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Monday, 19 December, 2005

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

Senior General Than Shwe visits Nanmyint Tower, project site for construction of Bagan Palace in Bagan-NyaungU



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party enjoy view of Bagan archaeological region from Nanmyint Tower.— MNA

YANGON, 17 Dec — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing left Anisakham Airport in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Division, by Tatmadaw aircraft and arrived at Bagan-NyaungU

this morning. They were welcomed there by Magway Division PDC Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe, senior military officers, departmental heads and members of social organisations.

On arrival at Nanmyint Tower in Bagan Archaeological Zone, Senior General Than Shwe and

party were welcomed by Htoo Trading Co Chairman U Te Za and officials. U Te Za reported on construction of the tower with 13 levels measuring 198 feet by 54 feet, building of the tower with the technique of earthquake-proof, opening of business centres, shops selling Myanmar arts and handicrafts, movie theatre, coffee shops, seminar room, conference room, rest rooms, restaurants, open viewing level and other shops, progress in construction project that started on 27 April 2003 and construction of Nanmyint Hotel.

Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw gave a supplementary report. Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on sale of Myanmar traditional arts and handicrafts that attract the tourists and planting of seasonal colourful flowers in the environs of the tower.

(See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party view works of gold embroidery at Nanmyint Tower in Bagan. — MNA

The aim of the construction of the palace is to enable next generations to take pride of their ancient palace and to have patriotic spirit.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 19 December, 2005

Strengthen cooperation between ASEAN and nations in the region

At the invitation of Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato' Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win attended the 11th ASEAN Summit, the Summit of 2nd Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam and related Summits and the 1st East Asia Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 11 to 14 December 2005.

The 11th ASEAN Summit was held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 12 December, attended by the Heads of State/Government of Myanmar, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

At the Summit, Meeting Chairman Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato' Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi said that the Summit will be a landmark to draw the ASEAN Charter. He stressed the need to implement the ASEAN Vision 2020 for successful establishment of the ASEAN society.

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win also said that he invited those wishing to invest in the energy sector as Myanmar is rich in natural energy resources. He added that it is necessary to cooperate with investors in production of substitute-fuel, use of more CNG vehicles, transfer of ICT technology and prevention against natural disasters.

At the ASEAN Summit, Prime Minister General Soe Win and the Heads of State/Government from ASEAN member nations signed Kuala Lumpur Declaration on drawing of the ASEAN Charter.

Likewise, the 9th ASEAN+3 Summit was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and it was attended by the Heads of State/Government from ASEAN member nations, the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China, the Prime Minister of Japan, the Prime Minister of Republic of Korea and the ASEAN Secretary-General.

At the ASEAN+3 Summit, the participants exchanged views on cooperation of ASEAN with China, Japan and Republic of Korea in solving international problems, narrowing of the gap in the region, extension of cooperation sector, flow of investment into ASEAN countries, prevention against natural disasters, combating trans-national crimes, security of energy sector and control of terrorism.

The 9th Summit of ASEAN Heads of State/Government and the Premier of PRC followed. At the meeting, Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao discussed matters on the ASEAN-China cooperation in energy, transport, culture, public health care and tourism sectors and more investment of Chinese entrepreneurs in ASEAN region.

Therefore, the 11th ASEAN Summit and related Summits attended by Prime Minister General Soe Win contribute not only to signing of Kuala Lumpur Declaration on drawing of the ASEAN Charter but also to further strengthening cooperation between ASEAN and nations in the region.

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

Commander takes part in mass December sports

YANGON, 18 Dec — A ceremony to take the mass December sports in the third week of December was held at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre yesterday morning.

First, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Patron of Yangon Division Women's Sports Committee Daw Khin Thet Htay and members, Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaug Htaik and wife, officials of SPED, the secretary of Yangon Division PDC and members, chairmen of District PDCs, officials of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation,



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin participate in mass December sports.—MNA

service personnel, students, members of social organizations, sports enthusiasts started the mass December sports from the centre's gate No 4.

A total of 12,000 people from Thingangyun Township, 1,500 from South Okkalapa Township, 3000 from Thakayta Township, 500

from Dawbon Township totalling over 17,000 and over 5,500 at Kyaikkasan Sports Grounds and

4,000 at Aung San Stadium took part in the walk.

MNA

MCMCB hosts X'mas dinner

YANGON, 18 Dec — Myanmar Christ Mission Cooperation Board hosted a dinner at No 2, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township yesterday evening to mark the Christmas with an address delivered by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

Present at the dinner were officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, officials from MCMCB, reverends of various Christian Associations, Christians and guests.

First, Chairman of Myanmar Churches' Council Reverend U Saw Margay Gyi said prayers. Next, the dinner was hosted.—MNA

Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister leaves for PRC

YANGON, 18 — At the invitation of Deputy Minister Mr Wu Dawei of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, a Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu left here by air this afternoon for PRC to attend the diplomatic consultations.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chinese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Guan Mu and embassy staff.

The Deputy Minister was accompanied by Deputy Director-General Daw Than Than Htay of Political Department and departmental officials.

MNA

Yangon Division Chamber of Commerce and Industry holds AGM

YANGON, 18 Dec — Yangon Division Chamber of Commerce and Industry held its 13th Annual General Meeting for 2005 at the wholesale building of Bayintnaung Brokerage in Mayangon Township yesterday morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Commerce and Industry Association U Than Oo and General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry addressed the occasion. Yangon Division Secretary of the association U Mya Thein presented the EC report and financial statement. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Chairman U Than Oo.—MNA

Market festival to mark 150th anniversary of producing personal products on 25 Dec

YANGON, 18 Dec — The 150th anniversary special market festival of Imperial Leather Soap and Cussons Baby Products and personal goods, organized by Cussons International Ltd (England), was held at Excel Shopping Mall at Shwegondaing Traffic Lights in Bahan Township today.

Cussons Imperial Leather Soap is made of palm oil applying advanced technology. It is popular in over 150 countries.

The special market festival will be held on 25 December for the second time, and arrangements are being made to present gifts to the customers at the festival.—MNA



The special market festival to mark 150th anniversary of Cussons Imperial Leather Soap (England) in progress at Excel Shopping Mall in Bahan Township.—MNA



China to enhance energy resource cooperation with other nations

BEIJING, 17 Dec — China is ready to enhance cooperation on energy resources with other countries, including Russia and Kazakhstan, based on equality and mutual benefits, said Qin Gang, spokesman of Chinese Foreign Ministry here on Thursday.

"China's stance on energy cooperation is clear," Qin said, noting China hopes to promote cooperation not only on oil and natural gas, but also on using renewable and clean energy.

The first period of the 1000-kilometre oil pipeline project between China and Kazakhstan

launched on Thursday. This is China's first transnational oil project.

Qin said China has established strategic partnership with both Russia and Kazakhstan and has conducted cooperation on energy resources with them. This conforms to the interest of the three countries, and

helps achieve common prosperity, he added.

China is promoting dialogue and cooperation with the other countries to safeguard security and stability of the world energy resources, Qin said.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore companies grasp 80% of world's rig orders

SINGAPORE, 17 Dec — Two Singapore companies, Keppel Corporation and SembCorp Marine, have more than 80 per cent of the world's jack-up rig orders in their hands, Transport Minister Yeo Cheow Tong said on Friday.

Speaking at the sail-away ceremony of the Keppel-made lower hull of Petrobras P-52, one of the world's largest semi-submersible production platforms for deep-sea oil

drilling, Yeo said that the two groups have also secured over 50 per cent of the semi-submersible drilling rig orders worldwide.

"From January to

November 2005, both groups have clinched a total of more than 10 billion Singapore dollars (about six billion US dollars) worth of orders for building offshore rigs," Yeo said.

He added that the increasing global demand for energy provides tremendous growth opportunities for Singapore's Offshore and Marine Engineering sector, which contributed some 2.1 billion Singapore dollars (about 1.3 billion US dollars) in value-add in 2004.

Also on Friday, National University of Singapore (NUS) and Lloyd's Register, a British risk management organization, signed memorandums of understanding (MoUs) for the setting up of the Lloyd's Register Professorship and the Maritime Technology Professorship in NUS. "The two professorships mark an important step in our efforts to create a dynamic maritime research and development (R&D) cluster in Singapore," said Lim Hwee Hua, Minister of State for Finance and Transport, at the signing ceremony.—MNA/Xinhua

Snowstorms kill two Czechs, shut Prague Castle

PRAGUE, 17 Dec — Snowstorms and strong winds in the Czech Republic killed two people, uprooted trees and cut off power supplies on Friday, local media reported.

One man died when a tree fell on his car, and another was killed in a traffic accident on an icy road in the central European country, news agency CTK and Czech Television reported.

Up to 28 inches of snow fell in some areas, causing traffic jams, mountain rescue chief Rudolf Chlad told Czech Television.

Falling trees — uprooted by gusts of wind reaching 144 kmph (89 mph)—blocked roads, cut power lines in a number of areas and swept trucks off the roads.

Mountain rescue services warned skiers of a rising danger of avalanches.

The historic icon of the Czech capital, the Prague Castle, was closed to visitors because of fears of falling roof tiles, a

spokesman for President Vaclav Klaus said.

Weather forecasts predicted slightly lower wind speeds for Saturday and Sunday but further heavy snow.

MNA/Reuters



South Korean protesters march with anti-war banners during a rally against the extension of the South Korean troop deployment in Iraq in Seoul, on 17 Dec, 2005.—INTERNET

Bulgaria begins withdrawing troops from Iraq

SOFIA, 17 Dec — Bulgaria has begun withdrawing its 334-strong light infantry battalion from Iraq following the war-torn country's parliamentary elections this week, Bulgaria's Defence Ministry said on Friday.

Bulgaria's Parliament approved the move in May due to strong public opposition to the war. The withdrawal also coincides with a similar pullout by Ukraine, one of the largest contributors to the US-led operations in Iraq.

"Today we are starting to prepare to withdraw our troops," said Defence Ministry spokesman

Vladislav Prelezov. "All of the troops will be back in Bulgaria by 13 December."

He refused to elaborate on the exact plans for the pullout, saying it could compromise the troops' safety.

A staunch supporter of the war, Bulgaria sent troops to Iraq in 2003. But it has since lost 13 soldiers

and six civilians there and some two-thirds of its 7.8 million people disagree with keeping soldiers there any longer.

The ruling Socialists had promised to withdraw the troops immediately after winning June elections. But they later toned down plans in favour of sticking to the year-end target after Iraq's interim government asked for Bulgaria's support in Thursday's parliamentary polls.

The NATO newcomer is considering ways to continue to contribute to the US-led operations in a non-military manner, including possibly sending around 120 troops to guard a camp for Iranian refugees in Ashraf, 44 miles north of Baghdad.

Ukraine is also concluding the withdrawal of what was originally a 1,600-strong force in Iraq, and its Defence Minister has promised the troops they

will celebrate the New Year at home.

MNA/Reuters

India to sign another pact with Pakistan on bus service

NEW DELHI, 17 Dec — In a bid to accelerate economic ties, India has approved the signing of a pact with Pakistan to regulate the bus service between India's Amritsar and Pakistan's Lahore and Nankana Sahib.

Indian Information and Broadcasting Minister Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi told reporters here on Friday that the bus service will enable people-to-people contact between the two nations.—MNA/Xinhua

Three Philippine soldiers killed by rebel landmine

MANILA, 17 Dec — Three Philippine Government soldiers were killed while seven others were wounded on Friday when rebel guerrillas detonated a landmine on their vehicle in a southern Philippine province.

The Army troops were on board a truck, passing a remote village in Tulunan Town on Friday morning when the vehicle tripped the landmine, said Arnold Quiapo, commander of the Army's 39th Infantry Battalion which operates in the province of North Cotabato.

The landmine was believed to be planted by rebels of New People's Army, said Quiapo, adding that the troops were about to conduct a humanitarian mission in the area and no fighting were reported between the two sides after the explosion.

MNA/Xinhua



US armoured vehicles patrol a neighbourhood in central Baghdad, on 16 Dec, 2005.—INTERNET



The Indian tricolour flag flies from the masts of mechanized fishing boats parked at Kasimedu, a major fishing harbour in the southern Indian city of Madras, on 17 Dec, 2005.

INTERNET

Reporter wins unfair dismissal case over Iraq

LONDON, 17 Dec — A Canadian television reporter on Friday won a case for unfair dismissal against US network ABC News, which ended his contract after he refused to go to Iraq.

Richard Gizbert, who previously reported from Bosnia and Chechnya, had claimed 2.2 million pounds (3.9 million US dollars) in compensation from ABC after it axed him in 2004.

"This ruling decided he had been unfairly dismissed on the grounds of health and safety," a spokesman for the Central London Employment Tribunal told Reuters.

"There will be further hearing to determine compensation in a month or so," he added.

Gizbert's claim for breach of contract was dropped.

London-based Gizbert, 47, was a staff reporter for ABC from 1993 until he

quit to go freelance in 2002, with a guarantee of work from the network.

He said his contract was terminated after he refused twice to report from Iraq on the grounds that he no longer wanted to undertake long assignments because of family commitments.

ABC denied that his dismissal was connected with his refusal to work in Iraq, but said his fee and lack of flexibility made him too expensive during a time of cost cutting.

The tribunal unanimously rejected ABC's arguments.

MNA/Reuters

Italian police storm apartments, shops in anti-terrorism raid

ROME, 17 Dec — Italian police on Friday raided apartments and shops believed to be linked to a 12-strong Algerian group suspected of financing and supporting extremist groups in Algeria.

Fake documents, forged money and cell phones, which turned up in raids in the southern city Naples, were believed to be destined for the extremist organizations, said Italian police. These organizations include the Salafist Group for Call and Combat, which is believed to be linked to al-Qaeda, and the radical Armed Islamic Group, according to police.

The preliminary inves-

Vietnam to reap bigger construction glass export

HANOI, 17 Dec — Vietnam is likely to earn nearly 5.8 million US dollars from exporting construction glass next year, up 15 per cent against this year's projected turnover, according to the Vietnam Architectural Glass Association on Friday.

The expected higher turnover is mainly attributed to better local construction glass and higher world demand for the product, the association said, noting that Vietnam's major glass importers include South Korea, India, Cambodia and Bangladesh.

Local construction glass producers are still less competitive than many foreign rivals, the association said. Among 28 full members of the association, some have recently shipped their products to markets with stricter quality requirements, such as the United States, Canada and Japan.

MNA/Xinhua

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Speedboat with some 20 tourists capsizes in Thailand

BANGKOK, 17 Dec — A speedboat with some 20 tourists from Phi Phi Island capsized on its way to Phuket on Friday afternoon, police reported.

The Phuket marine police said the speedboat capsized because of rough seas and strong wind at about 2:30 pm.

Seven boats have been deployed to search for the tourists and boat crew. — MNA/Xinhua

Italian dealership cars torched in Athens

ATHENS, 17 Dec — Unknown assailants on Friday torched several cars at three different Italian carmaker FIAT dealerships across the Greek capital, police said. In three coordinated attacks, the attackers used camping gas canisters and petrol to burn 11 vehicles parked within the compounds of three FIAT dealerships in northern, southern and central Athens.

"A total of 11 cars were completely destroyed or damaged," a police spokesman said. "Two other private vehicles at two other locations were also destroyed by gas canisters."

There was no claim of responsibility, police said. — MNA/Reuters

Police say Istanbul blast caused by accident

ISTANBUL, 17 Dec — An explosion, caused by an accident, shook a historic district of Istanbul on Friday, injuring four people, police said.

"We know it is not a bomb," a police officer in Istanbul's Eyup District said. The blast occurred in a heating furnace in an office and shop complex near the Golden Horn. Last month one man was killed and 11 people were injured when a bomb exploded near a theme park in Istanbul, the country's business capital. — MNA/Reuters

Blast near Russia N-power plant, no radiation risk

ST PETERSBURG (Russia), 17 Dec — A small explosion near a Russian nuclear power station killed a metal worker and injured two others, officials said on Friday, but there was no radiation leak or threat to people living nearby.

The explosion occurred on Thursday at a metals smelter near the Leningrad Atomic Power Station, whose second reactor has been under repairs since July.

A spokesman for the

local administration in the town of Sosnovy Bor said one worker had died from burns, while one of the other two men injured was in a serious condition.

The smelter was not connected to the nuclear plant.

"The radiation background at the Leningrad station and surrounding territory is at a level normal for nuclear reactor use, and does not exceed natural background radiation levels," said the Russian Atomic Energy Agency (Rosatom).

The ecological services at the power station, which is near St Petersburg, were monitoring the situation but said there was no risk to residents of Russia's second city or nearby Finland.

MNA/Reuters

2,155 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 17 Dec — As of Saturday, 17 Dec, 2005, at least 2,155 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,692 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

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

The British military has reported 98 deaths; Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 2,016 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,583 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers. — Internet



British soldiers of RAF Regiment enter an abandoned building while on patrol in Iraq's southern marshlands near Basra, on 16 Dec, 2005. — INTERNET

Wen holds talks with Malaysian PM on bilateral cooperation

PUTRA JAYA (Malaysia), 17 Dec— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Thursday held talks with his Malaysian counterpart Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on promotion of the bilateral ties and regional cooperation.

During the talks held in Putra Jaya, Malaysia's administrative centre located some 30 kilometres west of Kuala Lumpur, the two sides reached a broad consensus on deepening the strategic and cooperative relations between the two countries.

Wen said that China and Malaysia decided last year to develop the strategic and cooperative relations, thus lifting the bilateral ties to a new level and injecting a new vigour into the cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

The two sides have maintained close and high-level exchanges over

the past year, with the strengthening of mutually political trust and a headway in economic and trade ties, Wen said.

The two countries have maintained a good coordination and cooperation over the UN reform, East Asia cooperation and other significant international and regional issues, the Chinese Premier noted.

Developing the Sino-Malaysian cooperation is the common needs of both countries, and both governments are mapping out the next five-year plan, Wen said.

The Chinese side is willing, together with the

Malaysian side, to deepen cooperation by strengthening high-level exchanges to enhance understanding and trust, mapping out a concerned action plan for strategic cooperation, continuously expanding bilateral trade and pushing for energy cooperation, he added.

MNA/Xinhua



A Kashmiri rows his boat in Dal Lake on a cold and foggy morning in Srinagar, India, on 17 Dec, 2005. With so many victims of the 8 Oct. earthquake in Kashmir living in tent camps, and others with little shelter at all in remote areas, aid agencies fear the harsh winter could cause a second deadly disaster among the quakes survivors. —INTERNET

Switzerland investigates CIA prisoner flights

ZURICH, 17 Dec — Switzerland is investigating whether foreign intelligence services acted illegally after reports its airspace was used by the CIA to transport suspected Islamic radicals to prisons outside the United States, Swiss media reported on Friday.

Federal prosecutors began investigations three weeks ago after the reports to see whether the

intelligence services had committed illegal actions in Switzerland, a spokesman for the prosecution told Swiss television.

The investigations were directed against an unknown suspect, not the CIA specifically, he added.

"The question is not whether (representatives of) the foreign intelligence services were actually inside Switzerland. The question is whether they acted illegally," spokesman Hansjuerg Mark Wiedmer told Swiss television.

A European human rights investigator said on Tuesday in Paris that a

month-long investigation had reinforced allegations the CIA ran a network of secret prisons in Europe, abducted prisoners and transferred them between countries.

Swiss senator Dick Marty, who is looking into the scandal for the 46-nation Council of Europe human rights watchdog, also criticized the United States for failing to come clean over the allegations.

The European Union and at least eight of its member states said last month they were seeking answers from the United States over the use of bases on the continent for secret prisoner transfers, known as "renditions".

Wiedmer said there was little chance the investigations in Switzerland would lead to a lawsuit. But, he said, it was important to find out what exactly had happened to see whether Switzerland's sovereignty had been violated.

Swiss television said part of the investigation was into the kidnap of a radical Muslim leader who was reportedly abducted by the CIA from Milan in February 2003 and was sent to Germany and then to a prison in Egypt.

Members of the CIA had been in Switzerland after the kidnap, the Swiss television programme said. — MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi man lifts his shirt to show that he is not carrying any weapons to a US patrol in central Baghdad, on 16 Dec, 2005. —INTERNET

In survey of 10 US presidents, Bush fares badly

WASHINGTON, 17 Dec — President George W Bush ranks as the least popular and most bellicose of the last ten US presidents, according to a new survey.

Only nine per cent of the 662 people polled picked Bush as their favourite among the last 10 presidents. John F Kennedy topped that part of the survey, with 26 per cent, closely followed by Bill Clinton (25 per cent) and Ronald Reagan (23 per cent).

Bush was also viewed as the most warlike president (43 per cent), the worst for the economy (42 per cent) and the least effective (33 per cent). But he was rated most highly in response to a question on who would do the right thing even if it were

unpopular. The survey was conducted by the Chicago-based National Qualitative Centres, a marketing research company, as part of research for a forthcoming book on popular preferences, one of its authors, Ken Berwitz, said on Friday.

MNA/Reuters

German FM says patience on Iran nuclear programme not endless

BERLIN, 17 Dec — Patience of the international community over talks on Iran's nuclear programme is not endless, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said here on Thursday.

Speaking to the German Parliament on government policy before the two-day European Union summit on 15-16 December, Steinmeier urged Iran not to delay the dispute over its nuclear research.

"I say again: The government in Teheran

must understand that the patience of the international community is not endless," Steinmeier said.

European Union leaders will address Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinejad's denunciation of the Holocaust

as a "myth", he said, warning that patience is running out with Teheran.

The German Government has condemned the remarks by Ahmadinejad and called on the United Nations as well as the EU to follow suit.

Berlin says the comments will also weigh on talks over Teheran's disputed nuclear programme.

The anti-Jewish comments made a solution to the nuclear issue more difficult, he said, adding that Ahmadinejad's remarks were unacceptable.

The remarks showed "with how much irresponsibility and cynicism the Iranian

Government currently regards the situation of Israel and the Near East," he said.

Germany, France and Britain have been negotiating with Iran in an attempt to persuade it to give up its nuclear programme.

Later this month, Iran is due to resume negotiations on the issue with envoys from the three countries. Ahmadinejad's comments about Jews and Israel have grabbed headlines across the world over the past few months.

He first provoked an international outcry in October when he called for Israel to be "wiped off the map".

MNA/Xinhua

Spain seizes 4.5 tons of cocaine off West Africa

MADRID, 17 Dec — Spanish officials have seized 4.5 tons of cocaine on a ship off the west coast of Africa and arrested nine Venezuelan crew members, the government said on Friday.

Spain is a major entry point for South American drugs into Europe, and UN

experts say drug cartels are increasingly using unstable and under-policed West Africa as a smuggling hub.

The latest seizure, part of a six-month investigation, brings the total amount of cocaine intercepted this year by Spanish Customs officials

to 35 tons, the government said.

The smuggling ring typically shipped cocaine from Venezuela in one vessel and then transferred it to smaller boats half-way across the Atlantic Ocean for delivery to Africa or Spain.

MNA/Reuters

Grow *Jatropha curcas* extensively

Ko Tun

In my childhood days, I used to break the stalk of *Jatropha curcas* and made bubbles making use of it. As the plants grew well, they were seen at the fences. By cutting its branches it served well as the fence. Even though I grew old I only knew it was good for the fences.

Recently, I had an opportunity to observe demonstration of running engines powered by diesel substitute *Jatropha curcas* oil at the Yenangyoung industrial zone. Only then did I know the special uses of *Jatropha curcas*. The Aung company was milling *Jatropha curcas* extensively at the Yenangyoung industrial zone.

Retired engineer U Ye Aung, who was taking charge of the project, said:

"We have already known for some time that engines can be run with the diesel substitute *Jatropha curcas* oil. We have also presented papers on the plant. There are two different types, one is striped and the other is commonly used in fences. Oil of the former is used in preparing soap and medicine, another or oil of *Jatropha curcas* can be poured into the engine and used as diesel to keep the machine running. Nothing needs to be added to the oil. We have already tested the oil in running the 16 HP engine to pump water with the help of a compressor. We have also driven a three-wheeled motorcycle as well as a TE-11 fire engine with *Jatropha curcas* oil. Our demonstration today will concentrate on these vehicles. We need only half a bottle of the oil to run the engine to pump water for an hour. There is one thing; the timing of the injection pump of the engine has to be readjusted a bit. When we first tested the engine, we had to roll the inlet with a petroleum soaked cloth to start the engine, since it was an old one. Once it had started, it was easy to restart it. There was no exhaust. The bio-fuel runs better than diesel. There was less fuel consumption. When we tested

the three-wheeled diesel vehicle, one gallon of *Jatropha curcas* oil runs 40 miles. Regarding the fire engine, we are testing its bio-fuel consumption. It does not affect the engine."

The demonstration began when the Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe arrived. The demonstration highlighted how engines started easily. The 1,600-gallon fire engine operated smoothly. The demonstration included the use of water hose for fighting fire. The petrol-powered generator and the Super Cub motorcycle manufactured by the Yenangyoung industrial zone were also operated with the use of alcohol. The fuel was a mixture of two bottles of alcohol and one bottle of petrol. Those involved in the experiment of the zone seemed to be more interested in the experiment than the industry itself.

Upon experiments, they discovered the 95 per cent alcohol content in the *Jatropha curcas* oil. The comparison of properties between the *Jatropha curcas* and diesel is seen in Table A.

Table A

Properties	<i>Jatropha curcas</i>	Diesel
Specific gravity	0.913	0.84
Viscosity	145 Sec	40 Sec
Flash point	343 F	150 F
Pour point	-50 F	-50 F
Boiling point	105 °C	150° C
Ash content	0.1%	0.01%
Water content	Nil	0.05%
Carbon residue	Nil	0.2% _s

U Myo Tint, proprietor of Aung *Jatropha curcas* Oil Mill said, "My mill is special (1) class oil mill that Yenangyoung Industrial Zone constructed. It can produce two barrels of *Jatropha curcas* oil or three barrels of striped *Jatropha curcas* oil a day. A gallon of *Jatropha curcas* oil can be produced from a basket of *Jatropha curcas* seeds. A basket of *Jatropha curcas* seeds costs 2000 kyats, so it means a gallon of *Jatropha curcas* oil costs K



*Magway Division PDC Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe inspects demonstration of operation engines powered by diesel substitute *Jatropha curcas* oil.*

2000. But it also produces about five viss of *Jatropha curcas* expeller cakes. So if a viss of *Jatropha curcas* expeller cakes is sold for 220 kyats, five viss of *Jatropha curcas* expeller cakes can fetch 1100 kyats. Overall, a gallon of *Jatropha curcas* oil costs only 900 kyats. *Jatropha curcas* expeller cake can be used as fertilizer. It's learnt that *Jatropha curcas* expeller cake contains nitrogen, phosphate, potassium, magnesium and calcium. As a matter of fact, *Jatropha curcas* is certainly worth growing. But,

it's not popular yet, so raw material of *Jatropha curcas* is not available on a commercial scale. It can be grown on poor soil. It thrives well if rainfall is between 18 inches and 93 inches. So, it can be grown everywhere in our nation. *Jatropha curcas* seeds can be harvested two times in a year — in May and in November".

The Table B, stated in the pamphlet distributed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, shows contents of nitrogen, phosphate and potassium.

Jatropha curcas that grows well everywhere in our nation is a valuable plant as it can be used as diesel-substitute bio-fuel, *Jatropha curcas* expeller cake can be used as natural fertilizer, it contributes towards regional greening of the arid regions and conservation of the soil, and its stems and branches can be used as firewood.

Table B

Subject	Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potassium
<i>Jatropha Curcas</i> expeller cake	4.44 %	2.09 %	1.68 %
Cow dung	0.97 %	0.69 %	1.66 %
Chicken dung	3.04 %	6.27 % ⁺	2.08 %
Decayed water hyacinth	1.48 %	0.46 %	0.48 %
Decayed paddy stalk	0.80 %	0.18 %	0.68 %
Neem expeller cake	5.00 %	1.00 %	1.50 %

Therefore, *Jatropha curcas* that can contribute towards fuel supply and the greening of arid regions should be grown on a commercial scale on vacant and virgin lands, on barren mountains, on both sides along the roads, and in fences of crop plantations and buildings.

Translation: AK + MS

Kyemon: 18-12-2005

***Jatropha curcas* that grows well everywhere in our nation is a valuable plant as it can be used as diesel-substitute bio-fuel, *Jatropha curcas* expeller cake can be used as natural fertilizer, it contributes towards regional greening of the arid regions and conservation of the soil, and its stems and branches can be used as firewood.**

Transport sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of transport in the time of the Tatmadaw government

Aviation industry spreads its wings

The aviation industry plays a vital role in efforts for ensuring smooth and secure transport which is one of the national development drives the government is carrying out. As the passengers' convenience is offered along with smooth air transport in Myanmar, the number of incoming and outgoing flights in the country has increased year by year.

Increase in the number of passengers travelling by air shows

the higher living standard of people, regional stability and development and international community's taking interests in the scenic beauty of Myanmar.

Therefore, runways are being extended and upgraded at busy airports and projects for building modern airports are being implemented.

Mandalay International Airport was opened to the south of TadaU, and Bago Hanthawady International Airport is under

construction. At Yangon International Airport also, runways and aprons have been extended and buildings renovated.

In addition to these tasks, runway extension projects are being implemented at Hkamti airport, Ela airport, Bhamo airport, NyaungU airport, Bokpyin airport and Dawei airport.

The table shows newly emerged airports and extension of runways in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

Airports constructed, upgraded and renovated

Sr	Subject	1988	2005	Progress
1	Construction - airport with 5000 feet and above runway	21	38	17
2	Tatmadaw engineering - airport under construction - 5000 feet and above runway under construction	-	4	4
3	National entrepreneurs - 5000 feet and above runway under construction	-	3	3

A plane lands at new Pakokku Airport, built in the time of Tatmadaw Government, in Pakokku.



Dumex Master Branding Launch Ceremony held

YANGON, 18 Dec — Mo Asia Co Ltd held Dumex Master Branding Launch Ceremony at Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this morning.

It was attended by mediamen, distributors of

Dumex milk powder and guests. First, Managing Director U Peter Moe Kyaw of Mo Asia Co extended greetings.

Next, the history of Dumex was presented through video feature.

Dumex Mamil

Mama, Dumex Mamelactose Free, Dumex Dumilk Instant Full Cream Milk Powder, Dumex Dupro Follow-up Formula, Dumex Dugro 1 Plus and Dumex Dugro 3 Plus are available on the market. — MNA



Managing Director U Peter Moe Kyaw of Mo Asia Co extends greetings at Dumex Master Branding Launch ceremony. MNA

**ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊
ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့။**

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလ (၁၄)ရက်နေ့အထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင် ကျေးရွာ
ကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက် (၄၇,၀၅၇)တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးရွာကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက်
သုတ/ရသစာအုပ်များကို
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာန ခရိုင်/
မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

Senior General Than Shwe visits Nanmyint Tower, project site for construction of Bagan Palace in Bagan-NyaungU...

(from page 1)

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and wife and party inspected the coffee shop, conference hall and seminar hall and enjoyed scenic beauty of Bagan Archaeological Zone from viewing level-11. They also inspected tapestry and lacquer ware shops on the level-1.

Afterwards, the Senior General and party visited construction project site of Arimadanapura Bagan Palace of King Anawrahta in NyaungU. They were welcomed there by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, officials of the Department of Archaeology and the construction project in-charge U Te Za.

Minster Maj-Gen Kyi Aung reported on excavation of the Palace of King Anawrahta who founded the First Myanmar Empire and reconstruction of the palace, conducting of research, assistance rendered by Htoo Trading Co, construction work being done with the help of Myanmar archaeologists and architects and future task.



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing hear report on construction of Arimaddanapura Bagan Palace by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung.— MNA

After inspecting the scale models for construction of the palace, Senior General Than Shwe stressed the need for construction of the Bagan Palace in accord with historical facts and systematic implementation of construction tasks. He also said that the

aim of the construction of the palace is to enable next generations to take pride in their ancient palace and to have patriotic spirit.

Later, Senior General Than Shwe and party inspected the construction work. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party views round Conference Hall of Nanmyint Tower in Bagan.—MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win and party leave Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia



Prime Minister General Soe Win being seen off at the airport by staff and families of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché's Office in Malaysia. MNA

YANGON, 18 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win and party arrived at Kuala Lumpur International Airport from Mandarin Oriental Hotel by car at 1.15 pm on 15 December to return home.

Prime Minister General Soe Win and party were met at the airport by Minister at the Prime Minister's Department of Malaysia Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri Aziz, Deputy Head Datin Paduka Halinmah

Abhulah of Protocol Department of the Malaysian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and senior officers.

At the lounge of the airport, Prime Minister General Soe Win and party cordially conversed with Minister Dato' Seri

Mohamed Nazri Aziz and party.

When Prime Minister General Soe Win and party proceeded to the special aircraft, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Myint Aung and wife,

Military Attaché Brig-Gen Soe Htay and wife, staff of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office saw off them.

The Guard of Honour saluted the Prime Min-

ister and party.

After that, Prime Minister General Soe Win and party greeted those present and left there by special aircraft, and arrived back here in the evening. — MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win taking the salute of the Guard of Honour at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Malaysia.— MNA

Myanmar will never change its stance on one-China policy

Prime Minister General Soe Win

Goodwill relation with Myanmar an important part of China's foreign policy

Prime Minister Mr Wen Jiabao



Prime Minister General Soe Win meets Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao at Prince Hotel in Kuala Lumpur.— MNA

YANGON, 18 Dec —Prime Minister General Soe Win met Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao at the hall on the second floor of Prince Hotel in Kuala Lumpur on 14 December.

Premier Mr Wen Jiabao was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Li Zhaoxing, Minister for Finance Mr Jin Renqing, Minister for Agriculture Mr Du Qinglin, Chinese Ambassador to Malaysia Mr

Paunglaung Phase-2 Hydel power project and purchase of drilling machines.

Prime Minister General Soe Win said that he thanked China for constant and firm stand on Myanmar

China tries to strengthen the bilateral relations in all situations in the international front.

Prime Minister Mr Wen Jiabao

Myanmar would stand together with China based on Paukphaw friendship.

Prime Minister General Soe Win

Also present were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister Col Thurein Zaw, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Myint Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Thaug Tun, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet, Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw of the Ministry of Defence, Director-General of ASEAN Affairs Department U Aung Bwa, Director-General of Political Department U Nyan Lin and Adviser to the National Planning and Economic Development U Maung Maung Yi.

Wang Chungui, Deputy Secretary-General of State Council Mr Jiao Huancheng, the deputy ministers and senior officials.

Premier Mr Wen Jiabao said Sino-Myanmar goodwill relation has steadily improved and bilateral cooperation in various sectors is progressing.

He said goodwill relation with Myanmar is an important part of foreign policy of China and he tried to strengthen the bilateral relations in all situations in the international front.

He thanked Myanmar for her support of one-China policy and the policy of unification of China. He said his government would give impetus to the respective departments for early completion of

in international front. Myanmar would stand together with China based on Paukphaw friendship and it would never change its stance on one-China policy, he stressed. The two prime ministers discussed mutual interest on bilateral trade, investment and cooperation in energy sector, cooperation in border area management and promoting measures on drug control at border area, state and the State levels.—MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win shakes hands with Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao in Kuala Lumpur.— MNA

Minister U Nyan Win attends Foreign Ministers Meetings, signs treaties

YANGON, 18 Dec — Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, who accompanied Prime Minister General Soe Win, attended the informal dinner of ASEAN Ministers for Foreign Affairs at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur on 8 December evening.

On 9 December, Minister U Nyan Win attended the ASEAN

Foreign Ministers Meeting, and the ASEAN-China, ASEAN-Japan, ASEAN-Korea, and ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers Meetings. On 10 December, he also joined the ASEAN-Russian Federation Foreign Ministers' Preparatory Meeting.

While in Malaysia, Minister U Nyan Win met with Foreign Affairs Ministers of the People's

Republic of China, Australia, Japan and Malaysia, and discussed bilateral cooperation matters.

On 9 December, Minister U Nyan Win attended the ASEAN+3 Foreign Ministers' working luncheon. Next, he attended the luncheon of Foreign Ministers of East Asian Summit on 10 December.

In the afternoon,

Minister U Nyan Win attended the agreements signing ceremony and signed the ASEAN-Russia Agreement on Economic and Development Cooperation, the Investment of Extension of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, the Instrument of Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation.

MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win...

(from page 16)
the deputy ministers and senior officers of East Asian countries observed the summit from Conference Hall 3 and

Plenary Hall 1.
First, the Malaysian Prime Minister who presided over the summit delivered an address at the 1st East Asia Summit.

Next, President of the Russian Federation Mr Vladimir V Putin attended the summit as the guest of the host country.
After the Russian



Prime Minister General Soe Win signs Kuala Lumpur Declaration on East Asia Summit.— MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win attends First East Asia Summit.— MNA

President had left, the First East Asia Summit continued.

At the summit, they exchanged views on prevention against avian flu, combating terrorism, ensuring maritime safety, removal of barrier in trade

and investment, and establishment of East Asian Society.

Heads of State/Government of East Asian countries signed the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on East Asia Summit at the Plenary Theatre of KL

Convention Centre. Afterwards, the Malaysian Prime Minister handed over the notes of declaration to the ASEAN Secretary-General. Later, they posed for the documentary photo.

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win together with Heads of State/Government of East Asian countries pose for documentary photo at 1st East Asia Summit.— MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win meets Indian Prime Minister



Prime Minister General Soe Win meets with Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh in Kuala Lumpur.— MNA

YANGON, 18 Dec— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win met Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan

Singh at No 2621, Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at 3.30 pm on 14 December, and they discussed

matters relating to friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Also present at the (See page 11)

Prime Minister General Soe Win calls on Indonesian President

YANGON, 18 Dec— Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win met Indonesian President Mr Susilo

Bambang Yudhoyono at the Ballroom 1 on the third floor of Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia, at 1 pm on 14 Dec-

ember, and they exchanged views on mutual benefits between the two countries.

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win calls on Indonesian President Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Malaysia.—MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win...

(from page 10)
call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister Col Thurein Zaw, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Myint Aung,

Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Thaug Tun, Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of Protocol Department, Director-General U Aung Bwa of ASEAN Affairs Department, Director-General U Nyan Lin of Political De-

partment, Indian National Security Advisor Mr Narayanan, Secretary Mr Sikri of the Ministry of External Affairs, Media Advisor Mr Barua, Joint-Secretary of Prime Minister's Office Ms Sujata and high-ranking officials. —MNA

Minister U Soe Tha attends ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting, signs agreements

YANGON, 18 Dec — Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, who accompanied Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win, attended the Informal Meeting of ASEAN Economic Ministers at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at 5 pm on 8 December.

Minister U Soe Tha attended the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting at KL Centre on 9 December morning, and met with the Minister of Economic, Trade and Industry of Japan, the Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry, and the Korean Min-

ister of Economic and Commerce in the afternoon.

Afterwards, Minister U Soe Tha signed the ASEAN Agreement to Establish and Implement the ASEAN Single Window, the Agreement on ASEAN Harmonized Electronic and Electrical Equipment (EEE) Regulatory Regime, the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Agreement on Engineering Services, the Agreement on Trade in Goods under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the ASEAN and the Republic of Korea, and the Agreement on Dispute Settle-

ment Mechanism under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation among the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Republic of Korea.

On 10 December morning, Minister U Soe Tha attended the ceremony to open the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit at Shangri-La Hotel. At 3 pm, the minister attended the opening ceremony of the East Asia Business Exhibition 2005 at KL Convention Centre and viewed round the booths including the booth of Myanmar.

—MNA

NC delegates visit Hlinethaya Industrial Zone, Churches on NC holidays

YANGON, 18 Dec — National Convention delegates, accompanied by Invitation and Reception Sub-committee of the National Convention Convening Management Committee, visited Industrial City of Hlinethaya on 17 December, the holiday of the National Convention, and Christian delegates of the National Convention visited the church today. Yesterday morning, they left Nyaungnapin Camp and arrived at the branch of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone.

At Kanaung Hall, Deputy Director U Myint Swe explained establishment of Hlinethaya Myothis in 1985 and Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in 1996, and construction of Padethabin City, Nawade Garden Housing Estate Project, Aungzeya, Kyansitha and Bo Aung Kyaw low-cost housing estates, housing



NC delegates observe production process at Tai Yi Footwear Factory. — MNA

estates at Punhlaing Golf Resort.

On arrival at Footwear Factory of Tai Yi International Co Ltd, they observed production process.

At Garment Factory of Opal International Co Ltd, Director Daw Sabei Zin and officials welcomed and conducted the delegates round the factory. The delegates purchased the garments at reasonable prices.

The NC delegates also visited FMI City by

car. Next, they proceeded to the Recreation Centre. FMI City Project Director U Than Oo explained matters related to the city and establishment of Orchid Garden Housing Estate.

This morning, Christian delegates of the National Convention, together with officials, went to Kachin Baptists Church near Kyundaw Market in Sangyoung Township and Myanmar Institute of Theology (MIT) in Insein Township. —MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein donates the provisions to Pandapwint Taung Sayadaw. —MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein...

(from page 16)
1,500 acres in the rubber plantation of Shwe Innwa Rubber Cultivation Co Ltd.

At the briefing hall, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party heard reports on cultivation and thriving of 500-acre rubber and 20-acre teak plants in the plantations during 2005 and the arrangement to extend 1,500 acres of rubber cultivation in 2006.

After hearing the report, Lt-Gen Thein Sein gave a speech saying that the government is providing assistance to be able to extend the cultivation of 10 main crops including rice, and per-

ennial trees and other new item crops on a commercial scale for the development agricultural product tasks.

Rubber now plays an important role as an industrial crop at a good prize in foreign market and it is also a kind of perennial tree that makes the rubber growers enjoy the long-term interests.

Thus, those cultivating rubber and entrepreneurs are to strive for the full implementation in accord with their own aims, Lt-Gen Thein Sein said.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the 500-acre BPM high-

yield rubber and 20-acre teak plantation from the tower at the plantation.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party paid homage to Pandapwint Taung Sayadaw in Taikkyi Township and donated the provisions.

The Secretary-1 and party viewed the thriving rubber in 1,100-acre rubber plantation of Shwephyu Moe Co Ltd and procedure of producing rubber latex with the use of agricultural machinery. Next, Secretary-1 and party inspected war veterans village No 2 in Thephyu Village and gave necessary instructions.

—MNA

CSSTB Chairman attends Eminent Persons Group meetings

YANGON, 18 Dec — Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, member of Prime Minister General Soe Win's visit to Malaysia attended the preliminary meeting of Eminent Persons Group held at room No-301 on the third floor of KL Convention Centre, Malaysia, on 12 December morning.

In the afternoon, Chairman Dr Than Nyun together with EPG members attended the signing ceremony of Kuala Lumpur declaration by Heads of State/Government on drawing of ASEAN Charter at Plenary Theatre of KL Convention Centre.

At 2.30 pm, the first meeting of EPG was held

at room No 301. Chairman Dr Than Nyun attended the discussions on work programme regarding EPG and participated in the discussions.

At room No 304-305 of KL Convention Centre, the chairman and EPG members attended working dinner hosted in honour of ASEAN Heads of State/Government.

On 13 December, the meeting of EPG continued. The chairman together with members of EPG attended dinner hosted by the Malaysian Prime Minister held at Mandarin Oriental Hotel in the evening.

On 11 December, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thurein Zaw who accom-

panied Prime Minister General Soe Win attended the ceremony of exchanging MoU on Special and Preferential Tariff Treatment-SPT for Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos granted by the People's Republic of China.

Under the MoU, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thurein Zaw and Chinese Deputy Minister of Commerce Mr Yu Guangzhou signed MOU on non-tariff for 87 kinds of Myanmar export starting from 1st January of 2006 and exchanged the documents. —MNA

**Donate
blood**

The reports, documents and hluttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged

YANGON, 18 Dec—*The following is the presentation on clarifications of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on adoption of detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to be included in judicial sector for formulating State Constitution by Member of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Supreme Court Judge U Tin Aye at the plenary session held on 13 December at Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.*

I am now going to explain the matter concerning the procedures to the arrest of a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member while it is in session.

A detailed basic principle, saying that if there arises a need to arrest a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the firm evidence against him and the arrest warrant must be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, and he shall be arrested only after receiving the permission to do so from the Speaker in advance should be adopted.

Persons attending a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session with the permission of the Speaker and persons attending the session at the invitation of the Speaker to clarify the matter being discussed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should have similar rights as the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members. Concerning the above-mentioned matter, delegates should discuss whether the following detailed basic principle should be adopted.

“If there arises a need to arrest a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member attending a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at the invitation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.”

The legislative assemblies of the world nations systematically keep their records. They also publish the documents for the public. But the prescriptions regarding the system of record keeping and distribution are different from one another.

In some countries reports, papers and records, published by the parliament are privileged.

And the sub section 1 of the section 68 of 1947 Constitution stated, “no member of the Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any Court in respect of publication by or under the authority of a Chamber of the Parliament of any report, paper, votes, or proceedings.”

Laws should be promulgated to keep records of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw systematically and to publish them for public. The records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority should be privileged. Concerning the matter, delegates should discuss whether the following detailed basic principle should be laid down.

“The reports, documents and hluttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.”

Based on my study and analysis, I will now present a collection of the detailed basic principle that should be laid down for the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw included in the chapter “Legislation” of the State Constitution as follows:

1. “The first session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be held within 15 days after the beginning of the first session of the Pyithu Hluttaw”. The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.”
2. “The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at least once a year. The maximum time limit between one meeting and another should not exceed 12 months”
3. The following tasks shall be carried out at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meetings:

- (a) Recording the address delivered by the President
 - (b) Reading out and the recording the message sent by the President and other messages permitted by the President
 - (c) Submitting and discussing and making decision on a bill
 - (d) Discussing and deciding the opinion and remarks of the President concerning a bill approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
 - (e) Discussing and deciding the matter the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has to implement in accord with the provisions contained in the Constitution
 - (f) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
 - (g) Submitting proposals, and making discussions and decisions
 - (h) Asking questions and replying answers
 - (i) Implementing the matters permitted by the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
4. “The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as necessary”
 5. “The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw soonest when the President informs the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker to convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw”
 6. “The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw when at least one fourth of the total number of members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw ask to convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw”
 7. (a) “The first day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be valid if more than half the number of members, who have the right to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting, are present. The meeting if invalid, shall be adjourned.
(b) “The meetings that are adjourned due to invalidity in accord with the sub para (a) as well as the valid meetings that are extended will be valid if at least one third of the Hluttaw members are present.”
 8. (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting, shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.
(b) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker acting as such, shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.
 9. “If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is, without permission of the Speaker absent from all meetings of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Speaker shall inform the Hluttaw concerned to take action against the member according to the prescribed rules. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days no account shall be taken of any period during which the Chamber is prorogued, or is adjourned.”
 10. “Although there are vacant seats, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or vote or took part in the proceedings are discovered later”
 11. “The functions and records of Pyidaungsu

Member of
the
National
Convention
Convening
Work
Committee
Supreme
Court
Judge
U Tin Aye.
MNA



Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall not be published.”

12. (a) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to make laws for the whole or any part of the Union concerning the matters stated in the Union Legislative List.
(b) If a bill initiated in the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw is approved by both Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, it shall be presumed that the bill is approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
13. (a) When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —
(i) entrust the right to issue rules, regulation and bylaws concerning the law to the Union level organizations formed according to the Constitution.
(ii) authorize the respective organizations or authority to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.
(b) The rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by an Act shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.
(c) If both the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw decide to annul or amend any one the rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be presumed that the rules, regulations or bylaws are annulled or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(d) If there is any disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning the said rules, regulations or bylaws, it shall be decided by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(e) If a decision is made to annul or amend any of the rules, regulations or bylaws according to the para (c) or para (d), the decision shall be without prejudice, however, to the validity of any action previously taken under the rules, regulations or bylaws.
14. “The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw —
“ (a) shall give the decision on matters in connection with ratifying, cancelling and withdrawing from international agreements, regional treaties or bilateral agreements submitted by the President.
“ (b) may fix the international, regional or bilateral agreements that do not need

(See page 13)

The reports, documents and huttaw records published...

(from page 12)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's approval and delegate the President to ratify, cancel and withdraw from them.

15. (a) Matters that requires decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, agreement and approval should be implemented as follows:

- (i) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the matter shall be decided at that session.
- (ii) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the discussion and decisions on the matter shall be made at the nearest Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.
- (iii) A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.

(b) When the President after issuing an ordinance having the force of law submits it to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for approval, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall

- (i) pass a resolution to approve it or not.
- (ii) fix the further period to which the ordinance shall continue to be in force if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves the ordinance.
- (iii) The ordinance shall cease to have effect from the date on which it is disapproved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

16. (a) Of the matters included in the Union legislative list, the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, shall have the right to submit bills on matters under their management, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed procedures.

(b) Bills on national plans, annual budgets and taxation, which are to be submitted exclusively by the Union government shall be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions for decision.

17. "Except the bills that are prescribed by the Constitution to be initiated exclusively in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the bills initiated by the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be discussed initially at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw according to the prescribed provisions."

18. "If a need arises to scrutinize the bills, that are to be discussed and approved exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, they are to be scrutinized jointly by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw bill committee and the Amyotha Hluttaw bill committee, and the bills together with the findings and comments of the joint committee can be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with prescribed provisions."

19. "If there arises disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning a bill, the bill shall be discussed and approved in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."

20. "(a) Within 14 days after the date the President receives the bills sent to him by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after approving them and the bills in like manner as if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have approved them, he shall sign the bills and shall promulgate them into law."

"(b) The President shall send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time to sign and promulgate it into an Act.

"(c) Although the President does not send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, if the Bill is not signed by the President within 14 days after the date of presentation, the same shall be become an Act in like manner as if he had signed it on the last of the said 14 days."

21. (a) If the President sends back the bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after studying the President's comments, can accept his comments or can decide to amend the bill, or shall make a decision to approve the bill in its original state if it does not agree the President's comments.

(b) The President shall sign the bill and enact it into an Act on the last of the said seven days if the bill so amended according to his comments or his comments are not accepted and the bill approved in its original state is sent back to him with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's decision.

(c) If the bill sent back to the President by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not signed by the President within the fixed time, the same shall be become an Act in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the said time limit.

22. "The Acts signed by the President and the

Acts deemed to have been signed by the President shall be promulgated in the gazette. The Act shall come into force on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention is expressed."

23. "Members of the organizations representing the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution while attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker have right to explain the bills and other matters in connection with their respective organizations."

24. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker shall —

- (a) supervise the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sessions
- (b) invite the President, if the President informs him of his desire to address the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
- (c) have the power to invite organization and persons representing any Union level organizations formed under the Constitution to attend and give clarifications on one of the matters of the ongoing discussions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session if necessary
- (d) implement his other duties and functions designated by the constitution or any law

25. "The Union level organizations formed under the Constitution shall submit their general condition, necessary to be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with the permission of the Speaker."

26. "(a) Subject to the provisions contained in the constitution, and the provisions stipulated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Committee. Concerning the discussions and functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Joint Committee, a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member shall be absolutely privileged, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

"(b) Subject to the provisions contained in the constitution, and the provisions stipulated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of organizations or persons representing any one of the Union level organizations invited to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have the freedom of speech. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of s of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

"(c) However, if the persons mentioned in the above para (a) and para (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing law."

27. "If there arises a need to arrest a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member attending a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at the invitation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without the prior permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker."

28. "The reports, documents and huttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged."

The delegates should discuss whether the above mentioned paras and sub paras should be laid down as detailed basic principles.

သတ်ပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်အား မြို့တော်အင်္ဂါရပ်နှင့် လျော်ညီစွာ သာယာလှပစေပြီး၊ ပြည်သူများ အပန်းဖြေ အနားယူနိုင်ရန် ပန်းခြံများ၊ ကန်ပေါင်များ၊ သစ်ပင်များ၊ မြက်ခင်းများ၊ ပန်းအလှပများအား နိုင်ငံတော်ဘဏ္ဍာငွေမှ ငွေကြေးမြောက်များစွာ အကုန်အကျစွဲ၍ တည်ဆောက်ပေးလျက်ရှိပါသည်။
- ၂။ ပြည်သူများ စိတ်နှလုံးချမ်းမြေ့စွာ အပန်းဖြေအနားယူနိုင်ရန် ပန်းခြံများနှင့် ကန်ပေါင်များတွင် မြက်ခင်းများ၊ သစ်ပင်ပန်းခင်းများ၊ ထီးများ၊ ထိုင်ခုံများ၊ တံတားများ၊ မီးလှံမီးဆိုင်များနှင့် အခြားလိုအပ်သောပစ္စည်းများအား တပ်ဆင်ထားရှိပါသည်။
- ၃။ သို့ရာတွင် ပြည်သူများအပန်းဖြေရန်ပြုလုပ်ပေးထားသည့် ပစ္စည်းများအား စည်းကမ်းမဲ့သော ပြည်သူအမျိုးကြောင့်ပျက်စီးခံရပြီး၊ စစ်စစ်တုံ့ပြန်ကာလနှင့် နှစ်သစ်ကူးကာလရက်များအတွင်း အမျိုးသမီးတို့သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ မူးယစ်ရမ်းကား၍သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ အကြောင်း အမျိုးမျိုးကြောင့်ပျက်စီးခံရ၍ ပြည်သူပိုင်ပစ္စည်းကကွယ်ရေးဥပဒေပုဒ်မ-၆(၁)အရ ၂၀၀၄-၂၀၀၄ တွင် တရားခံ(၇)ဦးနှင့် ၂၀၀၄-၂၀၀၅ တွင် တရားခံ(၆)ဦးတို့အား ထိရောက်ပြစ်ဒဏ် ချမှတ်၍ အရေးယူခဲ့ရပါသည်။
- ၄။ ထို့ကြောင့် ၂၀၀၅ခုနှစ်၊ စစ်စစ်တုံ့ပြန်ကာလနှင့် ၂၀၀၅-၂၀၀၆ နှစ်သစ်ကူးရက်များအတွင်း အင်းလျားကန်ပေါင်ရှိ ကတ္တောအေးဘုရားလမ်းဘက်ခြမ်းနှင့် ပြည်လမ်းဘက်ခြမ်းနေရာများ၊ ကန်တော်ကြီးဥယျာဉ်နှင့် ပြည်သူလူထု အပန်းဖြေရန် ဆောက်လုပ်ထားသည့် ဥယျာဉ်၊ ပန်းခြံများအား နေ့စဉ်နံနက်(၄)နာရီမှ ည(၉)နာရီအထိသာ အပန်းဖြေအနားယူခွင့်ပြုမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး၊ ကျန်အချိန်များ ပိတ်ထားမည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။
- ၅။ ထိုနည်းတူမြို့တော်သာယာလှပစေရေးအတွက် ပြည်သူများ အပန်းဖြေရန်နှင့် ကျန်းမာရေးလေ့ကျင့်ခန်းများ ပြုလုပ်နိုင်ရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ထားသည့် လမ်းများ၊ သစ်ပင်များ၊ မြက်ခင်းများ၊ ထီးများ၊ ထိုင်ခုံများ၊ မီးလှံမီးဆိုင်များ၊ ဆိုင်းဘုတ်များ စသည်တို့အား ပျော်ရွှင်မှု လွန်ကဲ၍သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ မူးယစ်ရမ်းကား၍သော်လည်းကောင်း၊ အကြောင်းအမျိုးမျိုးကြောင့်သော်လည်းကောင်း ပျက်စီးပါက ယခင်နှစ်များနည်းတူ ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူသွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတ်ပေးနှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း အေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကော်မီ

ADVERTISEMENTS

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ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရေးအဖွဲ့

ရက်စွဲ၊ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် ဒီဇင်ဘာလ ၉ ရက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်စည်ပင်သာယာရေးကော်မတီ၊ ထုတ်လုပ်ရေး
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ပြည့်စွက်ဆေးဝါးနှင့် ဝိနုအိတ်ခွံများကို ဌာနအရောက်ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့်
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အချက်အလက်များကို ဖုန်းအမှတ်-၂၅၂၅၃၃၃၃၊ ရုံးချိန်
အတွင်းဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ
ပစ္စည်းဝယ်ယူရေးအဖွဲ့

EU lawmakers agree to set up CIA prisons inquiry

STRASBOURG (France), 17 Dec—The European Parliament agreed on Thursday to set up a probe into allegations that the CIA used European states to illegally transport and detain terrorism suspects.

The inquiry comes in the wake of allegations that the US Central Intelligence Agency was operating secret jails in Romania and Poland and covertly flying prisoners through European Union airports.

Leaders of the political groups in the assembly decided late on

Wednesday to set up a temporary committee of inquiry, whose mandate and composition will be determined next month. Parliament will have to endorse the committee's remit.

Lawmakers approved a resolution expressing their concerns about the "presumed use of European countries by the CIA for the transportation and illegal detention of prisoners".

The resolution, which also called for a Parliament investigation into the allegations, was passed with 359 votes in favour, 127 against and 32 abstentions.

Earlier this week, the European Union's top justice official urged lawmakers members to wait until a probe by Europe's top human rights watchdog, the Council of Europe, is concluded early next year before pushing ahead with their own probe.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said on a European tour last week that the United States respects the sovereignty of European countries in its fight against terrorism but she would not confirm or deny specific reports of CIA secret prisons in Europe.

EU Justice and Security Commissioner Franco Frattini told Parliament on Wednesday there was no evidence so far to confirm the allegations.—MNA/Reuters



Lazio's Cribari of Brazil, left, and Juventus' Pavel Nedved, of Czech Republic in action during their Italian serie A top league soccer match between Lazio and Juventus at Rome's Olympic stadium, on 17 Dec, 2005. The match ended 1-1.

INTERNET

Poland is reportedly under threat of terrorist attacks

WARSAW, 17 Dec— Poland is currently under treat posed by terrorists who might carry out attacks against the country believed to be a close ally of the United States, said a report released Friday in Lodz, some 120 kilometres southwest of Warsaw.

The report was prepared by researchers from the Centre of Strategic Studies and Forecasts at the School of International Studies in Lodz, the second most populous town in Poland. Radical Islamists pose the biggest threat while "organizations like ETA or IRA are not so dangerous", said the report.

Ryszard Machnikowski, the head of the centre, said it also seems unlikely that groups of Polish radical right and left could undertake terrorist actions.

In his opinion, Poland became a potential target of attacks for terrorist

groups after it supported US policy and because of recent news about clandestine CIA prisons allegedly hosted by the country.

The most probable form of an terrorist attack would be an action by a suicide bomber or explosion of a car bomb, he said.

The Lodz scientists warned that Poland has yet to establish any counterterror mechanism to cope with the pressing situation.

"It should be created although it is obvious that no system is 100% effective", Machnikowski said.—MNA/Xinhua

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Ph:723043/248108
(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
Dated. 19 December 2005

Sinn Fein expels alleged British spy from party

DUBLIN, 17 Dec— Sinn Fein has expelled a senior party member, alleging that he was a spy for Britain, the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) political ally said on Friday.

"Sinn Fein has revealed that a member of the party in Belfast, Denis Donaldson, was expelled last night after it was uncovered that he had been working as a British agent," the party said in a statement.

Donaldson, formerly Sinn Fein's head of administration at the mothballed Northern Ireland Assembly, was one of three men cleared last week of spying on behalf of pro-Irish Republicans at the assembly set up under the 1998 Good Friday Agreement.

The Northern Ireland Assembly, in which Catholic and Protestant parties on either side of the British-ruled

province's sectarian divide shared power, collapsed three years ago following a police raid on Sinn Fein offices there.

Donaldson, along with two others, was later arrested and charged with having documents likely to be of use to terrorists. The Director of Public Prosecutions decided last week, however, that it was no longer in the public interest to pursue the case.

"The collapse of the power sharing government was blamed on allegations of a Sinn Fein spy ring at Stormont," Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams said in the statement.

"The fact is that there was no Sinn Fein spy ring at Stormont ... The fact is that the key person at the centre of those events was a Sinn Fein member who was a British agent."

Adams was due to hold a news conference on the expulsion in Dublin at 1600 GMT.—MNA/Reuters

Russia to reduce missile systems in Urals, Siberia

Moscow, 17 Dec— Russia's Strategic Missile Forces will continue to reduce its missile systems deployed in the Urals and Siberian regions next year, Commander Colonel-General Nikolai Solovtsov said Friday.

Two units in the Kostroma and Chelyabinsk regions were disbanded this year and some 30 RS-22 intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM) and 40 RS-20 ICBMs were destroyed, reducing the number of Russia's ICBMs to 520, Solovtsov

was quoted by Russian news agencies as saying.

Russia, however, is also modernizing its missile arsenal.

Solovtsov said his forces deployed the fifth regiment of silo-based Topol-M ICBM this month and will deploy the first mobile Topol-M

system next year in the Ivanovo region in central Russia.

With a takeoff weight of 47.2 tons and a payload of 1,200 kilos, the Topol-M missile can hit targets as far as 10,000 kilometres. Thanks to its three engines, it also accelerates much faster

than all the previous types.

Given its advanced auxiliary engines and guidance equipment, the missile's flight trajectory is unpredictable to the adversary. Its designers also claim that it is fully resistant to electromagnetic pulse.

MNA/Xinhua



New World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight champion Nikolai Valuev (R) of Russia lands a punch against John Ruiz of the US during their title bout in Berlin, 17 Dec, 2005. Valuev won the WBA heavyweight title with a controversial majority decision over Ruiz on Saturday. The sell-out 10,000 crowd boomed loudly when the decision was announced even though Valuev, known as the 'Beast of the East' for his towering size and weight advantage, is based in Germany.—INTERNET

The Beatles sue EMI over disputed royalties

LONDON, 17 Dec— Apple Records, the legendary label owned by The Beatles, has sued record company EMI Group, claiming that it is owed 30 million pounds (\$3.1 million US dollars) in unpaid royalties.

Apple Records — owned by Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and the successors of John Lennon and George Harrison — said an audit determined that EMI has not been fulfilling the terms of its contract. EMI owns the copyright to the Beatles recordings in perpetuity.

"Despite very clear provisions in our contract, EMI persist in ignoring their obligations and duty to account fairly and with transparency. Apple and The Beatles are, once again, left with no choice but to sue EMI," Apple Records said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

Kenyan police arrest man with rocket launcher

NAIROBI, 17 Dec— Police in northeastern Kenya said on Friday they have arrested a Kenyan man of Somali origin for possessing a rocket launcher.

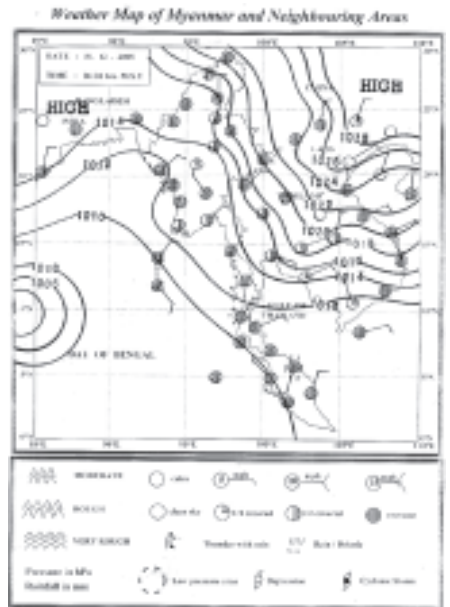
"We have him in custody. He was found with what we call a rocket launcher.

We are still investigating," said Julius Kitili, the officer commanding the police division in Wajir, about 300 miles northeast of

Nairobi. In 2002, militants in Kenya fired two Strela 2 rocket launchers, narrowly missing an Israeli charter flight just outside Mombasa.

Kitili said the man, Mohamed Yusuf, will be taken to a local court, and contrary to media reports, terrorism was not one of the charges he would face. "We have no evidence for that. He will be charged in court in Wajir," Kitili said without giving details of the charges against Mohamed.

Kitili said Mohamed was alone when he was arrested. — MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Sunday, 18 December, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Kachin, Shan, Mon and Chin States, lower Sagaing, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) above normal in Rakhine and Kayah States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures was Putao (7°C).

Maximum temperature on 17-12-2005 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 18-12-2005 was 62°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 18-12-2005 was 76%. Total sunshine hours on 17-12-2005 was (8.5) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 18-12-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (103.62) inches at Mingaladon, (102.87) inches at Kaba-Aye and (107.44) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (9) mph from Northeast at (11:15) hours MST on 17-12-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, the tropical depression over Southwest Bay has moved West-Northwest wards and centred at about (260) miles East-Southeast of Nagapattinam (India). It is forecast to move West-Northwest wards. Weather is cloudy in the North Bay, Southwest Bay and adjoining West Central Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 19-12-2005: Isolated rain or thundershowers are likely in Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Mon States, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Deltaic, gulf of Mottama, Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (30) mph. Seas will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the Coastal area.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 19-12-2005: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 19-12-2005: Fair weather.

Storm news

(Issued at (10:30) hrs MST on 18-12-2005)

According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, the tropical depression over Southwest Bay has moved West-Northwest wards and centred at about (260) miles East-Southeast of Nagapattinam (India). It is forecast to move West-Northwest wards.



Los Angeles Clippers' Elton Brand blocks the shot off Houston Rockets' Yao Ming of China during the first half of their NBA basketball game, on 17 Dec, 2005, in Los Angeles. INTERNET

Monday, 19 December
View on today

7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် သုရာကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသရာ ဗဟုသုတအဖွဲ့အဖွဲ့တော် ဆောင်ချစ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအဖွဲ့အဖွဲ့တော် ဝုရ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာအဖွဲ့အဖွဲ့တော် ဝုရ၊ ဓမ္မဘူမိဂါရီ၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am
2. တီပီဂူတရ၊ ဓမ္မဘူမိဂါရီ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတဘန္တလိမ္မိတဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ယောကြွားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိဝါဒီတော်

7:25 am
3. To be healthy exercises

7:30 am
4. Morning news

7:40 am
5. Nice and sweet song

- 7:55 am**
6. Song of national races
- 8:05 am**
7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am**
8. Cute little of dances
- 8:20 am**
9. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am**
10. International news
- 8:45 am**
11. Grammar made easy
- 4:00 am**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Song of National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. Practice in Reading
- 4:40 pm**
4. Musical Programme
- 5:00 pm**
5. အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လုပ်ညွှန်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ ဒုတိယနံပါတ် (သင်ခန်းစာ) (သင်ခန်းစာ)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Dance Variety
- 5:25 pm**
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:30 pm**
8. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစာတေး
- 5:40 pm**
9. Song And Dnce Of

- National Races.
- 5:50 pm**
10. Musical Programme.
- 6:00 pm**
11. Industrial Achievement
- 6:10 pm**
12. နိုင်ငံခြားကာကွယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့အဖွဲ့တော် "ရယ်ရှင်ဆရာတော် ဝုရ၏ ဆိတ်လေး" (အပိုင်း-၄၇)
- 6:30 pm**
13. Evening News.
- 6:30 pm**
14. Weather report.
- 7:05 pm**
15. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "အချစ်လှေကားထစ်လေးများ" (အပိုင်း-၂၂)
- 7:35 pm**
16. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 7:45 pm**
17. ဝတ်စုံများမှ နုနုကန် (အပိုင်း-၂)
- 8:00 pm**
18. News
- 8:00 pm**
19. International News
- 8:00 pm**
20. Weather Reports
- 8:00 pm**
21. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းဆွဲ "ချစ်သူလက်ဆောင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၉)
- 8:00 pm**
22. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Monday, 19 December
Tune in today

8:30 am Briefnews
8:35 am Music:
-Learn to love again... Steps
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music:
-Yoko
...Cartoons
8:50 am National news/Slogan
Music:
9:00 am -Impressiveinstant Madonna
9:05 am International news
Music
-Whenever you go... Cow Lee
9:20 am News/Slogan
Lunch time music
-Now that the music has gone... JoeCocker+Lu
-Un changed melody
... Garath Gates
-Puppy live
... S Club Junior
9:00 pm Spotlight on the star
- "Hillery Duff"
9:35 pm Vocal Gems
-Eye to eye
-A long winding road
-Dancing with ceiling
... Lionel Richie
9:45 pm News/Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

Prime Minister General Soe Win attends 1st East Asia Summit



Prime Minister General Soe Win together with heads of State/Government of East Asia countries poses for documentary photo. — MNA

YANGON, 18 Dec — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win attended the 1st East Asia Summit at Conference Hall 2 on the third floor of Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia on 14 December morning, and signed the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on East Asia Summit.

At 8.45 am, Heads of State/Government of East Asia countries including Myanmar arrived at KL Convention Centre to attend the 1st East Asia Summit. They were welcomed there by Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi.

Before the summit, they had a documentary photo taken. Next, the 1st East Asia Summit kicked

off. It was attended by Sultan of Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzadin Waddaulah, Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen of Cambodia, President Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia, Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Prime Minister Dato' Seri Abhullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi of Malaysia, President Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo of the Philippines, Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsein Loong of Singapore, Thai Prime Minister Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, and Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Prime Minister of Australia Mr John Howard, Premier of the People's Republic of

China Mr Wen Jiabao, Prime Minister of India Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of Japan Mr Junichiro Koizumi, President of the Republic of Korea Mr Roh Moo Hyun, Prime Minister of New Zealand Mr Helen Clark, and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Ong Keng Yong.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Deputy Minister for NPED Col Thurein Zaw, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Myint Aung, the ministers, (See page 9)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects rubber plantations in Taikkyi

YANGON, 18 Dec — Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee Chairman State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanied by Chief Justice U Aung Toe and officials, arrived at the rubber plantations of Shwe Innwa Agriculture Company cooperated as a joint venture by MWVO and

Shwephyu Moe Co Ltd in Taung Hlaing Yoma, Taikkyi Township this morning.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party were welcomed by MWVO Central Committee Vice-Chairman Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Rtd), Central Committee Members Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Brig-Gen Thura Maung

Ni (Rtd) and officials, Col Tint Wai of local station, Yangon North District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Myat Min, officials at district/township level, officials of Township WVO and Shwe Phyu Moe Co Ltd.

Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party inspected the nursery of rubber saplings for further cultivation of (See page 11)



Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects rubber plantation of Shwe Innwa Rubber Cultivation Co in Taikkyi Township. — MNA