estimated at 387,482 tons and that more than five million others were chronically food insecure.

But Tony Hall, the US Ambassador to the World Food Programme

(WFP), said on a visit to the Horn of Africa country that Ethiopia's harvest had been disappointing and more people could face food shortages.

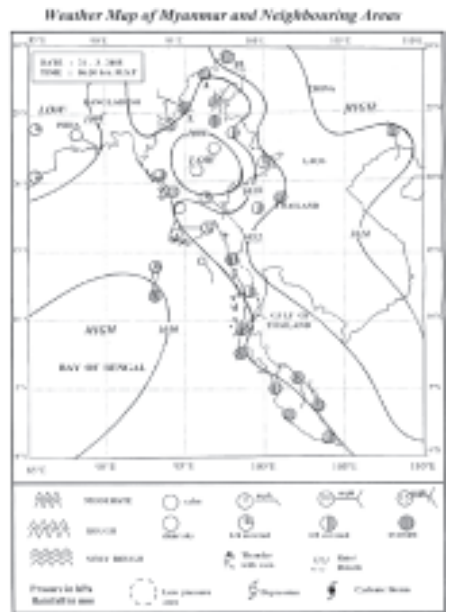
"I think the 2.2 million figure ... was probably an underestimate," Hall told a Press conference late on Friday night.

"I think many of the figures that came out relative to the people that needed help was an estimate before the harvest came in and the harvest did not show the kind of production they expected," he added without giving any figures.

The UN Office of Humanitarian Affairs warned last month that the number of needy people was expected to increase from the current 2.4 million in March to 3.1 million in April and warned that cereal stocks could run out soon. Hall said the United States

would provide "substantial support" to Ethiopia and urged authorities to review the situation to ensure that the rural poor

are not put in danger. The United States gave Ethiopia food aid worth 500 million US dollars in 2004.—MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Monday, 21 March, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State, scattered in upper Sagaing Division, isolated in lower Sagaing Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was (1.29) inches in Putao. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Chin and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Magway, Ayeyawady and Mandalay Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were (42°C) in Magway, (41°C) each in Myingyan, Pyinmana and Minbu.

Maximum temperature on 20-3-2005 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 21-3-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 21-3-2005 was 68%. Total sunshine hours on 20-3-2005 was (8.7) hours approx. Rainfalls on 21-3-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.59 inch) at Yangon Airport, (1.54 inches) at Kaba-Aye and nil at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northeast at (10:30) hours MST on 20-3-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 22-3-2005: Scattered rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Northern Shan States, upper Sagaing Division, isolated rain or thundershowers in Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions 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: Continuation of rain or thundershowers are likely in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-3-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-3-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).




Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Col Tin Hla formally open Manhsaung suspension bridge in Tiddim Township, Chin State, on 20-3-05. (News on page 16)—MNA

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 22 March
Tune in today:

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: Never far away
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -With you
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: Did you really love me
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: Lay me love on you
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music
- Since I met you baby
- Why baby why
- I love you baby
- Baby can I hold you
- 9:00 pm Talk: Tatmadaw and people's never separation
- 9:15 pm Article/music
- 9:25 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9:35 pm Music for your listening pleasure
- She's crazy for leaving
- Even now
- A few good things remain
- True love
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Tuesday, 22 March
View on today:

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပေး အသိပေးဟောပြောပွဲ၊ အသိပေးအဖွဲ့ ဖဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တ သာရာသီဝံ သဏီ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>5. တရားနာပွဲအဖွဲ့</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>6. Song of yesteryears</p>	<p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. ရလင်းရေလှောင်တံခံ</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. နှစ် (၆၀) ပြည့် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအခါအစဉ်</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Let's Go</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြုတေးသီချင်း ပြိုင်ပွဲဆုရတေးများ</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. အထူးသင်တန်းပွဲအဖွဲ့အစည်း ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (တောတူးအထူးပြု (တောတူးစခန်း))</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. Dance of national races</p> <p>5:10 pm</p> <p>6. မြန်မာ့အသံ မြန်မာတေး</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. ခံစားနားဆင်တေးစာတံခံ</p> <p>5:35 pm</p> <p>8. နှစ် (၆၀) ပြည့် တပ်မတော်နေ့ ဂုဏ်ပြုအခါအစဉ်</p>	<p>5:45 pm</p> <p>9. Sing and Enjoy</p> <p>6:15 pm</p> <p>10. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းစာတမ်းမိတ္တူ "ဧရာဝတီ-ရန်ကင်း" (အပိုင်း-၇၈)</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>11. Evening news</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>12. Weather report</p> <p>7:05 pm</p> <p>13. The mirror images of the musical oldies</p> <p>7:20 pm</p> <p>14. သားငါးဖွဲ့ပြိုင်ပွဲအကျိုး</p> <p>7:35 pm</p> <p>15. အမျိုးသားညီလာခံဂုဏ်ပြုတေး</p> <p>7:45 pm</p> <p>16. ပြည်သူ့အထွတ်တပ်မတော် "လျှပ်စစ်ရမ်းအား၊ ဟိုတယ်ခရီး၊ ဂိုဏ်းတော်ရမ်း၊ မီးရထား"</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>17. News</p> <p>18. International news</p> <p>19. Weather report</p> <p>20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတမ်းမိတ္တူ "ဟောပြောဆောင်ရွက်ပေးသည့်" (အပိုင်း-၂)</p> <p>21. The next day's programme</p>
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Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Proposal papers on detailed basic principles on sharing of executive and judicial powers read at NC plenary session

YANGON, 21 March — The plenary session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township this morning. Discussions of the delegate groups concerning detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of executive and judicial powers to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution were read out.

Present at the plenary session were Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein

(See page 5)



National Convention Plenary Session in progress at Pyidaungsu Hall, Nyaungnapin Camp, Hmawby Township. — MNA

Manhsaung suspension bridge on Tiddim-Reed Lake Road in Tiddim Township, Chin State, commissioned into service

YANGON, 21 March — Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Manhsaung suspension bridge on Tiddim-Reed Lake Road in Tiddim Township, Chin State, was commissioned into service yesterday.

Spanning Manipur River, the reinforced concrete bridge is 460 feet long and has a 16 feet wide motor road. The bridge's clearance is 320 feet wide and 30 feet high and maximum loading capacity is 30 tons.

At the opening ceremony held at the pandal near the bridge, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence said that it is the 195th over-180-foot bridge built

after 1988 in the nation, and the fourth major bridge in Chin State. The four main roads in Chin State — Kale-Falam-Haka road, Haka-Gangaw road, Haka-Matupi road, and Mindat-Matupi road — have been upgraded

into all-weather roads. In addition to the four main roads, other new roads have been built and upgraded in the state to facilitate the regional transport. Mindat-Kyaukhtu-Pauk road, the gateway to southern Chin State has

been tarred at present and bridges are being built on it. Now, Mindat is only six hours drive from Pakokku. Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa road linking northern Chin State has already been opened. Thus, northern Chin State can be reached from Mandalay within 12 hours. Thanks to the facilities, Chin State is achieving rapid development as the state can extend mutual trade with Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay divisions. Tiddim-Reed Lake road is being upgraded to a gravel road for the Reed to become a border trade town. Tiddim is 32 miles three furlongs away from Reed located at India-Myanmar border. Only light cars could travel on the old Manhsaung bridge in the past. Thanks to the new bridge, 30-ton trucks can travel on the road till reaching Reed. The bridge will benefit 14,689 people of 17 villages in the area.



Manhsaung suspension bridge on Tiddim-Reed Lake Road in Tiddim Township, Chin State. — MNA

(See page 10)