

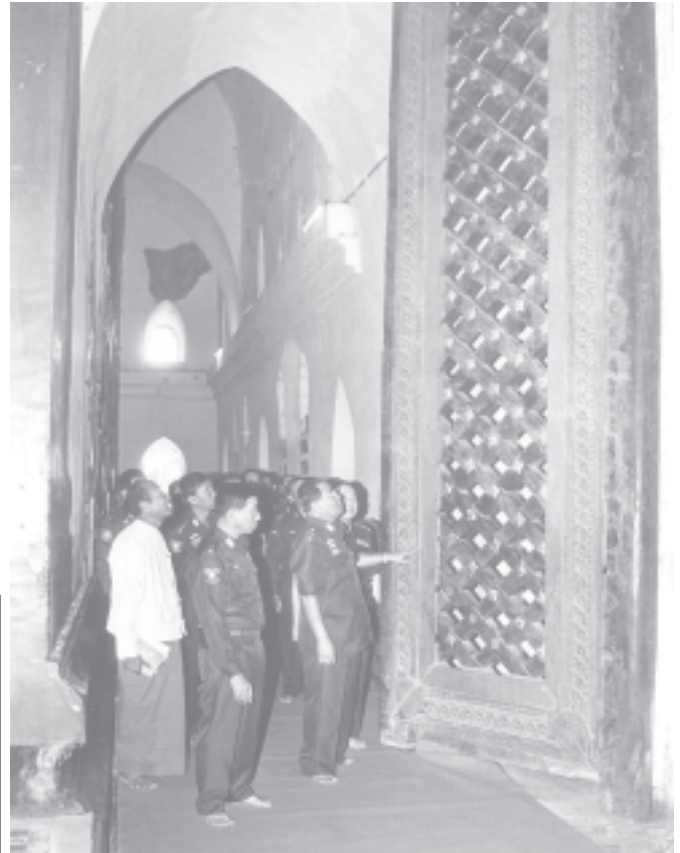
# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Wednesday, 21 December, 2005

## Senior General Than Shwe visits ancient pagodas in Bagan-NyaungU



YANGON, 20 Dec — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe

Mann and other members and officials, visited ancient pagodas in Bagan Nyaung U yesterday morning.

First, the Senior General and party visited Shwezigon Pagoda at 10.30 am and paid homage to the Kakkusan Buddha Image. Next they

offered 'soon', fruits, flowers and lights to the pagoda. Senior General Than Shwe made cash donations to the funds of the pagoda through members of the pagoda board of trustees and paid obeisance to the pagoda.

Afterwards, Senior



Senior General Than Shwe visits the Ananda Pagoda. — MNA

General Than Shwe and party went to Ananda Pagoda where they paid homage to the Buddha images and viewed ancient art and handicrafts. The Senior General next made cash donations to the funds of the pagoda and signed the visitors' book.

Senior General Than Shwe also visited Lawkananda Swedawshin Pagoda and paid homage to the Jana Mudra Buddha Image, made cash donations to the funds the pagoda and signed the visitors' book.

MNA

### 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

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

**PERSPECTIVES**

Wednesday, 21 December, 2005

**Strive for harmonious development of the Union**

Now is the time when the national peoples of Myanmar are building their own nation in unity, relying on their own strength. As the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are working in concert for the emergence of a modern and developed nation, tangible results have been achieved. Transport, education, health, economic and social infrastructure has improved and we owe it to the correct leadership, constant guidance and farsightedness of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the systematic implementation of plans and projects at different levels in accordance with the guidance by the Head of State and concerted efforts of departmental personnel.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, during his tour of Kachin State, inspected development work being carried out there. And in his meeting with departmental personnel at the meeting hall of the Northern Command on 14 December, Senior General Than Shwe stressed that the plan for 24 special development regions was being implemented for strategic development of the entire Union.

The government is implementing the three plans — the border areas development plan, the plan for 24 special development regions and the five rural development tasks — for all-round development of the entire nation. As a result, various regions of the Union have begun enjoying rapid development. It all is due to the correct leadership of the Head of State and active participation of departmental personnel, local people and social organizations with full Union Spirit.

Coordination meetings between the central-level officials and those at the regional level, the officials at the central level realizing the true regional situation and the regional-level officials knowing the policies of the State thoroughly are the practices of democracy and, because of these practices, considerable success has been achieved in various fields.

We believe that concerted efforts and democratic practices of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw will bear the fruits of development for the entire national people of the Union to enjoy.

**Minister inspects ironworks, mineral extraction in Mandalay Division**

YANGON, 20 Dec — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint on 17 December went to No 1 Ironworks in PyinOolwin, Mandalay Division, and inspected production of machinery parts.

Afterwards, he proceeded to Myanma Salt and Marine Chemicals Enterprise in Sagaing and urged officials to make efforts for increasing production of salt and to create job opportunities for local residents.

In the afternoon, the minister arrived at mineral extraction projects in Salingyi Township and inspected the copper ore extraction and other minerals.

On 18 December, Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint went to the hospital in the copper extraction project and comforted patients receiving free medical treatment at the hospital.

MNA

**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 inspects sanitation works in city**

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect extended digging of the drain along U Chit Maung Road in Tamway Township. — MNA

YANGON, 20 Dec — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected sanitation works, measures taken for proper drainage and paving of roads in the city this morning.

The commander and party inspected measures taken for cleaning water in Inya Lake.

They also inspected sanitation works at Khunapinlain Creek at the corner of Pyithaya Road and Mogaung Road in Yankin Township, along U Chit Maung Road in Bahan Township, paving of road in forest zone in Kandawgyi Natural Park and construction of Popa Taungkalat Tower.

The commander gave instructions on durability of roads, maintenance of machines and paving of roads in accord with the standard set.—MNA

**Minister for Foreign Affairs back from Dhaka**

Minister U Nyan Win on his return from Dhaka, Bangladesh.—MNA

YANGON, 20 Dec—The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back here this evening after taking part in the Eighth Ministerial Meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) held from 18 to 19 December 2005 in Dhaka, People's Republic of Bangladesh.

While in Dhaka, the Minister for Foreign Affairs held talks with Minister for Foreign Affairs of PRB Mr M Morshed Khan on international issues and bilateral issues of mutual interest.

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of PRB to Myanmar Mr Mohammed Khairu Zzaman.

U Win Mra, Director-General of the Interna-

**Myanmar delegation returns home from China**

YANGON, 20 Dec — The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein arrived back here yesterday evening by air after attending the sixth ministerial conference of the World Trade Organization held in the People's Republic of China.

The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, departmental heads and officials of the Ministry of Commerce.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein is welcomed back at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

tional Organizations and Economic Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Soe Myint, Director-General of Energy Planning Department of the Ministry of Energy, U Win Zeyar Tun, Assistant Director of Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Daw Malar Than Htaik, Head of Branch-1, Economic Division, IOED also arrived back together with the Minister.—MNA

## Chavez sees "new page" after Bolivia election

CARACAS (Venezuela), 19 Dec — Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez said he was confident on Sunday Bolivian elections would bring "a new page" and another step in his drive for regional cooperation to counter US influence.

Bolivians went to the polls on Sunday with US opponent and Indian leader Evo Morales expected to win most of the votes for the presidency of South America's poorest country.

Chavez, a close ally of Cuba and one of Washington's fiercest Latin American opponents, did not name

Morales during his broadcast but he has made no secret of his preference for the Indian leader.

"Our brothers, the Bolivian people, right now are writing a new page in their history," Chavez said on his weekly Sunday broadcast. "We are sure what happens today will mean another step in the integration of the South America of our dreams,

free and united."

Morales, who has met with Chavez several times, has denied charges from critics he received financing from the Venezuelan leader.

A self-proclaimed socialist revolutionary, Chavez has sought out preferential energy and economic deals with South American neighbours to promote integration as an alternative to US trade and foreign policies in the region.—MNA/Reuters

## Weighty loot trips up geriatric Japanese thief

TOKYO, 19 Dec — An ageing Japanese thief felt the gravity of his crime when the weight of his loot tripped him up during his attempted getaway.

The 70-year-old man walked into a post office in the city of Kawagoe, just north of Tokyo, late on Friday and poured liquid over the floor, saying he would set off an explosion if he was not given money.

A clerk filled a paper bag the man was carrying with coins worth some 250,000 yen (\$2,000) and weighing 10 kg (22 lb). As the man ran off, the bag broke under the weight and he stumbled and fell as he tried to pick up the money. Tsugio Chigira, deputy head of the Kawagoe police station, said the man told police he needed the money to pay back debts. — MNA/Reuters

## Ukrainian troops end operations in Iraq

KUT, 20 Dec — A 900-strong Ukrainian military contingent on Monday formally ended more than two years of military deployment in Iraq, paving the way for a phased withdrawal by the end of the month.

"Today we are finishing our operation activity here and today we transferred authority to the Polish commander," Major General Anatoli Pushviakov, commander of Ukrainian troops in

Iraq, said. Kiev has maintained around 900 soldiers in Iraq, as part of the US-led coalition. They have been responsible for maintaining security, training police forces and overseeing reconstruction projects in the depressed Shiite south, around the town of Kut.

Ukrainian troops will begin leaving on Tuesday and complete their pullout on December 29, ready to spend the New Year's holiday at home, military officials said.

Their departure will bring foreign troop levels in the region down to 3,200, which the overall commander of the area, Polish Major General Piotr Czerwinski, believes is

insufficient to provide camp and convoy protection, as well as thoroughly advise and train Iraqi forces.

In the wake of the 2003 US-led invasion, the number of coalition partners with troops in

southern central Iraq has dropped from 23 to 11, Czerwinski said.

Eighteen Ukrainian personnel have died during the two-and-a-half year deployment in Iraq, Pushviakov said.

Internet

## Three killed, thousands displaced by flood in central Philippines

MANILA, 19 Dec — Three people died while almost 7,000 families have been displaced as heavy downpour sent scores of villages in at least six provinces in central Philippines under flood water, relief officials reported on Sunday.

As of noon Sunday, the Office of the Civil Defence (OCD) run by the military said 118 villages in the affected provinces of Sorsogon, Aklan, Oriental Mindoro, Camarines Sur, Albay and Iloilo were affected by the flooding.

The OCD also said that at least 28,092 families or 166,904 persons from the said areas were affected. Of the figure, about 6,904 families or 10,016 individuals are currently housed in evacuation centres. The OCD said various government agencies, including the Armed Forces, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Philippine Coast Guard and Philippine National Red Cross are helping in the search and rescue and relief operations.

In Banga Town in Aklan, three Air Force helicopters were dispatched to the village of Taba-ao to rescue five trapped families as ground search and teams could not penetrate the place due to strong surge of water. — MNA/Xinhua

## Colombian judge summons two US citizens in bombing case

BOGOTA, 19 Dec — A Colombian judge has summoned two US citizens to testify in the case of a 1998 bombing which killed 17 civilians in Colombia's border area with Venezuela, local media reported on Sunday. The judge had called

Jose Orta, pilot of a Skymaster plane, and Charlie Denny, his radar operator, and the Colombian authorities are analyzing whether the request is feasible, said the report.

Colombia and the US have signed a deal which gives immunity to US soldiers who work as advisers or consultants in Colombia.

The case under investigation began on 13 December, 1998, when Colombian Air Force (FA) were pursuing rebels from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in Santo Domingo, some 600 kilometres northeast of Bogota.

According to newspaper reports, some air crews hired by petrol companies dropped bombs which killed the civilians. The FA dispute this version, saying that FARC guerillas are responsible for the explosion. MNA/Xinhua



A Thai man rows with passengers in a flood water outside his house in Pattani province, southern Thailand on 19 Dec, 2005. The death toll from flooding has risen to 27 in southern Thailand where thousands of people stranded in remote villages are sick from flood-related diseases, officials said on Monday.

INTERNET

## Death toll of south India stampede rises to 42

NEW DELHI, 19 Dec — Forty-two homeless people were trampled to death on Sunday and 37 were injured in a stampede during the distribution of flood relief supplies at a shelter in southern India, officials and witnesses said.

The early morning incident occurred in Chennai, formerly known as Madras, as thousands of people lined up for the relief supplies. "Over 5,000 people rushed in as the gates of the shelter opened, causing the stampede," S Chandramohan, top administrator of Chennai, capital of Tamil Nadu state, told Reuters by telephone.

The official had earlier given a death toll of 43 but Chief Minister J Jayalalitha told reporters that 42 people had died in the incident and 37 were injured.

Police said the stampede took place when it began to rain at the centre, located in a government school building, while some officials said a rumour about a shortfall in supplies led to panic among the crowd.

"People started rushing to safer places, leading to the stampede," police said.—MNA/Reuters



A crowd views destroyed vehicles after a suicide bomb attack against an Iraqi police colonel in Baghdad, on 19 Dec, 2005.—INTERNET

# Today's world, today's knowledge, today's Sasana, and today's code of moral conduct (1)

*Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)*

TV and daily newspapers carried the news on the 15th Plenary Meeting of the Fifth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held at Wizaya Mingala Dhammathabin on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon on 22 and 23 November 2005. And the 24-11-2005 issues of newspapers featured the Saraniya Ovadakatha delivered by meeting Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Magway (Maha Visutarama Taikthit) Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Kumara.

As reading the Saraniya Ovadakatha once was not enough to meet my heart's content, I read it time and again. Every time I did, I enjoyed pervasive delight, and had an opportunity to bear in mind today's world, today's knowledge, today's Sasana, and today's code of moral conduct through the Saraniya Ovadakatha.

Regarding the Saraniya Ovadakatha, the chairman Sayadaw delivered a sermon dividing the Ovadakatha into two sections — today's world and today's knowledge; and today's Sasana and today's code of modal conduct.

The Sayadaws, famous religious leaders in their respective regions, are always busy with daily routines for their monasteries and religious matters for respective townships and regions.

Despite being busy with religious matters of respective regions, the Sayadaws residing in 14 states and divisions graced the occasion at the meeting by their presence for the sake of promotion, propagation and purification of the Sasana.

On 7 and 8 October 2005, a workshop on upgrading of Sasana universities took place at the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University. On the occasion, many learned monks and lay persons gave advice and made suggestions as follows:

1. appointment of qualified faculty members
2. promotion of teaching and learning Pali language
3. promotion of teaching level of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University
4. promotion of teaching and learning levels of Buddhist universities under the Ministry of Religious Affairs
5. promotion of teaching English
6. ensuring effective teaching methods
7. upgrading of Pitakataik (libraries)

These points came from thorough assessments of the advice and suggestions.

In the 21st Century, Information Technology is making progress with speed, and globalization is common in the world, thus emerging complexity of various ways of life, social values, cultures, customs and traditions.

Globalization, that has come into existence together with IT, brings both constructive and destructive results. Some nations with superiority in information technology are resorting to various means to keep the nations with inferiority in IT under their domination through globalization. Besides, they provide a variety of incentives for weaker nations in a clever way to become their followers.

The nations where IT has not made progress yet have to try to be constantly equipped with nationalistic fervour to protect themselves against the undesirable effects on globalization, while making strenuous efforts to ensure IT development in respec-

tive nations.

In this regard, I would like to cite a paragraph from the book "Global Village" by Chit Naing (Psychology) that says today globalization has both constructive and destructive effects on any nations and peoples, all vying each other for superiority.

He said we Myanmar people with intellectual power therefore should know strengths and weaknesses of globalization and expand the horizon of our knowledge, intellectual power and farsightedness.

Today's education is information technology. World countries have given the top priority to IT development in their education systems. The conventional education system has been left behind in the 20th Century. So, the 21st Century education or IT education has created a lifelong learning society.

Accordingly, Myanmar playing a leading role among the Theravada Buddhist countries should not be content with the conventional method in the learning of Pariyatti, but should apply IT in Pariyatti education with speed.

The State Pariyatti Sasana Universities (Yangon) and (Mandalay) established by the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee are international level religious universities being run under the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana. The chairman Sayadaw shared the information about the launch for upgrading of teaching and learning methods in those universities.

#### **Brief background histories of the universities**

The meeting of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held on 15 October 1982 assigned duties to Secretary of the committee Mingun Tipitaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vicitta Sarabhivamsa for speedy emergence of Pariyatti Sasana universities in Yangon and Mandalay.

With the farsightedness that the entire people would be wellwishers contributing towards the project if each home made a donation of one kyat, the Sayadaw made an around-the-nation trip to hold ceremonies to give sermons to the people. So, that inspired the entire people to make generous donations to the project. The two universities were built with the donations of the wellwishers across the nation.

The State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) came into operation on 23 June 1986 and the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Mandalay) on 21 August 1986.

The State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee handed over the duties to the Tatmadaw Government to ensure perpetual existence of the facilities.

Since then, the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana under the Ministry of Religious Affairs has taken over these duties.

#### **Academic matters**

The Department of Vinaya Pitaka, the Department of Suttanta Pitaka, and the Department of Abhidhamma Pitaka teach major subjects, the Department of Pitaka (Pali), the Department of Pitaka (Myanmarsar), the Department of Pitaka (English), the Department for Propagation of Buddha Sasana (Sasana Chronicle), other subjects for six periods every day (except holidays) annually for four years for a course.

The Dhamma Bhandagarika (Pitaka Library) Department and the Registration Department enhance the knowledge of the students.

B.A Buddhism degree is conferred on a student who has passed two semesters in an academic year for four years and completed field missionary duties for

**The State Pariyatti Sasana Universities (Yangon) and (Mandalay) established by the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee are international level religious universities being run under the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana.**

two more years.

If a student has passed the examination with high marks, he is qualified to join the two-year M.A Buddhism course. And if he submits a thesis in the third year, he will be conferred M.A Buddhism degree.

A monk or novice aged under 30 who have passed Pathamagyi exam (or) Sakjasiha and Cetiayangana exams can apply for the entrance examination held in the month of Tazaungmon. If he passes the entrance examination along with viva, he can join the first year course of the university on the first Waxing of Nattaw (Sarsodaw Day).

#### **Special course on Theravada Buddhism for foreigners**

In response to the requests of those from foreign countries to the Myanmar government through respective governments to study Pariyatti literature, a special course is conducted for such persons (monks and novices).

In the first year, the students have to learn Myanmar and Pali languages in the first half, and Vinaya, Pali, Myanmar literature, Myanmar culture (in English), and Sasana chronicle in the second half. After completion of the first year, the students are conferred a certificate of observer, and after completion of the second year, Diploma certificate, and after completion of the third and fourth years, Diploma of Buddhism (Advanced Course).

Up to 2004 academic year, 11 Russian monks and novices, eight Chinese monks, four Korean monks and novices, 12 Laotian monks, two Bangladeshi monks, one Japanese monk, and eight Sri Lankan monks have joined the universities. Among them, 23 persons have got Diploma certificate and 12 persons, Diploma of Buddhism (Advanced Course).

Without doubt, the Buddha Sasana will spread around the world through such foreign monks and novices, and Myanmar members of the Buddhist Order who have completed respective courses in the universities, and other persons well-versed in Buddhism. In conclusion of the part one of my article, I would like to present the exhortation of Chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara.

"Onus is put on the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee to make unremitting efforts for sustainable progress of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities under the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. So, I would like to exhort the members to observe various situations of the universities and give sermons from time to time but not to ignore them for their perpetual existence.

**Translation: MS**

Kyemon: 10-12-2005

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# Transport sector witnesses sustained progress

## Development of transport in the time of the Tatmadaw government

### Improved rail services for both passengers and freight

Transportation plays an important role in national development. Transport charges for passengers or goods by train are very reasonable after water transport. It can save time, and a large number of passengers and goods can be transported very conveniently.

As the nation's population has been increasing year after year, the role of trains becomes vital in transporting passengers and goods. Therefore, the Tatmadaw government formed the Ministry of Rail Transportation as a separate ministry in 1994 to promote the transportation sector.

Myanma Railways is trying its best for the convenience of national people by extending running of passenger trains and at the same time more number of carriages are plying from one region to another for smooth flow of goods. The running of express trains, mail trains, passenger trains, circular

### Myanma Railways moving into top gear

Sr	Subject	1988	2005	Progress
1	Diesel Locomotive	270	293	23
2	Light Rail Bus Engine	19	65	46
3	Rail Bus Engine	-	12	12
4	Diesel Multiple Unit (set)	-	5	5
5	Passenger (million)	36.68	43.13	6.45
6	Passenger mile (million)	1870	1917.63	47.63
7	Freight (ton in million)	1.27	1.86	0.59
8	Freight mile (million)	197	369.32	172.32

trains, light rail bus and freight trains are also being extended.

Locomotives and carriages needed for better service are manufactured and repaired at home and some are imported.

With the increase in the number of trains, the number of passengers has jumped up to over 43 million in 2005 from over 36 million in 1988. In 1988, the transported amount of goods/mile stood at 197 million but in 2005, the number has

reached up to 396 million goods/mile. The service provided by Myanma Railways has contributed much towards national development and the development of socio-economic life of national people.

The table bears witness to the efforts made by the Tatmadaw government for the convenience of passengers and smooth flow of goods.

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A train passes over Pon Creek Bridge on Taunggyi-Saikkhaung-Namhsan Railroad.

### Basic Sea Prawn Breeding Course opened

YANGON, 20 Dec—A ceremony to open Basic Sea Prawn Breeding Course No 1 jointly sponsored by the Fisheries Department, the Myanmar Fisheries Federation and the Myanmar Prawn Breeding Entrepreneurs Association was held at the Thiri Annawa Hall of MFF on Bayinnaung Road in Insein Township this morning with an address by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein.

Vice-Chairman of MFF U Han Tun and Chairman of MPBEA U Hla Maung Shwe explained the purpose of the course.

The two-week course is being attended by 50 trainees from the companies concerned.



Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein speaks Basic Sea Prawn Breeding Course No 1.

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

YANGON, 20 Dec — *The following is the presentation on clarification made by National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw to be included in the judicial sector in formulating State Constitution by Member of the National Convention Convening Commission Supreme Court Judge Dr Tin Aung Aye at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 14 December.*

I would like to explain the procedures to be carried out when there arise a case to arrest a member of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw.

Sub-Article (A) of Article (59) of the 1974 Constitution said that if need should arise to arrest any member of the Pyithu Hluttaw while it is in session, reliable evidence in support of such need shall be produced before the Panel of Chairmen. No such arrest shall be made without the prior approval of the Panel of Chairmen. And Sub-Article (B) said that if need should arise to arrest any member of the Pyithu Hluttaw belonging to any organs of the Pyithu Hluttaw, while such organ is in session, reliable evidence in support of such need shall be produced before the Council of State. No such arrest shall be made without the prior approval of the Council of State. And Sub-Article (C) said that if any member of the Pyithu Hluttaw is arrested while the Pyithu Hluttaw or any organ of the Assembly to which he belongs is not in session the arrest and reliable evidence in support thereof shall be submitted to the Council of State as soon as possible.

In my clarification to the Chapter of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, I suggested that a detailed basic principle should be adopted that if it is needed to arrest a member attending a session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, or a person attending a Hluttaw session under the permission or invitation of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, reliable evidence are to be submitted to the Speaker. And such a member or person shall not be arrested without the prior approval of the Speaker. Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have access to such privilege. A detailed basic principle should be adopted that if it is needed to arrest a member of the Amyotha Hluttaw attending a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw or a person attending a Hluttaw session under the permission or invitation of the Speaker of the Hluttaw, reliable evidences shall be submitted to the Speaker, and such a member or person shall not be arrested without a prior approval of the Speaker.

The Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw have Hluttaw committees, commissions and bodies consisting of Hluttaw members. A principle shall be adopted that should need arise to arrest a member of such a committee, commission or body while the Hluttaw committees, commissions and bodies are in session, prior approval of the Speaker of the Hluttaw shall be sought through the head of respective committees, commissions and bodies.

According to the detailed basic principle adopted in the legislative formation that the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw have the right to form commission and bodies with Hluttaw members and suitable citizens if they need to study the matters except the matters Hluttaw committees are studying, if there is a commission or body comprising citizens serving as members and attending a session of the commission or a body, such citizens of the commission or body shall have equal rights with Hluttaw members while the commission or body is in session.

A detailed basic principle shall be adopted that if it is needed to arrest a Hluttaw member while a Hluttaw is not in session, reliable evidences shall be submitted to the Speaker. With respect to the procedures to be carried out if it is needed to arrest a member of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw or a member

of a commission or bodies formed by a Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

### **Pyithu Hluttaw**

- (a) **If there arises a need to arrest a Pyithu Hluttaw member attending a Pyithu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyithu Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.**
- (b) **If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or commission or organization formed by the Pyithu Hluttaw attending a session of the committee or commission or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the committee or commission or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.**
- (c) **If there arises a need to arrest a member of Pyithu Hluttaw or committee, commission or organization when the Pyithu Hluttaw or the committee or the commission or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.**

### **Amyotha Hluttaw**

- (a) **If there arises a need to arrest a Amyotha Hluttaw member attending a Amyotha Hluttaw session or a person attending the Amyotha Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker.**
- (b) **If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or commission or organization formed by the Amyotha Hluttaw attending a session of the committee or commission or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker thorough the head of the committee or commission or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker.**
- (c) **If there arises a need to arrest a member of Amyotha Hluttaw or committee, commission or organization when the Amyotha Hluttaw or the committee or the commission or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker.**

shall be adopted or not.

I would like to explain the matters on the reports, publications and Hluttaw records published and distributed by the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

In my clarification to the Chapter of the Union Hluttaw, I explained that in many world nations, Hluttaws exercise a privilege of exemption from being charged regarding the publications and records published and distributed by them. Sub-Section (1) of Section (68) of the 1947 Constitution said that no person shall be so liable to in respect of publication by or under the authority of a Chamber of the Parliament of any report, paper, votes, or proceedings. And Section (70) said that all official reports and publications of the Parliament or of either Chamber thereof shall be absolutely privileged.

Member  
of National  
Convention  
Convening  
Commission  
Judge Dr  
Tin Aung  
Aye of  
Supreme  
Court.  
MNA



In my explanation on sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, I made a suggestion that a detailed basic principle be adopted that if the activities and records of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw are not banned by a law or a decision of a Hluttaw, they shall be known to the public.

It shall be a privilege of exemption from being charged regarding the publications and Hluttaw records published and distributed by Hluttaws so as to let the people know the activities and records of Hluttaws.

In relation to the reports, publications and records published and distributed by or under the authority of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted so as to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

### **Pyithu Hluttaw**

**The reports, documents and records published by the Pyithu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.**

### **Amyotha Hluttaw**

**The reports, documents and records published by the Amyotha Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.**

should be adopted or not.

Based on the findings and reviews I have explained, I would like to present the detailed basic principles as a whole that shall be adopted regarding the proceedings for the legislative functions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw that are to be included in the legislation of the Constitution as follows:—

1. (a) **The first regular session of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall be convened within 90 days after the general election commences.**
- (b) (1) **The term of the Amyotha Hluttaw commences on the date on which the term of the Pyithu Hluttaw commences.**
- (2) **The first regular session of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall be convened within seven days after the commencement of the term of that Hluttaw.**
2. (a) (1) **The State Peace and Development Council shall convene the first regular session of the Pyithu Hluttaw after the Constitution has come into force.**
- (2) **The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw who continues to perform his duties in accordance with provisions of this Constitution shall convene first regular sessions for the next terms of the Pyithu Hluttaw.**
- (b) (1) **The State Peace and Development Council shall convene the first regular session of the Amyotha Hluttaw after the Constitution has come into force.**

(See page 7)

## Even if there are vacant seats, the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks

YANGON, 20 Dec—The following is the presentation on detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw to be included in the judicial sector in formulating State Constitution by Member of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Supreme Court Judge U Tin Aye at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 14 December.

9. (a) Even if there are vacant seats, the Pyithu 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 voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.
- (b) Even if there are vacant seats, the Amyotha 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 voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.
10. (a) The functions and records of Pyithu Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall not be published.
- (b) The functions and records of Amyotha Hluttaw shall be published for public in-

formation. But the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall not be published.

11. (a) Of the matters included in the Union Legislative List, except the matters prescribed in this Constitution which shall be initiated exclusively in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the remaining matters shall be initiated in the Pyithu Hluttaw according to the prescribed provisions
- (b) Of the matters included in the Union Legislative List, except the matters prescribed in this Constitution which shall be initiated exclusively in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the remaining matters shall be initiated in the Amyotha Hluttaw according to the prescribed provisions
12. (a) (1) After issuing a bylaw, rule or regulation in line with the law enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the organ concerned shall distribute the bylaw, rule or regulation to the Pyithu Hluttaw members at the nearest regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw under the arrangements permitted by the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (2) If it is found that a bylaw, rule or regulation is not in conformity with the provisions of the law concerned,

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



Hluttaw members can submit a proposal to annul or amend the bylaw, rule or regulation to the Pyithu Hluttaw within 90 days from the date that bylaw, rule or regulation is circulated.

- (3) If the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw do not reach a consensus in making a decision to annul or amend a bylaw, rule or regulation, it shall be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(See page 11)

### The reports, documents and records published...

(from page 6)

- (2) The Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw who continues to perform his duties in accordance with provisions of this Constitution shall convene first regular sessions for the next terms of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
3. (a) (1) Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall take oaths before the Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw at the first regular session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (2) The members of the Pyithu Hluttaw, who have not taken oaths, shall take oaths before the Speaker of the Hluttaw at the session of the Pyithu Hluttaw they first attend.
- (b) (1) Members of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall take oaths before the Chairman of the Amyotha Hluttaw at the first regular session of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (2) The members of the Amyotha Hluttaw, who have not taken oaths, shall take oaths before the Speaker of the Hluttaw at the session of the Amyotha Hluttaw they first attend.
4. (a) The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall convene regular session of the Pyithu Hluttaw at least once a year. The interval between two regular sessions shall not exceed 12 months.
- (b) The Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall convene regular session of the Amyotha Hluttaw at least once a year. The interval between two regular sessions shall not exceed 12 months.
5. (a) The following matters are carried out at the sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw:
- (1) Recording the address delivered by the President
- (2) Reading out and recording the messages sent by the President and the messages permitted by the Speaker
- (3) Submitting, discussing and making decision on a bill
- (4) Discussing and deciding the matters the Pyithu Hluttaw shall implement in accord with the provisions of the Constitution
- (5) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Pyithu Hluttaw
- (6) Submitting proposals, holding discussions and making decisions

- (7) Raising questions and giving replies
- (8) Implementing the matters permitted by the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw
- (b) The following matters are carried out at the sessions of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (1) Recording the address delivered by the President
- (2) Reading out and recording the messages sent by the President and the messages permitted by the Speaker
- (3) Submitting, discussing and making decision on a bill
- (4) Discussing and deciding the matters the National Hluttaw shall implement in accord with the provisions of the Constitution
- (5) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the National Hluttaw
- (6) Submitting proposals, holding discussions and making decisions
- (7) Raising questions and giving replies
- (8) Implementing the matters permitted by the Speaker of National Hluttaw
6. (a) (1) The first day session of the Pyithu Hluttaw is valid if more than half the number of members who have the right to attend the Pyithu Hluttaw session, are present. If a session is not valid it shall be adjourned.
- (2) The sessions that are adjourned under sub-para (1) due to invalidity and the valid sessions that are extended are valid if at least one-third of the Pyithu Hluttaw members are present.
- (b) (1) The first day session of the Amyotha Hluttaw is valid if more than half the number of members who have the right to attend the Amyotha Hluttaw session, are present. If the session is not valid it shall be adjourned.
- (2) The sessions that are adjourned under sub-para (1) due to invalidity and the valid sessions that are extended are valid if at least one-third of the Amyotha Hluttaw members are present.
7. (a) (1) 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.
- (2) The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker discharging duties as the Speaker at the Pyithu Hluttaw shall not vote in the first instance in the sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes.
- (b) (1) 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.
- (2) The Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker discharging duties as the Speaker at the Amyotha Hluttaw sessions shall not vote in the first instance in the sessions of the Amyotha Hluttaw, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes.
8. (a) (1) The Pyithu Hluttaw may declare the seat of a member vacant in accord with the rules prescribed if he is absent, without asking the Pyithu Hluttaw for leave, from a session for 15 days successively. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days no account shall be taken of any period during which the session is prorogued or is adjourned.
- (2) The Pyithu Hluttaw shall take action against a member in accord with the rules prescribed if the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw informed the Pyithu Hluttaw that that member is absent from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session for a period of 15 consecutive days without permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
- (b) (1) The Amyotha Hluttaw may declare the seat of a member vacant in accord with the rules prescribed if he is absent, without asking the Pyithu Hluttaw for leave, from a session for 15 days successively. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days no account shall be taken of any period during which the session is prorogued or is adjourned.
- (2) The Amyotha Hluttaw shall take action against a member in accord with the rules prescribed if the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw informed the Amyotha Hluttaw that that member is absent from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session for a period of 15 consecutive days without permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and party pay reverence to the Kakusan Buddha Image at the eastern prayer hall of the Shwezigon Pagoda. — MNA

**Objectives of the 58th Anniversary Independence Day**

- All the national people to collectively safeguard the national independence and sovereignty of the State and ensure non-disintegration of the Union and national unity
- All the national people to unitedly strive with might and main for emergence of an enduring State Constitution and for building a new modern and developed nation
- All the national people to work in concert for success of the seven-point Road Map of the State with Union Spirit and nationalist spirit
- All the national people to make concerted efforts for building of a new discipline-flourishing democratic nation



Senior General Than Shwe makes cash donations to the Lawkananda Swedawshin Pagoda. — MNA

**Delegates group of State Service personnel holds meeting**



Alternate Chairman U Arnt Maung delivers an introductory speech at the meeting of delegates group of State Service personnel. — MNA

YANGON, 20 Dec — Delegates group of the State Service personnel held its meeting this morning at Nyaung-napin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division.

U Arnt Maung of the Religious Affairs Department presided over the meeting together

with Deputy Director-General of the Traditional Medicine Department Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin. Deputy Director U Htay Win of the work group-9 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee acted as master of ceremonies.

Out of 109 delegates

to the work group meeting, 107 participated in the meeting.

At the meeting, U Kyaw Thant of the Ministry of Construction reported on the group's proposal for detailed basic principles to be laid down for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to be included in judicial

sector in drafting the State Constitution.

Delegates to the National Convention U Ko Ko Gyi, Adviser of the President's Office and Prof Dr Aung Myint Oo of Myanmar's Department, Meiktila University gave a supplementary reports.

The meeting concluded with closing remarks by U Arnt Maung. — MNA



U Kyaw Thant of Construction Inspection Department. — MNA



Professor of Meiktila University Dr Aung Myint Oo. — MNA



Adviser to the Presidential Office U Ko Ko Gyi. — MNA



## Senior General Than Shwe inspects Myakan Lake Greening project...

(from page 16)

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung said that the Tuyin hill range, the watershed area of the lake, includes Swedaw, Thetsoe, Thagya, Paikhlan and Kangyigon hills. The area of the watershed is 2,760 acres. Various kinds of natural species grow in the area. A total of 1,300 acres of trees have been planted in the area. Moreover, the Dry Zone Greening Department has planted over 390,000 saplings of various species in the watershed area, and the Forest Department 120,000 saplings. The FD in cooperation with international organizations has cultivated over 988,000 saplings on 4,200 acres of land in the area. Deputy Minister for A&I U Ohn Myint also reported to the Senior General on the irrigation project.

In his guidance, the Senior General pointed out the need to find means to store water in the lake, reduce silting in the lake, regenerate forest in the area.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and an official explained the producing of bio-diesel from *jatropha curcas* with the help of sample plants and records. The



Senior General Than Shwe observes sample plants and seeds of *jatropha curcas*. — MNA

Senior General observed a test driving of a power-tiller with the bio-diesel. He then inspected the bio-diesel-run power-tillers at work, and the greening project. He also gave guidance to officials. — MNA



Myakan Lake greening project being implemented in NyaungU Township in Mandalay Division. — MNA

## Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech ...

(from page 16)

Similarly, a bill sent with the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw is to be under discussion at the Amyotha Hluttaw, the latter has the right to make a decision that the bill meets with its approval or not, or to show its approval attached with some amendments to the bill if necessary. The Amyotha Hluttaw, after making a decision on the bill, has to return the bill alongside its decision, to the Pyithu Hluttaw.

I made a suggestion in my clarification in the Chapter of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw that a detailed basic principle be adopted that a bill submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw first, meets with the approval of both Hluttaws, it shall be presumed to be the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. If the bill sent with the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw meets with the approval of the Amyotha Hluttaw, or the bill sent with the approval of the Amyotha Hluttaw meets with the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw, the bill would be the one that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves.

If the Amyotha Hluttaw returns a bill, sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw, with some amendments, to the latter, it would need to hold discussions on the amendments at the Pyithu Hluttaw to decide whether they are acceptable or not. Similarly, if the Pyithu Hluttaw returns a bill, sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw to the Pyithu Hluttaw, with some amendments, to the latter, it would need to hold discussions on the amendments at the Amyotha Hluttaw to decide whether they are acceptable or not. In the process, if the Pyithu Hluttaw decides to accept the amendments of the Amyotha Hluttaw, or the Amyotha Hluttaw decides to accept the amendments of the Pyithu Hluttaw, the bills will be the ones the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall approve. So, there shall be a rule that respective Hluttaws shall forward the bills to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw so that tasks can be carried out sector-wise to enact a law under the signature of the President of the State.

Sometimes, both Hluttaws can approve a bill, but

sometimes, they do not reach an agreement. It needs to adopt a rule that if the two Hluttaws do not reach a consensus, they shall seek the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. In the process, the Hluttaw that discusses the bill first shall be responsible to the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Regarding the right, in sending a bill approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw or a bill approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw to the Pyithu Hluttaw, of the Hluttaw that receives the bill, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted so as to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

### **Pyithu Hluttaw**

- (a) **After receiving a bill sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw can make a decision that it agrees or disagrees, or agrees with amendments. The Pyithu Hluttaw shall return the bill together with its decision to the Amyotha Hluttaw.**
- (b) **When the Amyotha Hluttaw returns the bill, sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw, with amendments, the Pyithu Hluttaw shall forward the bill to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it accepts the amendments of the Amyotha Hluttaw.**
- (c) **The Pyithu Hluttaw shall seek the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it disagrees with the Amyotha Hluttaw in dealing with the bill sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw.**

### **Amyotha Hluttaw**

- (a) **After receiving a bill sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw can make a decision that it agrees or disagrees, or agrees with amendments. The Amyotha Hluttaw shall return the bill together with its decision to the Pyithu Hluttaw.**
- (b) **When the Pyithu Hluttaw returns the bill, sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw to the Pyithu Hluttaw, with amendments, the Amyotha Hluttaw shall forward the bill to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it accepts the amendments of the Pyithu Hluttaw.**
- (c) **The Amyotha Hluttaw shall seek the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it disagrees with**

### **the Pyithu Hluttaw in dealing with the bill sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw.**

shall be adopted or not.

In my clarification in the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, I suggested a detailed basic principle be adopted that the Union level organs formed under the Constitution have the power to submit bills to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; that they shall also submit the matters prescribed in the Constitution, that are to be carried out in line with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's decision and approval, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; that in such matters, members representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution shall have the power to submit reports and hold discussions at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; and that such members representing a Union level body, while attending the sessions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker, shall have the right to make clarification and hold discussions on the bills of respective bodies.

Members of a Union level body formed under the Constitution would have the right to clarify and discuss the matters related to the bills of respective bodies at the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw too. Generally, before bills submitted to a body or other matters are under discussion at Hluttaws, respective committees and commissions scrutinize the bills and matters. So, with the permission of respective committees and commissions or the heads, such members shall have the power to hold discussions on their bills and matters at the committees formed in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, at the commissions occasionally formed in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaws, and at subcommittees along with the sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The right of holding discussions in the session of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw represents the right of submission of a bill, dealing with matters on the bill, making further clarification if necessary in response to the discussions of Hluttaw members, clarifying a matter submitted by respective bodies to the Hluttaw or a matter concerning respective bodies, and replying to the queries on the matter related to respective bodies raised by Hluttaw members.

(See page 10)

## Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech ...

(from page 9)

So, regarding the right of members representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution to hold discussions at the sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw, and the meetings of Hluttaw committee or commission, and the meetings of both Hluttaws, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

### **Pyithu Hluttaw**

Members of a Union level body formed under the Constitution shall have the right—

- (a) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (b) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending sessions of the committee, commission and bodies of the Pyithu Hluttaw with the permission of the heads of these committee, commission and bodies.

### **Amyotha Hluttaw**

Members of a Union level body formed under the Constitution shall have the right—

- (a) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (b) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending sessions of the committee, commission and bodies of the Amyotha Hluttaw with the permission of the heads of these committee, commission and bodies.

should be adopted or not.

I would like to explain the duties and authority of the Speakers of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

In laying down detailed basic principles for the formation of the legislation, the National Convention adopted a detailed basic principle that the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall be invested with duties, authority and rights under law. Regarding the major tasks and rights of the Speakers of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, a detailed basic principle shall be adopted for setting up standards to be applied in investing the Speakers of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw with duties and rights in accord with the law.

The Speakers of Hluttaws are responsible for supervising sessions of Hluttaws, and successful completion of proceedings at a session of Hluttaw. Simultaneously, they also shall supervise discussions of Hluttaw members in a session of Hluttaw to be in accordance with Hluttaw provisions.

In addition, the Speaker has to supervise a session of Hluttaw by making a decision in line with Hluttaw law for a matter being dealt with at a Hluttaw session, and warning and taking action against a member under Hluttaw law if his deeds or words are not in conformity with the rules.

In my clarification to sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, I dealt with a matter that the President of the State, as well as the Head of State, addresses the sessions. The Hluttaw concerned shall welcome the President of the State if he informs the wishes to deliver a speech at a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw. The Speaker of the Hluttaw concerned shall be invested with the responsibility to invite the President of the State to deliver a speech after fixing a time and date convenient for both the President and the Hluttaw concerned.

The Hluttaw Speaker concerned shall, if he presumes it will enhance the interests of the people, have the right to invite members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution to a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw to explain the bills being under discussion at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw or other matters.

A detailed basic principle shall be adopted regarding the duties to be carried out by the Speakers of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the Constitution to cover the duties and powers of the Speakers of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw that may be included in the detailed basic principles to be adopted for the next Chapters.

So, with respect to the duties and powers of the Speakers of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide a point that the detailed basic principle:

### **Pyithu Hluttaw**

The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the right—

- (a) to supervise sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (b) to invite the President of the Union if he informs his desire to deliver a speech at a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (c) to invite members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution to a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw if necessary for a matter under way at a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (d) to discharge other duties and functions prescribed under the Constitution or a law.

### **Amyotha Hluttaw**

The Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have the right—

- (a) to supervise sessions of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (b) to invite the President of the Union if he informs he wishes to deliver a speech at a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (c) to invite members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution to a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw if necessary for a matter under way at a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (d) to discharge other duties & functions prescribed under Constitution or a law.

should be adopted or not.

I would like to explain matters related to rights of members of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.

Hluttaws of world nations prescribe rights of their members. Some nations prescribe such rights in the Constitution, and some nations in Hluttaw law and bylaw.

In my clarification to members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, I explained provisions that Section 68 of the 1947 Constitution said that subject to the provisions of this Constitution and to the rules and standing orders regulating the procedure of the Parliament, there shall be freedom of speech in the Parliament, and no member of the Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any Court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the Parliament or any Committee thereof, and no person shall be so liable in respect of publication by or under the authority of a Chamber of the Parliament of any report, paper, votes, or proceedings. In other respects, the privileges of members of either Chamber of Parliament shall be such as may, from time to time, be defined by an Act of the Parliament.

With reference to this Section, Sub-section (1) of Section (3), of 1959 Parliament Members Authority and Privileges Act said that no member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any Court in respect of anything discussed, said, or vote given by him, or other proceedings in the Parliament or any Committee. Hluttaw means an assembly of parliament or two assemblies that are jointly holding a meeting. Section (2) of the 1959 Parliament Members Power and Privileges Act said committee means temporary or permanent committee of parliament and committee of two assemblies.

Article 60 of the 1974 Constitution said that all deliberations in sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw or of the Organs of the Pyithu Hluttaw are absolutely privileged. No member shall be liable or punishable therefor, except under the laws, rules and regulations of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

Rights and privileges of Hluttaw members were prescribed in Article 37 of the 1974 Constitution. Among them, a privilege is that regarding the proceedings in Hluttaw or Hluttaw organs, no member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any Court except parliament.

Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw that would be formed in future shall have similar privileges. Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and vote at any meetings held in respective Hluttaws, and Hluttaw committee meetings held in the compound of Hluttaw if subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the acts of respective Hluttaws.

Hluttaw committees are such committees to be formed in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw stated in laying down detailed basic principles for legislative formation as bill committee, public accounts committee, Hluttaw privileges committee, committee for scrutinizing government guarantees, committees on defence and security, legislation, administration, national races affairs, economy, finance, social and foreign affairs that will be formed for a period by respective Hluttaws when necessary, committees to be formed for a period by respective Hluttaws when necessary for other affairs, and joint-committees to be formed when two Hluttaws need to make a joint-study.

I also explained that members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the

Constitution shall, under the permission of the Speakers of respective Hluttaws, have the right to hold discussions on matters relating to their bodies at sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. And a detailed basic principle shall be adopted that Speakers of respective Hluttaws shall have the right to invite members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution if necessary for holding discussions on ongoing matters at Hluttaw sessions.

Members representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution who will have the right to attend sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw, and members and persons from that body invited to sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech at respective Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and respective Hluttaws.

It is required to avoid words opposed to the provisions of the Constitution and respective Hluttaws in enjoying freedom of speech. If a member violates such right, he will have to be taken action under the act of respective Hluttaws. If such a case occurs in the Hluttaw, action shall be taken under a Hluttaw act but not other acts.

However, respective members are required to avoid attacking physically in applying such privilege in order not to tarnish the dignity of Hluttaw. Action shall be taken against a member if he commits physical attack.

A detailed basic principle has been adopted in the legislative formation that the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw have the right to form commission and bodies if necessary to study matters except what the Hluttaw committee study. In the process, it is prescribed that commissions and committees shall be formed with members of respective Hluttaws or suitable persons. Like Hluttaw members, the citizens belonging to such commissions or committees shall have the freedom of speech and vote in meetings of the commissions and committees held in the compound of Hluttaw.

Regarding the privileges of the members of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, and members and persons representing a body formed under the Constitution who are permitted to attend or invited to Hluttaw meetings, discussions are to be held and proposals to be submitted to decide the point that the detailed basic principle:

### **Pyithu Hluttaw**

- (a) Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech and vote in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the committee of the Pyithu Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Pyithu Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (b) Members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution who are permitted to attend or invited to a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw or a committee of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech in the Pyithu Hluttaw or the committees of the Pyithu Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Pyithu Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (c) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.

### **Amyotha Hluttaw**

- (a) Members of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech and vote in the Amyotha Hluttaw and the committee of the Amyotha Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Amyotha Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (b) Members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution who are permitted to attend or invited to a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw or a committee of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech in the Amyotha Hluttaw or the committees of the Amyotha Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Amyotha Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (c) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub-para (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.

should be adopted or not. — MNA

## Even if there are vacant seats, the Pyithu Hluttaw...

(from page 7)

- (b) (1) After issuing a bylaw, rule or regulation in line with the law enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the organ concerned shall distribute the bylaw, rule or regulation to the Amyotha Hluttaw members at the nearest regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw under the arrangements permitted by the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (2) If it is found that a bylaw, rule or regulation is not in conformity with the provisions of the law concerned, Hluttaw members can submit a proposal to annul or amend the bylaw, rule or regulation to the Amyotha Hluttaw within 90 days from the date that bylaw, rule or regulation is circulated.
- (3) If the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw do not reach a consensus in making a decision to annul or amend a bylaw, rule or regulation, it shall be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
13. (a) (1) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sends the bills submitted by a Union level organization formed under the Constitution to the Pyithu Hluttaw in accordance with prescribed provisions, they shall be presumed that the bills are initiated in the Pyithu Hluttaw and shall be discussed and passed resolution in the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (2) Of the matters stated in the Union Legislation List, except the matters prescribed in the Constitution for which bills shall be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to make a decision, members of the Pyithu Hluttaw have the right to initiate the bills related to the remaining matters in the Pyithu Hluttaw. Such bills shall be under discussion at the Pyithu Hluttaw in line with the prescribed provisions.
- (3) The bills approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw shall be forwarded to the Amyotha Hluttaw for holding discussions and making a decision.
- (b) (1) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sends the bills submitted by a Union level organization formed under the Constitution to the Amyotha Hluttaw in accordance with prescribed provisions, they shall be presumed that the bills are initiated in the Amyotha Hluttaw and shall be discussed and passed resolution in the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (2) Of the matters stated in the Union Legislation List, except the matters prescribed in the Constitution for which bills shall be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to make a decision, members of the Amyotha Hluttaw have the right to initiate the bills related to the remaining matters in the Amyotha Hluttaw. Such bills shall be under discussion at the Amyotha Hluttaw in line with the prescribed provisions.
- (3) The bills approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw shall be forwarded to the Pyithu Hluttaw for holding discussions and making a decision.
14. (a) (1) After receiving a bill sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw can make a decision that it agrees or disagrees, or agrees with amendments. The Pyithu Hluttaw shall return the bill together with its decision to the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (2) When the Amyotha Hluttaw returns the bill, sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw, with amendments, the Pyithu Hluttaw shall forward the bill to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it accepts the amendments of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (3) The Pyithu Hluttaw shall seek the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it disagrees with the Amyotha Hluttaw in dealing with the bill sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (b) (1) After receiving a bill sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw can make a decision that it agrees or disagrees, or agrees with amendments. The Amyotha Hluttaw shall return the bill together with its decision to the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (2) When the Pyithu Hluttaw returns the bill, sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw to the Pyithu Hluttaw, with amendments, the Amyotha Hluttaw shall forward the bill to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it accepts the amendments of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (3) The Amyotha Hluttaw shall seek the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw if it disagrees with the Pyithu Hluttaw in dealing with the bill sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw to the Amyotha Hluttaw.
15. (a) Members of a Union level body formed under the Constitution shall have the right—
- (1) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (2) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending sessions of the committee, commission and bodies of the Pyithu Hluttaw with the permission of the heads of these committee, commission and bodies.
- (b) Members of a Union level body formed under the Constitution shall have the right—
- (1) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (2) to explain and discuss the bills and other matters of their bodies while attending sessions of the committee, commission and bodies of the Amyotha Hluttaw with the permission of the heads of these committee, commission and bodies.
16. (a) The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the right—
- (1) to supervise sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (2) to invite the President of the Union if he informs his desire to deliver a speech at a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (3) to invite members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution to a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw if necessary for a matter under way at a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (4) to discharge other duties and functions prescribed under the Constitution or a law.
- (b) The Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have the right—
- (1) to supervise sessions of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (2) to invite the President of the Union if he informs he wishes to deliver a speech at a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (3) to invite members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution to a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw if necessary for a matter under way at a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (4) to discharge other duties & functions prescribed under Constitution or a law.
17. (a) (1) Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech and vote in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the committee of the Pyithu Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Pyithu Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (2) Members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution who are permitted to attend or invited to a session of the Pyithu Hluttaw or a committee of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech in the Pyithu Hluttaw or the committees of the Pyithu Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Pyithu Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Pyithu Hluttaw.
- (3) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub-paras (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.
- (b) (1) Members of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech and vote in the Amyotha Hluttaw and the committee of the Amyotha Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Amyotha Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (2) Members or persons representing a Union level body formed under the Constitution who are permitted to attend or invited to a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw or a committee of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech in the Amyotha Hluttaw or the committees of the Amyotha Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Amyotha Hluttaw. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (3) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges.
18. (a) (1) If there arises a need to arrest a Pyithu Hluttaw member attending a Pyithu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyithu Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.
- (2) If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or commission or organization formed by the Pyithu Hluttaw attending a session of the committee or commission or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the committee or commission or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.
- (3) If there arises a need to arrest a member of Pyithu Hluttaw or committee, commission or organization when the Pyithu Hluttaw or the committee or the commission or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.
- (b) (1) If there arises a need to arrest a Amyotha Hluttaw member attending a Amyotha Hluttaw session or a person attending the Amyotha Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker.
- (2) If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or commission or organization formed by the Amyotha Hluttaw attending a session of the committee or commission or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the committee or commission or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker.
- (3) If there arises a need to arrest a member of Amyotha Hluttaw or committee, commission or organization when the Amyotha Hluttaw or the committee or the commission or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker.
19. (a) The reports, publications and records published by the Pyithu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.
- (b) The reports, publications and records published by the Amyotha Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.

In conclusion, I would like to urge the delegates to hold discussions and submit proposals to decide whether the detailed basic principles I have presented shall be adopted or not regarding the legislative functions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. — MNA

**ADVERTISEMENTS**

**TRADE MARK CAUTION**

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Win Mu Tin  
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P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 21 December 2005

**Israeli PM Sharon hospitalized, lost consciousness**

JERUSALEM, 19 Dec—Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was rushed to hospital after briefly losing consciousness on Sunday, medics said.

They said that his condition was not life-threatening but gave no further details. Israeli television said that he had suffered a minor stroke and that he was being taken for an X-ray.

"He lost consciousness on the way to hospital and then regained it," said one medic.

Sharon, 77, has led the most dramatic turnaround in Israeli politics for decades after withdrawing settlers from the Gaza Strip and then breaking with his rightist Likud Party and saying he wanted to pursue peacemaking with the Palestinians.

MNA/Reuters

**INVITATION TO TENDER**

(TENDER NO. 23(T) MPE/HSD (14)/ 2005-2006)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited by the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel Oil (18,000±10%) Metric Tons (Gas Oil Regular 0.5%).

2. Tender closing Date: (5-1-2006) at (12:00) noon.

3. Tender Documents and detail information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, No. (23), Min-Ye-Kyaw-Zwa Road, Yangon, during office hours commencing (21-12-2005) on payment of one hundred (100) FEC per set.

4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director,

Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BANG PA KAEW VOY NO (138)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG PA KAEW VOY NO (138) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S WONG SA MUT OCEAN  
SHIPPING CO, LTD.**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**Susilo, Thaksin to meet in Jakarta next year**

JAKARTA, 19 Dec— Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra are scheduled to meet in Jakarta next year to follow up the implementation of the two countries' cooperation commitments, official news Antara said on Saturday.

"The meeting will be held in March or April. There are still three to four months to prepare for the meeting," President Susilo said upon his arrival in Jakarta on Saturday from a three-day official visit to Thailand and a four-day tour to Kuala Lumpur to attend the ASEAN summit from

11 December to 14 December.

Susilo explained that during the meeting in Jakarta he and the Thai Prime Minister would take decisions, approve action plans and ensure the consistent implementation of the cooperation agreements.

MNA/Xinhua

**China's domestic market demand to surpass \$2t this year**

BELING, 19 Dec— China's domestic market developed stably this year with the total demand expected to surpass two trillion US dollars, said Yu Guangzhou, Vice-Minister of Commerce.

The total retail sales volume of consumer goods has exceeded 5.7 trillion yuan (712 billion US dollars) while the gross sales of basic production materials exceeded 11.4 trillion yuan so far this

He said China now imported products of 600 billion US dollars each year and imports are expected to reach one trillion US dollars in the next few years.

MNA/Xinhua

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(For Donnam Songkat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand).  
Dated: 21 December, 2005.

**Nicaraguan police seize 700 kilos of cocaine**

MANAGUA, 19 Dec— Nicaragua's National Anti-Narcotic Police (PN) seized 700 kilos of cocaine and arrested three drug traffickers in the Pacific port city of Corinth, the country's police spokesman said on Sunday.

The spokesman said the police have arrested three people who appear to be Nicaraguan citizens in a drug-carrying red jeep, but failed to catch two others who were seen loading bags of cocaine.

The police also tried to catch a fleeing blue truck there, which was carrying 16 sacks of cocaine and several drug traffickers. The police failed in the chase and stopped in Chinandega, 132 kilometres west of Managua.

Clarence Silva, head of the PN, said the drug had been brought into Nicaragua on Sunday by sea, and was apparently to be transported into neighbouring Honduras.

He said that in the United States, the drug's eventual destination, each kilo of cocaine could be sold for 17,000 to 23,000 US dollars. In Nicaragua, the same drug is worth around 5,000 to 5,500 dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

**Two killed, 14 others injured in taxi accident in S Africa**

JOHANNESBURG, 19 Dec— Two people were killed and 14 others injured when the taxi they were travelling in overturned on the R61 between Beaufort West and Aberdeen in South African Eastern Cape Province on Sunday morning.

Eastern Cape traffic spokesman Tshepo Machaya said: "They were travelling from Cape Town to Eastern Cape. We believe that at about 6 am, the driver fell asleep behind the wheel. He then lost control of the vehicle."

Machaya said fourteen other people were injured. They were taken to several hospitals in the province, according to a South African Press Association report.

MNA/Xinhua

**Iran seizes nearly 230 tons of drugs in nine months**

TEHERAN, 19 Dec— Iran's anti-drug police have seized nearly 230 tons of drugs throughout the country during the past nine months, the official IRNA news agency reported on Saturday.

The haul included 3,899 kilos of heroin, 5,720 kilos of morphine, 165,757 kilos of opium, 48,893 kilos of hashish and 3,754 kilos of other drugs, IRNA quoted police sources as saying.

The figure showed a 4-per-cent increase compared with the same period in the previous year, the report said.

The police also rounded up 1,553 drug gangs, 88,617 drug smugglers and distributors, including 2,686 foreigners, during the same period, the report added.

Drug addiction and

transportation have been serious social problems in Iran, a country sitting in the crossroads linking drug producing Afghanistan and Pakistan and markets in the Gulf states, Central Asia and Western Europe.

According to official statistics, there are at least 2 million drug addicts in Iran. The country accounts for 80 per cent of the opium and 90 per cent of the morphine intercepted worldwide, according to the International Narcotics Control Board.

MNA/Xinhua



Japan's Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi takes a ride in the eight-wheeled electric car 'Eliica' at the premier's official residence in Tokyo, on 19 Dec, 2005. — INTERNET

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### Fox urges US not to forget immigrant roots

MEXICO CITY, 19 Dec— Angered by a bill in the US Congress aimed at cracking down on undocumented workers, Mexican President Vicente Fox urged Americans on Sunday not to forget that many of their ancestors emigrated to the United States.

The legislation, which foresees building a high-tech fence on parts of the US-Mexican border to stop illegal immigrants, neared passage in the US House of Representatives last week.

The legislation, which has divided Republicans, would also make it harder for US employers to hire illegal aliens and make it a felony to live in the United States illegally.

"It's a very bad sign, which does not speak well of a country that is proud of being democratic, proud of being a country

of immigrants," Fox said in a speech to relatives of Mexican migrants.

Most Mexicans know someone who has emigrated to the United States and their welfare is a key issue for Mexican governments.

Fox, speaking in his home state of Guanajuato, said Americans need to remember they were descended from immigrants.

"The vast majority of the population of the United States, when we look at their roots, are immigrants who have

arrived from all over the world and who have constructed that great nation. That's why they can't deny who they are," Fox said.

Mexican workers in the United States sent home a record 20 billion US dollars to relatives and friends this year.

MNA/Reuters



A plane flies over a construction site of Airport Terminal 2 in Pudong International Airport in Shanghai, on 18 Dec, 2005. —INTERNET

### Nigeria grounds "Boeing 737s" after deadly air crashes

LAGOS, 19 Dec— Nigeria has grounded all Boeing 737-100, 200 and 200C series aircraft which dominate Africa's most populous country's aviation industry after two deadly air crashes in two months, a government directive said.

According to the directive made available on Sunday, the presidential task force on verification of airworthiness set up earlier this week by the Nigerian Government described the action as "precautionary measure".

The task force explained that the US Federal Aviation Administration had identified "stress corrosion cracks ... in the front spar of the centre section of the horizontal stabilizer on two Boeing 737, 100 and 200 series aircraft" that could lead to the loss of control of the airplane.

"The repetitive inspection was therefore called up to address the identified unsafe condition," the directive said. "In this regard, as a precautionary measure, all operators of Boeing models B737-100,

200 and 200C series airplanes registered or operating in Nigeria are required to immediately ground their airplanes."

Over 80 per cent of aircraft operators in Nigeria use Boeing 737-200, according to Nigerian newspapers while statistics showed that a total of 16 planes were affected by the directive.

The directive came on the heels of penultimate Saturday's Sosoliso Airlines plane crash in the southern oil city of Port Harcourt which claimed 106 lives. Another deadly air crash involving a Bellview Airlines Boeing 737-200 occurred on 22 October on the outskirts of the commercial capital Lagos. All 117 people on board died.

MNA/Xinhua

### Roadside bomb kills two policemen in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 19 Dec— A roadside bomb went off in eastern Baghdad Sunday morning, killing two policemen, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

"A powerful blast was caused by an improvised explosive device at about 8:00 a.m. (0500 GMT) near the al-Mustansriyah University," the source said on condition of anonymity.

MNA/Xinhua

### Progress already made in Hong Kong WTO conference

HONG KONG, 19 Dec— The ongoing Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference has made progress in issues concerning LDCs (least developed countries) and cotton trade, said WTO spokesman Keith Rockwell here Saturday.

The official told Xinhua that currently negotiators have made commitment to provide a duty- and quota-free market access for almost all products from the 50 least developed countries in the world.

The spokesman also mentioned some progress in the NAMA (non-agricultural market access) issue, but said that "it is moving slowly" due to divergencies on the detailed coefficient in the formula used to calculate the tariff cuts.

Currently, the negotiations are still going on, and Rockwell said it is still difficult for him to judge the outcomes of the conference.

WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy on Friday submitted a compromise text to ministers of all members concerning cutting the export subsidies of agricultural products.

MNA/Xinhua

### Thai army builds tsunami memorial park in southern Thailand

PHRANGNAG (Thailand), 19 Dec— A tsunami memorial park was set up in Ban Namkhem Village of

Thailand's southern Phangnga Province to commemorate last year's disaster, which caused huge human losses and crippled tourism in part of the southern region.

The memorial park, one of the venues where the upcoming "One year in Memory of Tsunami" ceremony would be held, was constructed by the Army in six months with a budget of 45 million baht (110,000 US dollars).

The park consisting of a memorial wall, a recreation centre, a nursery for children orphaned in the tsunami as well as shops will serve as a memorial place for local people to mourn the dead and seek peace in mind following the struck of the December 26 tidal waves.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charuk Kaewpacuk, head of the Army in charge of reconstruction work in Ban Namkhem area, said Saturday that a total of 722 new houses had been built in the area for those whose houses have been washed away by killer waves.

"The relief process has entered the third stage and our task now is to build permanent houses for villagers and make sure everyone could get a job," he said.

Speaking of the memorial wall, on which the names of the tsunami victims would be engraved, Charuk revealed that only 400 relatives of the total 1,200 deceased allowed the names to be written out.

MNA/Xinhua

### Local tests show Indonesian boy died of bird flu

JAKARTA, 19 Dec— An eight-year-old Indonesian boy has died from the H5N1 strain of bird flu according to local tests, a Health Ministry official said on Monday.

Hariadi Wibisono, who heads a department charged with eradicating animal-borne diseases, said it was unclear if the boy had contact with infected chickens. He died last week in Jakarta.

The boy's results had yet to be confirmed by a Hong Kong laboratory affiliated with the World Health Organization, Wibisono said.

MNA/Reuters



A rare Chinese White dolphin dives into the waters around Hong Kong. China will set up its first artificial breeding base for the highly endangered White dolphin in the southeastern province of Fujian. —INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Di Canio banned and fined for raised-arm salute

ROME, 20 Dec— Lazio's Paolo Di Canio has been banned for one game and fined 10,000 euros (12,000 US dollars) for making a raised-arm salute in a match earlier this month, the Italian Football League's disciplinary committee announced on Monday.

The 37-year-old striker, who made the fascist salute during the 2-1 Serie A defeat at Livorno on Dec. 11, will now miss Lazio's trip to Lecce on Wednesday.

The gesture was attacked by politicians, players, fans and Jewish groups in Italy. Sepp Blatter, president of world soccer's governing body FIFA, said play-

ers making fascist salutes should be banned from the game for life.

Even Lazio distanced themselves from Di Canio, saying the club rejected any "politicisation" of football.

Di Canio defended the gesture, saying it was not intended as a political statement and that he would continue to acknowledge his fans in whatever way he chooses.

The match in Livorno was as much a conflict of political views as a sporting event.

Livorno are known in Italy for the hard left-wing politics of their supporters while Lazio's ultras have often aligned themselves with the far right.

The game was played in a poisonous atmosphere. The home supporters chanted anti-fascist songs while the visitors held up a swastika.

Di Canio also made the salute at the end of Lazio's 3-1 win over city rivals AS Roma in January.

On that occasion he was fined 10,000 euros and escaped a ban.—MNA/Reuters



Newly retired Swedish referee Anders Frisk, left, is awarded the 'FIFA Presidential Award 2005' by FIFA president Joseph S. Blatter during the 'FIFA World Player Gala 2005' at the Zurich Opera House in Zurich, Switzerland, on 19 Dec, 2005.—INTERNET

## Blatter criticizes Chelsea over expensive imports

LONDON, 20 Dec— Sepp Blatter, president of world soccer's ruling body FIFA, has criticised Chelsea for spending too much on foreign players.

"If a club can only have five foreigners among their starting 11, then they will have to build on their own youth system," said Blatter in an interview with FIFA's official 2006 World Cup countdown magazine.

"If Chelsea were forced to have five foreigners then Roman Abramovich could not go on buying the best players across the world for exorbitant fees.

"Chelsea is the example of what should not happen." Before last week's FIFA Club World Championship in Japan, Blatter had reiterated his desire for clubs to field at least six homegrown players in order to limit the number of foreigners in their teams.

"The solution is that there should be a minimum," Blatter told reporters. "FIFA's idea is we should have at least six players eligible for the national team of the country in which they play."

European soccer's governing body UEFA had foreign player quotas until 1995 when the Bosman ruling demolished restrictions on the number of overseas players clubs could have.

MNA/Reuters

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Livorno are known in Italy for the hard left-wing politics of their supporters while Lazio's ultras have often aligned themselves with the far right.

The game was played in a poisonous atmosphere. The home supporters chanted anti-fascist songs while the visitors held up a swastika.

Di Canio also made the salute at the end of Lazio's 3-1 win over city rivals AS Roma in January.

On that occasion he was fined 10,000 euros and escaped a ban.—MNA/Reuters

## Brazil named "team of year"

ZURICH, 20 Dec— Brazil were named team of the year by soccer's governing body FIFA at its annual gala on Monday after the world champions finished 44 points clear of their nearest rivals in the rankings.

The Confederations Cup champions accrued 840 points in 2005, having started the year as world number one and recorded 10 wins, four draws and two defeats.

The Czech Republic were second, improving on their ranking in 2004 by two places, FIFA said in a statement.

Ghana won the race for the best mover title, beating Ethiopia and Togo.

In an eventful year, the African side qualified for the World Cup finals, to be held in Germany from June 9, for the first time.

Ghana are ranked 50 among the world's teams at the end of year, up from 77th at the end of 2004.

FIFA said 743 matches were contested during 2005, with almost half played as part of preparations for next year's World Cup.

MNA/Reuters

## Sao Paulo repel Liverpool to win world title

YOKO HAMA (Japan), 20 Dec— Brazil's Sao Paulo survived a second-half siege to beat European champions Liverpool 1-0 and win FIFA's Club World Championship on Sunday.

Midfielder Mineiro latched on to a clever ball from Aloisio to fire past goalkeeper Pepe Reina in the 27th minute, giving the South American champions their third world title. Liverpool dominated for large periods, had three goals disallowed and a late penalty appeal dismissed as they failed in their bid to become world champions for the first time.

"We knew one of the goals was a clear goal," said Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez. "I was disappointed how the situation was controlled by the referee."

"I try to have a lot of respect but we deserved to win. We had 21 shots, 17 corners, we hit the crossbar twice and had three goals disallowed. We controlled most of the game."

Mineiro's strike snapped Liverpool's

## Ronaldinho named "world player of the year"

ZURICH, 20 Dec— Brazil and Barcelona playmaker Ronaldinho picked up his second successive World Player of the Year award from soccer's governing body FIFA on Monday.



Ronaldinho from Brazil holds the trophy of FIFA World Player of the Year.—INTERNET

He is the third Brazilian to win the world and European player awards in the same year after Ronaldo in 1997 and 2002, and Rivaldo in 1999.

Ronaldinho picked up 956 points to comfortably beat Chelsea's England midfielder Frank Lampard (306) in the FIFA vote by national coaches and captains

around the world.

The Brazilian's Barcelona team mate Samuel Eto'o of Cameroon finished in third place with 190 points.

"I would like to say thank you to all my team mates and national team because without them all I would not be here," Ronaldinho told the FIFA Gala, hosted at the lakeside opera house in snowy Zurich.

"I hope I can make people happy with what I do and I hope to be here again in a year's time," he said, before being whisked back to Barcelona.

The 25-year-old Ronaldinho also won the inaugural FIFPro World Player of the Year award, selected by his fellow

players, in September.

Ronaldinho enjoyed a hugely successful year, helping Barcelona win the Primera Liga title and featuring in Brazil's Confederations Cup triumph in Germany.

"He will undoubtedly be one of the star turns at next year's World Cup in Germany," FIFA said in a statement.

Runner-up Lampard was magnanimous in defeat.

"I am not disappointed," he told reporters, calling his Brazilian opponent a deserved winner.

"For me he is the most exciting player and the player I enjoy watching the most in the world."

MNA/Reuters

## Wolfsburg sack coach, release manager

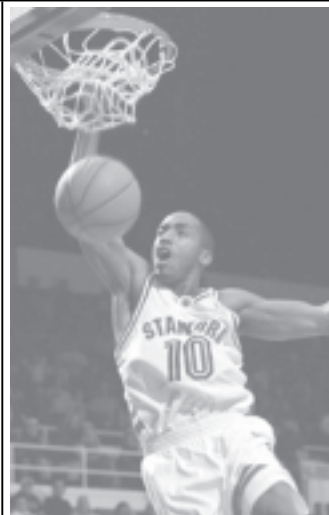
FRANKFURT, 20 Dec— VfL Wolfsburg sacked coach Holger Fach and released manager Thomas Strunz on Monday, after an eight-match run without a win in the Bundesliga.

Fach replaced Erik Gerets as coach before the start of the current season. Former Germany midfielder Strunz had held the manager's position since January 2005.

The campaign began well before the club slid to 13th place at the halfway stage of the season, with 18 points from 17 games, following a poor run.

The final straw was a 3-2 defeat by bottom club Kaiserslautern on Saturday, a performance described as "shameful" by the club's Dutch defender Kevin Hofland. The club announced in a statement on Monday that Fach had been relieved of his duties, while the departure of Strunz was by mutual consent.

Wolfsburg were surprise league leaders for much of the first half of last season and eventually finished ninth.—MNA/Reuters



Stanford guard Tim Morris dunks during the second half of a college basketball game against Denver on 19 Dec, 2005 in Stanford, Calif. Stanford beat Denver 71-49.—INTERNET



# Senior General Than Shwe inspects Myakan Lake Greening project in NyaungU

YANGON, 20 Dec — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

Senior General Than Shwe inspected the Myakan Lake Greening project in NyaungU Township yesterday.

Accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Members of

the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Coun-

cil Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, the ministers, senior military officers and officials, the Senior General heard a report on the project located near Nyaungto village west of Tuyin hill about seven miles south of NyaungU presented by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo. The minister also explained that according to the historical records, the lake was built by King Kyansittha during

the Bagan era. The ministry after repairing the lake commissioned it on 30 August 1996. Due to silting, high evaporation rate, and less rainfall, the volume of water flowing into the lake, located in the dry region, is decreasing.

The minister also said, in accord with the guidance of the Senior General, the Irrigation Department of the ministry launched the project previous month.

(See page 9)

**The Tuyin hill range, the watershed area of the lake, includes Swedaw, Thetsoe, Thagya, Paikhlan and Kangyigon hills. The area of the watershed is 2,760 acres. Various kinds of natural species grow in the area. A total of 1,300 acres of trees have been planted in the area.**



Senior General Than Shwe inspects the operating of a power tiller with bio-diesel. — MNA

## Members of the Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the freedom of speech and vote in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the committee of the Pyithu Hluttaw, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and the Pyithu Hluttaw

YANGON, 20 Dec — *The following is the presentation on clarification made by National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw to be included in the judicial sector in formulating State Constitution by Member of the National Convention Convening Commission Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 14 December.*

Regarding a bill submitted with the approval of a Hluttaw, I would like to present the right of the other Hluttaw to discuss and approve it.

In some nations, each of which form two Hluttaws, a Hluttaw has the power to decide a bill, sent by the other Hluttaw, to approve it or not. When it is

decided to approve the bill, a Hluttaw has the right to make some amendments to it. Section 98 and Section 99 of the 1947 Constitution showed that our nation practiced a similar procedure in the time of the Chamber of Deputies and the Chamber of Nationalities.

Future Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw will have to keep in touch with each other in dealing with bills. If a bill approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw is to be under discussion at the Pyithu Hluttaw, the latter has the power to make a decision that the bill meets with its approval or not, or to show its approval attached with some amendments to the bill. The Pyithu Hluttaw, after making a decision on the bill, has to return the bill alongside its decision, to the Amyotha Hluttaw.

(See page 9)

Member of the National Convention Convening Commission Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein  
MNA

