

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Russian Military Attachés

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received Military Attaché of the Russian Federation Colonel Vladimir I Konchakov, who had completed his tour of duty, and his successor Colonel Alexander V Svintsovsky at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 9 am today.

Also present at the call were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe



Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint. MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives outgoing Military Attaché Colonel Vladimir I Konchakov and incoming Military Attaché Colonel Alexander V Svintsovsky of the Russian Federation. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Pakistani military attachés

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General

Maung Aye received Military Attaché of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Col Zafar Jamil who com-

pleted his tour of duty in Myanmar and his successor Col Muzammil Hussain Shah at

Bayintnaung Yeiktha here at 9:30 am today.

Also present at the call were Member of the State

Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives outgoing Military Attaché Col Zafar Jamil and incoming Military Attaché Col Muzammil Hussain Shah of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 24 July, 2007

Exert continued efforts for food sufficiency

Myanmar is an agricultural country and the government has paid serious attention to the agriculture in the interest of the farmers who constitute the great majority of the nation. In the process, it is disseminating advanced cultivation techniques and distributing the modern farming equipment and high-yield strains.

As a result, per acre yield of crops has increased. In Shan State (East) over 300,000 acres of monsoon paddy were grown in 2006-2007. Per acre yield was over 70 baskets of paddy. Over 30,000 acres of summer paddy were also grown and per acre yield was over 80 baskets.

The government presented awards to farmers who produced over 100 baskets of paddy per acre.

This year farmers are making endeavours for exceeding the targets of monsoon and summer paddy in the region.

Cultivation of paddy is being extended for food sufficiency in the respective states and divisions. As a result, there is surplus of paddy in the country.

Regional authorities, departmental officials and farmers are thus urged to do their utmost in extending cultivation of paddy, oil crops, marketable industrial crops and new crops by seizing the opportunities provided by the government for development of agriculture.

14 NLD members of Sagaing, Myaung, Twantay Townships quit

YANGON, 23 July—Six members including U Chit Hsaing of Sagaing Township National League for Democracy, five members including Daw San San Win of Myaung Township NLD, Sagaing Division and three members including U Than Sein of Twantay Township NLD, Yangon Division, resigned from the party of their own accord and sent their letters of resignation to NLD (Headquarters) and authorities concerned on 12 July.

The letter sent to Sagaing, Myaung and Twantay Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommission, said that they quit the NLD of their own volition as they no longer wanted to support the party's political activities and stand, and they also did wish to stand as NLD members. —MNA

Peoples' 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

Minister inspects regional development tasks in Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 23 July — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt together with officials concerned inspected regional development affairs in Maubin and Pyapon Districts yesterday.

First, the minister attended a ceremony to hand over a fire engine collectively donated by wellwishers in Pantanaw Township and gave instructions on three plans and development tasks being carried out by the State.

On behalf of the wellwishers, the minister presented K 6.7 million for the fire engine to Chairman U Myo Oo of Pantanaw Township Peace and Development Council. Next, the minister viewed the demonstration

Minister Col Thein Nyunt and wife donate Waso robes to a Sayadaw.

MNA



on fire fighting drills and attended the opening ceremony of a rural health care centre in Chaunggalay Village. Afterwards, the minister gave instructions on health care services being provided for the villages of border areas.

Afterthat, the minister accepted K 13.2

million donated by the wellwishers for the building of rural health care centre. Chairmen U Htay Win of Maubin District PDC and U Mya Oo of Pantanaw Township PDC accepted cash donations.

Afterwards, Head of Pantanaw Township Health Department Dr

Phone Maw accepted documents related to the rural health care centre handed over by wellwishers, and then the minister and wife donated Waso robes and provisions to members of the Sangha of East Monastery of Chaunggalay Village.

MNA

KOICA provides Taekwondo equipment for ISPE

YANGON, 23 July—Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended the ceremony to donate Taekwondo equipment by Korea International Cooperation Agency for Institute of Sports and Physical Education (ISPE), here, yesterday.

Also present on the occasion were Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar Mr Park Key-chong, KOICA Resident Representative Mr Cho Sang-woo, the principal of ISPE, KOICA Taekwondo coaches, officials and students of ISPE.

The equipment worth over US\$ 20,000 will help improve Myanmar's Taekwondo training capabilities and further strengthen bilateral cooperation between Korea and Myanmar.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Korean Ambassador Mr Park Key-chong and Taekwondo trainees pose for documentary photo. — SPED



A delegation led by Myanmar Prawn Entrepreneurs Association poses for documentary photo at Yangon International Airport before departure for Thailand on 23 July, 2007. The 14-member delegation led by Chairman of MPEA U Hla Maung Shwe left here for Thailand to study sea prawn farming.

UMFCCI

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

UAE's Burj Dubai wins title of world's tallest building

ABU DHABI, 22 July—Burj Dubai, a skyscraper developed by Emaar Properties of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), wins the title of the world's tallest building at the height of 512.1 metres, *Emirates News Agency* reported on Saturday.

With excavation work started in January 2004, Burj (meaning "tower" in Arabic) Dubai became the tallest

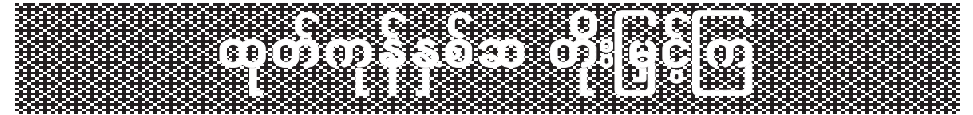
building in the world in 1,276 days, the report said.

The tower has currently reached 141 stories, which makes it also the building with most stories in the world.

Scheduled to be completed in 2008, Burj Dubai will be the tallest structure in the world in all four of the criteria listed by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) —

heights to the structural top, to the highest occupied floor, to the top of the roof, and to the tip of the spire, pinnacle, antenna, mast or flag pole.

When completed, Burj Dubai will have consumed 330,000 cubic metres of concrete, 39,000 tons of steel rebar, 142,000 square metres of glass and 22 million man hours. — *MNA/Xinhua*



A boy jumps into Dambovita River on a hot day in central Bucharest on 19 July, 2007. The death toll from Romania's heat wave rose to 15 on Sunday after six more people died in the Black Sea country where temperatures hovered around 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit), Health Minister Eugen Nicolaescu said. — INTERNET



The world's tallest tower Burj Dubai stands on Sheikh Zayed Road in Dubai on 22 July, 2007. Burj Dubai, a tower under construction in the United Arab Emirates' trade hub, became the tallest building in the world on 21 July, measuring 512.1 metres (1,680 ft), its developer said. — INTERNET

11 Revolutionary Guards killed by drug traffickers in Iran

TEHERAN, 22 July—Eleven elite Revolutionary Guards soldiers were killed Thursday in clashes with armed drug traffickers in Iran's southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, official media reported on Saturday.

"The clashes took place Thursday night" near Sistan-Baluchestan Province's capital of Zahedan, and "nine other members of the guards and basij (Iran's militia group)" were injured, according to a spokesman of the Revolutionary Guards. The Iranian security forces would make "tough revenge" over the death to the armed bandits, who ambushed the soldiers, said the state television.

Four of the traffickers were also killed in the clashes, and two of the criminals responsible for the attack have been arrested, local media reported. Sistan-Baluchestan Province borders Pakistan and Afghanistan. On 14 February, 13 Revolutionary Guards members were killed in a car bomb explosion made by militants in the provincial capital Zahedan.

MNA/Xinhua

Reduced rank for US Marine in Hamdania case

CAMP PENDLETON (California), 22 July —A US Marine guilty of kidnapping and conspiring to murder an Iraqi grandfather last year was sentenced on Friday to a reduction in rank to private and a bad-conduct discharge with no additional time in prison, according to a US Marine Corps statement.

Corporal Trent Thomas, who has been in military prison since May 2006, was found guilty by a military jury on Wednesday of kidnapping and conspiracy to commit larceny, housebreaking,

kidnapping, false official statements and murder for his involvement in the death of Hashim Ibrahim Awad in April 2006 near Hamdania, Iraq.

Thomas, a Purple Heart recipient who was serving his third tour of duty in Iraq, was one of eight members of an infantry battalion charged in the death of Awad, a disabled Iraqi policeman. The incident was one of a series in which US forces abused or killed Iraqi civilians under questionable circumstances, damaging the image of US troops abroad. — *MNA/Reuters*

Chinese Sichuan opera actress Chen Qiaoru performs during a celebration show held in Sydney, Australia, on 20 July, 2007. The show, featuring with Chinese traditional opera performances, was held to mark the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between China and Australia. — XINHUA



20 killed, 50 injured in traffic accident in Syria

DAMASCUS, 23 July—Twenty people were killed and 50 others injured as two buses collided in northern Syria on Saturday, the official SANA news agency reported.

The accident occurred on a highway some 160 kilometres (100 miles) north of the capital, Damascus. A bus whose tyre burst hit an oncoming bus head-on, killing 15 people on the spot and injuring some 50 others.

Five more passengers died later in hospital and some of the injure are in a critical condition, the police said.

MNA/Xinhua

Over 80 killed in lightning, storm in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 July—Over eighty people have been killed in lightning and storm in Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), state-run Radio Pakistan reported on Saturday.

The lightning hit Nash Namal, Gar Kohi and Jaba villages in upper Dir District of NWFP on Friday night and nine houses were washed away by the flood water caused by rains in the area, the radio reported. Relief and rescue teams have been sent to the affected area and so far 38 dead bodies have been recovered from the debris, the radio reported.

But some local media has put death toll at 100 people, including women and children.

MNA/Xinhua

The detailed basic principles are suitable to be adopted

YANGON, 23 July — *The following is the collection of suggestions made by NC delegates on the Chapters "Amendment of the Constitution" and "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital" submitted to the Plenary Session of the National Convention held at the Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township today.*

The chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Commission, the chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, the chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Management Committee, and NC delegates, may you be blessed with physical and mental well-being and auspiciousness.

Esteemed NC delegates,

The Work Committee chairman's clarification to the detailed basic principles on the chapters "Amendment of the Constitution", "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital", "Transitory Provisions" and "General Provisions" to be included in the State constitution were read out at the NC plenary sessions held on 10 and 13 November 2006.

At the plenary sessions held between 21 and 29 December 2006, the delegate groups submitted 18 proposal papers in total as follows:

- (a) Delegate Group of Political Parties 8 papers
- (b) Delegate Group of Representatives-elect 4 papers
- (c) Delegate Group of National Races 1 paper
- (d) Delegate Group of Peasants 1 paper
- (e) Delegate Group of Workers 1 paper
- (f) Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia 1 paper
- (g) Delegate Group of State Service Personnel 1 paper
- (h) Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons 1 paper

The delegate groups and NC delegates have read out these proposals at the NC plenary sessions. Now, I will present the NC panel of chairmen's collection of these proposals as a whole.

Esteemed NC delegates,

At the NC plenary session held on 10 November 2006, the Work Committee chairman regarding the Chapter 'Amendment of the Constitution' said, "The nation after adopting and promulgating the Constitution will have to make amendments as necessary depending on time and situation. When the amendments of the Constitutions of some nations are studied, there are two ways to amend a Constitution. The first method is to hold a referendum to make an amendment of some provisions of the Constitution after 75 per cent of all the MPs or two-thirds of the MPs have made a prior approval to amend them. The second method is to amend some provisions of the Constitution with the approval of 75 per cent of all MPs or two-thirds of the MPs. The Amendment of the Constitution has been prescribed in the Constitution as a separate Chapter. In the Union of Myanmar also, the topic has been provided as a separate Chapter in both the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution.

Then, the Work Committee chairman said, "Based on the study and appraisals, a collection of detailed basic principles that should be laid down for the Chapter Amendment of the Constitution is presented as follows: 1. If there is wish to amend anyone of the provisions of this Constitution, the following methods shall be applied:

- (a) **The proposal to amend the Constitution shall be submitted in the form of a Bill.**
- (b) **A Bill to amend the Constitution shall contain no other proposals.**

2. Such Bill to amend the Constitution shall be initiated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

3. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall accept the Bill to amend the Constitution for consideration, if 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit it.

4. (a) The adopted provisions of the State Fundamental Principles, the State Structure, the Formation of Legislature, the Formation of Executive, the Formation of Judiciary, and the State of Emergency shall be amended with the prior approval of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in a nation-wide referendum only with a majority vote of more than half of those who have the right to vote.

(b) Provisions other than those mentioned in the paragraph (a) shall be amended only with a majority vote of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(c) Articles that are concerned with or inclusive in Chapters stated in the paragraph (a) shall be prescribed when the Constitution is drafted.

Esteemed National Convention delegates,

Regarding the Work Committee chairman's clarification, the National Unity Party said, "The Work Committee chairman after studying in detail the constitutions of some would nations, the 1947 constitution, and the 1974 constitution of Myanmar explained the detailed basic principles concerning the chapters "Amendment of the Constitution", "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem, and the Capital", "Transitory Provisions", and "General Provisions" within the framework of the objectives of the National Convention and the fundamental principles adopted by the constitution.

"Hence, the detailed basic principles are suitable to be adopted.", we would like to suggest to adopt the said detailed basic principle.

The Pa-O National Organization said, "The Work Committee chairman made a complete clarification to the ways of making amendments to the State constitution referring the 1947 constitution and the 1974 constitution. So, I suggest that the four points proposed for the detailed basic principles for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" be adopted."

The Shan Kokang Democratic Party said, "Regarding the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution", we found all the points the Work Committee chairman has explained except sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Para (4) appropriate, so these points should be adopted.

It also made a separate suggestion, "After the establishment of an independent state, a constitution is promulgated. But constitutional amendments in connection with some of the adopted provisions will have to be made due to certain reasons or if and when necessary.

The explanations include all the fundamental requirements to amend the Constitution such as the means and procedures to amend the Constitution. Hence, all the points explained by the Work Committee chairman should be adopted as detailed basic principles.



U Tin Kha of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel. — MNA

The amendment of any provision of the constitution is as important as the lifeblood of the nation. Instead of amending the constitution with the referendum or over 75 per cent of the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with the stipulations of the constitution, a detailed basic principle should be adopted to amend the constitution if over 50 percent of the members of representative Hluttaws proposed to do so.

Hence, we would like to suggest to adopt the said detailed basic principle as follows:

"(a) The adopted provisions of the State Fundamental Principles, the State Structure, the Formation of Legislative, the Formation of Executive, the Formation of Judiciary, and the State of Emergency shall be amended with the prior approval of more than 50 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in a nationwide referendum only with a majority vote of more than half of those who have the right to vote.

"(b) Provisions other than those mentioned in the paragraph (a) shall be amended only with a majority vote of more than 50 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

"(c) Articles that are concerned with or inclusive in Chapters stated in the paragraph (a) shall be prescribed when drafting the Constitution."

The Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization said, "Regarding the principles proposed for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" to be included in the State constitution, the four points the Work Committee chairman has explained are appropriate, so that should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

The Lahu National Development Party said, "The four points the Work Committee chairman has explained regarding the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

The Union Kayin League said, "The four points the Work Committee chairman has explained are complete, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

The Kokang Democracy and Unity Party said, "We have studied the Work committee chairman's explanations concerning the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution". The explanations include all the fundamental requirements to amend the Constitution such as the means and procedures to amend the Constitution. Hence, all the points explained by the Work Committee chairman should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

The Wa National Development Party said, "The four points the Work Committee chairman clarified for the
(See page 5)

The detailed basic principles are suitable...

(from page 4)

Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" are appropriate, and they should be adopted as detailed basic principles. Esteemed National Convention delegates,

The Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect said, "Of the four presented proposals, the political parties from the Delegate Group of Political Parties have assessed the presentations of the representatives of the National Unity Party and Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization. And the discussions of respective representatives are the same as they have done.

Independent Representatives-Elect Dr Hmu Htan of Thantlang Township Constituency in Chin State, U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township Constituency in Shan State and U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township Constituency in Shan State (North) said, "Regarding the detailed basic principles for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" to be included in the State constitution, the four points the Work Committee chairman has explained are suitable and they should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

Six Independent Representatives-Elect from the Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect—U Tin Win of Kyaiklat Township Constituency (2), U Thein Kyi of Taungdwingyi Township Constituency (1), U Hla Soe of Minbu Township Constituency (2), U Mya Hlaing of Twantay Township Constituency (2), U Kyi Win of Mingaladon Township Constituency (1), and U Tin Tun Maung of Mingaladon Township Constituency (2) in their discussions supported the Work Committee chairman's explanation about the four points on the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" to be included in the State constitution.

As a separate suggestion, they said, "A constitution will become practical only after ten years of existence. As the term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is five years, two terms will be ten years.

"We would like to suggest that the following detailed basic principle should be adopted.

"Other than the provisions stipulated in the Chapter "the State", the provisions of other chapters shall not be amended until the end of the second term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

"When the third Pyithu Hluttaw election is held after the end of the second term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the people will have experiences concerning the election for three times. We assume that at that time the people may

have understood the democracy norms and ideas to a certain degree. The people who are farmers, workers, servicemen etc. may become persons possessing enough political knowledge as they have studied politics or the national affairs with keen interest. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members elected by such people will be the right persons at the rightful position who have pragmatic ideas and required qualifications.

"Instead of holding a nationwide referendum, that will be a financial and an administrative burden on the nation, the following detailed basic principle should be adopted in making constitutional provisions.

"If there arises the wish to amend the constitutional provisions beginning from the end of the third term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the provisions of the chapters, other than the provisions of the Chapter on the State, shall be amended with the votes of two-thirds of the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."

The Delegate Group of National Races said, "We Delegate Group of National Races agree that because of the inclusion of the following points, the detailed basic principles explained by the Work Committee chairman for the chapter should be adopted.

- (a) A Bill to amend the Constitution shall contain no other proposals.
- (b) Such Bill to amend the Constitution shall be initiated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw which comprises the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.
- (c) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall accept the Bill to amend the Constitution for consideration, if 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit.
- (d) The adopted provisions of the State Fundamental Principles, the State Structure, the Formation of Legislature, the Formation of Executive, the Formation of Judiciary and the State of Emergency shall be amended with the prior approval of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in a nationwide referendum only with a majority vote of more than half of those who have the right to vote. Provisions other than those mentioned in the paragraph (a) shall be amended only with a majority vote of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

As a separate suggestion, it said, "We would like to make a separate suggestion concerning the para 3 explained by the Work Committee chairman as follows: The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will have to make

constitutional amendments as and when necessary because of the globalization process or advancing time and situation. We are glad to know the inclusion of the expression "if 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit it" in the para 3 as it ensures democracy rights for the minority. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after accepting and discussing the Bill will make a decision with majority votes to amend or annul the respective articles in accord with the prescriptions. It will not be proper if 20 per cent of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit the same amended or rejected Bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw again. We believe that submitting a proposal to amend anyone of the provisions of an enduring State constitution is not appropriate. In our assumption there should be a prescribed time limit to re-submit the Bill whether it is approved or rejected. **As the Bill to make constitutional amendments should not be re-submitted during the appropriate time of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw term** although there are 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members to submit it, the matter should be taken into consideration in enacting parliamentary laws and rules."

The Delegate Group of Peasants said, "We the delegate group of peasants agree that the four detailed basic principles concerning the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution", the five detailed basic principles in connection with the Chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital", the eight detailed basic principles regarding the Chapter "Transitory Provisions" and the 26 detailed basic principles in connection with the Chapter "General Provisions" should be adopted."

The Delegate Group of Workers said, "The four points the Work Committee chairman has explained for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

The Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia said, "The paras from No 1 to No 4 the Work Committee chairman has proposed for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

The Delegate Group of State Service Personnel said, "The collection of paras from No 1 to No 4 for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" to be included in the State constitution should be adopted as detailed basic principles."

Esteemed National Convention delegates,

The Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons expressed its support for the four points the Work Committee chairman has presented regarding the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" to be included in the State constitution. — MNA

Every independent and sovereign nation has its own specific State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital

State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital

At the plenary session of the National Convention held on 10 November 2006, the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee made a clarification of the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital as follows:

"Every independent and sovereign nation has its own specific State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital. Some nations stated them in the Constitution and in some nations, the legislative assembly promulgates separate laws concerning them.

"Mostly, provisions concerning the State Flag focus on the means to stipulate and design it. Procedures and rules in connection with the State Flag and punishments for offences are prescribed in the separate law enacted by the legislative assembly.

"The stipulations of the State Flag mostly depend on history of a nation. Colours including white, red, blue, green, yellow, orange etc are used in the State Flags in

accord with the history of a nation.

"As all the national races are living through thick or thin and in unity, a big white star in an upward position representing the Union should be portrayed in the State Flag.

"The Union of Myanmar has been striving to develop her economy, with agriculture as the base. As Myanmar is an agro-based nation, the colour green that stands for peace and tranquillity and lush and verdant environment should be used. In addition, yellow that depicts solidarity, harmony, re-consolidation and love and unity of all the national races should be used in the Flag. In some countries, yellow is a royal colour representing the glory. Moreover, red, which means valour and decisiveness, should also be portrayed.

"Hence, discussions are to be held and suggestions to be made whether the following detailed basic principles should be laid down or not:

(See page 6)



Dr Manan Tu Ja of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons. — MNA

Every independent and sovereign nation...

(from page 5)

“(1) The State Flag shall be prescribed as follows:

The Flag is marked with green, yellow and red stripes in a proportionate ratio. On the left end of the green stripe at the top of the Flag is a large white star directing upwards.

“(2) Law shall be promulgated concerning the State Flag.”

“Explanation will be made on the detailed basic principle to be adopted in connection with the State Seal. In the 1947 Constitution there is no provision concerning the State Seal. The 1974 Constitution showed the picture of the State seal and stated, “The State Seal shall be as shown below.”

“Stipulation of the State Seal is prescribed in the constitutions of some nations. In the constitutions of some nations, the stipulation of the State Seal is not included in the provisions, instead, their constitutions prescribe that the State Seal should be prescribed with a law enacted by the legislative assembly. But their constitutions have provisions stating that the State Seal should reflect the history, culture and customs of the race. In some countries, it is stated that after the State Seal has been adopted by the legislative assembly, it has to be ratified at a referendum.

“Hence discussions are to be held and suggestions to be made whether the following detailed basic principle should be adopted with the picture of the State Seal under it.

“The State Seal shall be as shown below.”

“Presentation will be made on the detailed basic principle that should be adopted to prescribe the National Anthem.

“The 1947 Constitution had no provision concerning the National Anthem. The 1974 Constitution prescribed, “The Pyithu Hluttaw shall prescribe the National Anthem. Until a new National Anthem is prescribed, the present National Anthem shall be used.”

“When we studied the constitutions of some nations in connection with the National Anthem, it is found that many countries mention the song that should be prescribed as the National Anthem. Some countries mention the year and suggestion is made to prescribe the National Anthem before the said year, some prescribe the National Anthem stating the specified order or the specified decree, and some prescribe the Anthem stating the first phrase of a song. Constitutions of some nations state that the legislative assembly should enact a law to prescribe the National Anthem

“The verses of the song we have used for many years are in conformity with the fundamental principles the National Convention has adopted.

“The present National Anthem shall be prescribed as the National Anthem.”

“The 1947 Constitution had no provision concerning the designation of the capital. But the 1974 Constitution prescribed, “The capital of the Republic

is Rangoon.”

“Constitutions of some nations state the name of the capital, but some do not mention it.

“The capitals of most of the nations are located at the centre of the country. Every country designates the city that is the seat of the government as the capital. Mostly, a city located in a place that is lying in the nation’s hub and that is easy to access is prescribed as the capital.

“Hence, discussions are to be held and suggestions to be made whether the following detailed basic principle should be laid down or not.

“The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw.”

“Based on my study and assessment, I will now present the detailed basic principles concerning the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital as follows:

“(1) The State Flag shall be prescribed as follows:

The Flag is marked with green, yellow and red stripes in a proportionate ratio. On the left end of the green stripe at the top of the Flag is a large white star directing upwards.

(2) Law shall be promulgated concerning the State Flag.”

(3) “The State Seal shall be as shown below.”

(4) “The present National Anthem shall be prescribed as the National Anthem.”

(5) “The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw.”

National Convention delegates,

The National Unity Party of the eight political parties of the Delegate Group of Political Parties said, “Every independent and sovereign nation has its own State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and Capital. Hence the detailed basic principles of the chapter explained by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted.

The Union Pa-O National Organization agreed to adopt all the points of the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and Capital as detailed basic principles.

Shan State Kokang Democratic Party said, “We have no further discussions or suggestions concerning the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and Capital as the clarifications made by the Work Committee Chairman are realistic and comprehensive in wordings and from the historical point of view. The points — “The State Seal shall be as shown below”, “The present National Anthem shall be prescribed as the National Anthem” and “The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw” should be adopted.

Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization said, “The Work Committee Chairman’s clarifications concerning the future State Flag are in accord with the future Constitution and the nation’s natural conditions. As we have no further discussions as regards the chapter, we agree to adopt all the points.

Lahu National Development Party expressed support to adopt the points concerning the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and Capital.

Union Kayin League agreed that the State Flag explained by the Work Committee Chairman is suitable to the task of developing and modernizing the Union of Myanmar.

“The State Seal explained by the Work Committee Chairman is appropriate to be adopted.

“The verses used for a long time are in accord with the fundamental principles adopted by the National Convention. Hence the point — The present National Anthem shall be prescribed as the National Anthem — should be adopted.

The point — The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw — explained by the Work Committee Chairman should also be adopted.

Kokang Unity and Democracy Party said that



U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) of National Convention Convening Work Committee.— MNA

as the clarifications made by the Work Committee Chairman are appropriate, the points in connection with the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital — should be adopted.

Wa National Development Party said. “The two compilations concerning the State Flag should be adopted as detailed basic principles. The State Seal reflects the nation’s history and culture and customs of her people.

“Our nation has used the present National Anthem for more than half a century. One of the objectives of the National Convention of the State says “Further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values of such as justice, liberty and equality”. The State’s objectives cover non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

“Regarding the laying down the detailed basic principle for the designation of the capital of the Union of Myanmar, the point “The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw” the Work Committee Chairman has explained should be adopted as a detailed basic principle as Nay Pyi Taw is located in the hub of the nation and the seat of government and where transport is smooth. We have no further suggestions on the point concerning the matter, it should be adopted.

National Convention delegates,

Of the four papers presented by representatives-elect group, the papers presented by the representative of NUP and the representative of Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization are the same as the papers presented by the respective parties.

Independent representatives-elect Dr Hmu Htan of Thantlang Township Constituency in Chin State, U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township Constituency in Shan State (South) and U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township Constituency in Shan State (North) said, “The points explained by the Work Committee Chairman in connection with the chapter “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and Capital” are suitable to be adopted.”

They also gave the following separate suggestions:

“The State Law and Order Restoration Council on 18 June 1989 issued the Order No 2/89 which said that the word “Bamar” included in the National Anthem of the Union of Myanmar was like representing only the Bamar people; that actually the National Anthem stood for all the national races of the Union; and that the word “Bamar” should be substituted with the word “Myanmar” representing all the national races. But some are still singing the song casually with the word “Bamar”. Notifications and orders should be issued in the future to remind the people to use the word “Myanmar” in accord with its essence instead of the word “Bamar”.

(See page 7)

Every independent and sovereign nation has its own State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and Capital. Hence the detailed basic principles of the chapter explained by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted.

Every independent and sovereign nation...

(from page 6)

“As Yangon was designated as the Capital in accord with the said fundamental principles and detailed basic principles, there may be two Capitals in the nation, if Nay Pyi Taw is designated as the new Capital without abolishing the status of Yangon. At present, Nay Pyi Taw is included in Mandalay Division, and no detailed basic principle concerning Nay Pyi Taw has been laid down or adopted yet.

“We are confused as to when and how a Union territory under the direct administration of the President concerning Nay Pyi Taw, its boundary and its administration will be designated. We are unable to know whether they will be designated at the on-going National Convention or when the bodies emerge under new constitution.

“We are not clear yet which city will be the capital of Yangon Region, if Yangon remains as a Union territory.

“The laying down of the fundamental principle to designate Yangon as the Capital and Union territory was based on the executive of the then period.

“Concerning the designation of Union territories, the subpara (c) of the para 11 says, “If the need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national security, administration and economic etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws”. It is not proper to designate Yangon that is no longer the nation’s Capital, as a significant area without holding formal discussions on the matter at the National Convention. We assume that Yangon should be designated as a Union territory after enacting laws. We would like to suggest that the matter concerning the designation of Nay Pyi Taw as the Capital should be explained at the National Convention for all the delegates to know about it clearly.”

Independent representatives-elect U Tin Win of Kyaiklat Township Constituency-2, U Thein Kyi of Taungdwingyi Township Constituency-1, U Hla Soe of Minbu Township Constituency-2, U Mya Hlaing of Twantay Township Constituency-2, U Kyi Win of Mingaladon Township Constituency-1 and U Tin Tun Maung of Mingaladon Township Constituency-2 discussed in support of the clarifications made by the Work Committee Chairman in connection with the chapter “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and Capital”.

They also gave the following separate suggestions:

“The following facts should be put into consideration in choosing the shape and design of the State Flag.

- “(a) to express the significant characters of the nation
- “(b) not to be mistaken by or be similar to State Flags of other nations

“(c) to be clear and simple enough for even the primarily students to easily understand its essence and draw a picture of it. (this will help vitalize the patriotism of students since childhood days).

“(d) to be easy to make duplicates or drawings of various sizes of the State Flag.

The three colours — green, yellow and red — were included in the three-colours Daung Flag used during the national liberation struggle. And they have represented the nation’s significant conditions. Hence, they are suitable for the State Flag. The White Star representing the whole Union should be placed in the centre of the Flag or in other words at the center of yellow stripe instead of at the top to stand for the unity of the entire Union. The top point of the star should touch the base of green stripe and the two bottom points should touch the vertex of the red stripe. Only then the Flag will represent the unity and ensure uniformity in drawing or duplicating it.

“In pondering whether to adopt the detailed basic principle “The Capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw.” or not, we would like to suggest to lay down the following detailed basic principle concerning the matter.

“The Capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw as it

- is located in a place where transport with various parts of the nation is excellent
- has adequate number of buildings, sound transport and information network and easy intraconnections between government institutions, that are the characteristics of a Capital ensures facilitation in the connections between the institutions that will exercise the three organs of power of the State
- is free from inadequate electricity and potable water supply, traffic congestion and other kinds of confusion that are common in all economic hubs because of the high population density.

“Now, I will present a weighty fact. The detailed basic principle “Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as the Union territory placed under direct administration of the President” is included in the chapter “the State Structure” to formulate the Constitution. Here, we should consider whether the said detailed basic principle should be annulled or amended or not. In addition, Nay Pyi Taw should be designated as a Union territory.

National Convention delegates,

The Delegate Group of National Races said, “We are in support of adopting the para 1 and 2 as explained by the Work Committee Chairman and the points concerning the chapters — State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital.

Now, we will present a separate suggestion No 1 concerning the para 2. We have studied that procedures and rules in connection with the State Flag and punishments for offences are prescribed in the separate law enacted by the legislative assembly. We would

like to suggest that if such law is enacted it should include the shape and measurement of the State Flag.”

Explanation 6 to know and observe the shape and measurements of the State Flag, the measurements of the green, yellow and red stripes marked in a proportionate ratio, the location of the white star, and the measurement of the top point of the white star directing upwards.

Suggestion No 2:

We would like to suggest that the para 1 which prescribes “The Flag is marked with green, yellow and red stripes in a proportionate ratio. On the left end of the green stripe at the top of the Flag is a large white star directing upwards” should be stated as follows.

“The Flag is marked with green, yellow and red stripes in a proportionate ratio. On the left end of the Flag is a large white star directing upwards and touching all the green, yellow and red stripes.”

We present the suggestion with the following aims.

- (a) to impressively and vividly portray the white star representing the Union
- (b) to magnify the power of the white star that was the symbol of the successive revolutions
- (c) to highlight mutual relations between the colours green, yellow and red that have their own meanings
- (d) for the white star to be ever obvious in whatever position the Flag is hoisted
 - Two sprigs of Eugenia each flanking the map of Myanmar, located in the centre of the State Seal, on both sides in an upward position should be included in the Seal.
 - The suggestion is meant to fill the spaces on the left and right sides of the map of Myanmar and to depict the auspiciousness, peace and success.

National Convention delegates,

The Delegate Group of Peasants agreed to adopt the four points of the chapter — Amendment, the five points of the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital; eight points of the chapter — Transitory Provisions and the 26 points of the chapter — Emergency Provision.

National Convention delegates,

The Delegate Group of Workers expressed unanimous support for the points explained by the Work Committee Chairman concerning the chapter “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital”. The group agreed to adopt the said points.

The Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia said that its members compared the designs of the proposed State Flag with others of the world nations and some members drew a new design. They discussed the green, yellow and red stripes and the place of the white Star of the new flag. They drew a conclusion that the Flag with three equal stripes having the colours green, yellow and red has profound essence.

Concerning the State Seal, artists, historians and craftsmen discussed from the modern view point the clarifications made by the Work Committee Chairman. The group discussed in support of the clarifications in connection with the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital.

National Convention delegates,

The Delegate Group of State Service Personnel said that the detailed basic principles as regards the chapter “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital” should be laid down in accord with the clarifications made by the Work Committee Chairman.

The Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons said that the points explained by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted as detailed basic principles for the chapter — State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital. — MNA

“The Capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw as it
—is located in a place where transport with various parts of the nation is excellent
—has adequate number of buildings, sound transport and information network and easy intraconnections between government institutions, that are the characteristics of a Capital
—ensures facilitation in the connections between the institutions that will exercise the three organs of power of the State
—is free from inadequate electricity and potable water supply, traffic congestion and other kinds of confusion that are common in all economic hubs because of the high population density.



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets Outgoing Military Attaché Colonel Vladimir I Konchakov of Russia Federation in Nay Pyi Taw.
(News on Page 1) — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets Incoming Military Attaché Colonel Alexander V Svintsovsky of Russia Federation in Nay Pyi Taw.
(News on Page 1) — MNA

Panel of Alternate Chairmen presents ...

(from page 16)

Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State Service Personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General's Office, the Auditor-General's Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Development Committee and the State service personnel of the respective ministries, other invited delegates, delegates from Shan State (North) Special Region-1, Shan State (North) Special Region-2, Shan State (North) Special Region-3, Shan State (East) Special Region-4, Shan State (North) Special Region-5, Shan State (South) Special Region-6, Kachin State Special Region-1, Kachin State Special Region-2, Kayah State Special Region-1, Kayah State Special Region-2, Kayah State Special Region-3, Kayinni National Democratic Party (KNDP) (Dragon) Group, Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP) Breakaway (Hoya), Kayinni National Unity and Solidarity Organization (Ka Ma Sa Nya), Democratic Kayin Buddhist Organization (DKBA) and Haungthayaw Special Region Group who have returned to the legal fold, Nyeinchayay Myothit Group from Hpa-an Township of Kayin State, Burma Communist Party (Rakhine Group), Arakan Army (AA), Homein Region Development and Welfare Group, Shwepyiaye (MTA), Manpan People's Militia Group, Mon Peace Group (Chaungchi Region) and Mon (Breakaway) Nai Seik Chan Group that had exchanged arms for peace.

At 7.30 am, before the plenary session of the National

Convention, Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and members, Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and members, Chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and members, chairmen of the respective subcommittees and members, delegates of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers, delegates of service personnel and other invited delegates signed in the attendance books at Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall for National Convention delegates.

At the plenary session, U Tin Kha of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel presided over the meeting as an alternate chairman together with U Myo Thant (Maung Su Shin) of NCC Work Committee, U Saw Philip (a) U Philip Sam of Delegate Group of Political Parties, U Maung Gyi of Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect, U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Delegate Group of National Races, U Kan Nyunt of Delegate Group of Peasants, U Kyaw Win Tun of Delegate Group of Workers, Dr Maung Maung Wint of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia and Dr Ma Nan Tu Ja of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons as members of panel of chairmen.

Director U Than Aung of the NCC Work Committee Office acted as MC and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi as co-MC. The MC declared the start of the meeting with the permission of the alternate chairman as 1057 out of 1071 delegates were in attendance, accounting for 98.69 per cent.

The panel of alternate chairmen presented collections of suggestions made by the respective delegate groups on laying down detailed basic principles for the chapters "Amendment of the Constitution", "State Flag,

State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital", "Transitory Provisions" and "General Provisions" to be included in the State Constitution. First, U Tin Kha of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel read out the collection of proposals for the chapter "Amendment of the Constitution".

(The collections of suggestions on the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" are reported separately.)

Next, Dr Manan Tu Ja of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons presented the collection of proposals for the chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital".

The plenary session took a break at 9.50 am.

When the plenary session resumed at 10.05 am, U Myo Thant (Maung Su Shin) of NCC Work Committee continued to present the collection of proposals for the chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital".

(The collections of suggestions on the Chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital" are reported separately.)

Afterwards, U Saw Philip (a) U Philip Sam of Delegate Group of Political Parties and U Maung Gyi of Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect presented the collection of proposals for the chapter "Transitory Provisions".

(The collection of proposals for the chapter "Transitory Provisions" will be reported.)

The plenary session took a break at 11.05 am.

When the Plenary Session resumed at 11.20 am, U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Delegate Group of National Races and U Kan Nyunt of Delegate Group of Peasants presented the collection of proposals for the chapter "General Provisions".

(The collection of proposals for the chapter "General Provisions" will be reported.)

The Plenary Session of the National Convention was adjourned at 12 noon. —MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and committee members attend Plenary session of National Convention. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets outgoing Military Attaché Colonel Zafar Jamil of Pakistan in Nay Pyi Taw.
(News on Page 1) — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets incoming Military Attaché Colonel Muzammil Hussain Shah of Pakistan in Nay Pyi Taw.
(News on Page 1) — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends concluding ceremony of monsoon paddy cultivation in Mudon Township

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen The Naing Win, viewed five acres of physic nut plantation in Mudon Township on 19 July morning.

Next, they went to Rubber Factory (Thanbyuzayat) of Myanmar Tyre and Rubber Industries of the Ministry of Industry-2 in Thanbyuzayat.

After hearing the report of the officials, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected production process of the factory.

In Wegali Village, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met military officers of Thanbyuzayat and Ye Stations and presented cash assistance and clothes to servicemen and families of Ye Station and Thanbyuzayat Station



through Brig-Gen Cho Tun Aung and officials.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed rubber plantation of farmer U Tun Khin in Lettet Village of Mudon Township. While in Mudon Township, they attended the concluding ceremony of monsoon paddy cultivation in Tawku Village. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented prizes to winners in the monsoon paddy cultivation of the township.

Speaking on the

occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that Mon State is to put 1.08 million acres of land under monsoon paddy in 2007-08. Local farmers are to strive for cultivation of crops to meet the target production. In addition to paddy and physic nut, local people are to make efforts for growing of rubber in the region. Thanks to completion of irrigation facilities such as Azin and Winphanon dams built by the government, local farmers can extend



Lt-Gen Maung Bo of Ministry of Defence views monsoon paddy transplanting ceremony in Mudon. — MNA

cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy on the farms in Mudon Township.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party cordially greeted the

farmers. Next, they proceeded to Mawlamyine by car. — MNA

Sports eases through Culture with 6-0

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July — Ministry of Sports trounced a 6-0 win over Ministry of Culture in the second round of the First Nay Pyi Taw Football Tournament 2007 at Paunglaung Sports Ground in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana this afternoon.

Referee U Tun Tun steered the match together with assistant referees U Win Naing and

U Myo Myint Than.

Khin Maung Htwe and Win Myo Thant scored two goals each for the Ministry of Sports and Thaug Htay and Than Nyunt snatched one goal each. Departmental heads, responsible persons of Myanmar Olympic Committee and Myanmar Football Federation, service personnel and family members enjoyed

the match.

Ministry of Education will play against Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement tomorrow at the same venue; Ministry of Labour will meet with Ministry of Defence on 25 July and Ministry of Industry-1 will compete against Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs on 26 July. — MNA



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint being welcomed by Ambassador of Arab Republic of Egypt to Myanmar Mr Yossef Kamal Botros Hanna at the reception to mark the National Day of Egypt which falls on 23 July. — MNA



Ministry of Sports team playing against Ministry of Culture team. — MNA

Marle Nattaung Dam inaugurated to irrigate 10,000 acres of farmland in Singu Township



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw delivers a speech at opening ceremony of Marle Nattaung Dam in Singu.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July — As a gesture of hailing the National Convention, a ceremony to inaugurate Marle Nattaung Dam was held in Singu Township

address. He said that Marle Nattaung Dam is the 201st facility of its kind in the entire nation and the 49th dam in Mandalay Division. The

dams and lakes. A total of 214,910 acres of summer paddy of 240,100 acres were also supplied with irrigation facilities. Accordingly, dams and

1,002,196 acres in 2007-08. Thanks to completion of Marle Nattaung Dam, local farmers will enjoy fruits of boosting paddy production and uplift of agricultural standards.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered an address. He said that boosting agricultural production will contribute much to the interest the people and development of rural areas. Therefore, the government has spent K 5,724 million on construction of Marle Nattaung Dam for the development of the region.

A local people spoke words of thanks.

The commander unveiled the stone plaque of the dam and sprinkled scented water on it.

The commander and the minister inspected the water control tower, the conduit, water channel and

the earth embankment.

Marle Nattaung Dam is located on Marle Nattaung Creek, eight miles from Singu of PyinOoLwin District. The earth embankment is 72 feet high and 11,850 feet long. The dam can store 57,470 acres feet of water at the highest level. The spillway is 100 feet wide and 1,450 feet long.

The main canal is connected with the 10-mile left canal and the five-mile right canal. The dam can irrigate 10,000 acres of land. The left canal supplies water to 400 acres of land and the right one to 1,400 acres. Arrangements have been made for generating 3 kv hydro-power each at two places along the canal. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo open Marle Nattaung Dam.— MNA

of PyinOoLwin District yesterday morning.

Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw delivered an opening

dam was built for supply of water to 10,000 acres of farmlands. Mandalay Division put 1,002,196 acres of monsoon paddy in 2006-07. Of them, 550,560 acres of land were supplied with water from

lakes play an important role in the cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy in Mandalay, he said. He continued to say that the division will irrigate 550,861 acres of monsoon paddy out of



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo.— MNA



Newly opened Marle Nattaung Dam in Singu.— MNA

Basic Journalism Course No 10 of USDA opened

Members urged to are to actively participate in successful implementation of seven-step Road Map

YANGON, 23 JULY — The Basic Journalism Course No 10 conducted by The Union Solidarity and Development Association was opened at the Headquarters of USDA in Bahan Township, here, this morning.

USDA Secretariat Member U Thaung made an opening speech, saying that the course is conducted to widely carry out information and organizational tasks through cooperation between the print media and electronic media. Subjects such as Reporting of news, publishing of newspapers, writing of articles and interviewing skills will be given to the trainees at the course.

Some big nations, using their development of information technology, are interfering in the internal affairs of some sovereign



Secretariat member of USDA U Thaung delivers an address at opening Basic Journalism Course No 10.— MNA



nations through various media outlets to undermine stability of that nations. Therefore, the trainees are to effectively rebut rumours being aired by the media stations of some big nations.

At present, all are witnessing the form of a future new nation. He continued to say that, quoting the guidance given by Patron of USDA

Senior General Than Shwe at Management Course No 6 for USDA Executives, the State, on its part, was convening the National Convention being attended by delegates from all walks of life to write a new constitution. It would be dangerous to the nation if there was some weaknesses in a constitution. Therefore,

emergence of a new enduring State Constitution and building of a new modern and developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution were laid down in the four political objectives.

In conclusion, all trainees holding "Our Three Main National Causes" are to actively

participate in the successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map, to devote all energies to the media work in cooperation with the association and to redouble efforts to carry out the tasks for development and stability of the State through future programmes laid down by the USDA, he added.

Later, USDA

Secretariat Member U Thaung greeted the trainees.

A total of 50 trainees from states and divisions are attending the nine-week course.

Also present on the occasion were CEC members of USDA, officials of USDA Headquarters and course instructors.—MNA

UMFCCI opens courses

YANGON, 23 July — The opening ceremony of SME Criteria and Productivity Awareness in Myanmar course jointly conducted by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and JPC-SEC of Japan was held at the UMFCCI Training Centre, here, today.

UMFCCI General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and Mr Koichi Hiratsuka of Japan Productivity Centre made addresses at the ceremony.

Altogether 47 trainees are now attending the course which lasts 26 July. Development for production of small and medium-scaled industries and experiences on work

efficiency will be lectured at the course.

Similarly, the opening ceremony of Applied Accounting and Management Level-1, Batch (27) organized by the academic committee of the UMFCCI took place at the same venue on 21 July. A total of 58 trainees are attending the course.—MNA



A ceremony to open SME Criteria and Productivity Awareness Course in Myanmar in progress.— UMFCCI

Mars mosquito coils introduced

YANGON, 23 July — The new brand of Mars mosquito coils was

introduced at Traders Hotel yesterday.

Director U Soe

Myint of Asia Light Co Ltd spoke at the occasion. Next, Manager Mr

Wilfan Lee of Sumitomo Chemical Co Ltd explained insecticide used in the mosquito coils.

Asia Light Co Ltd has distributed Mars mosquito coils in Myanmar since May, 2006. Five kinds of the mosquito coils are available on market at reasonable price. The new brand is produced with Japanese technology and the insecticide used in the mosquito coils imported from Japan. One coil of Mars lasts 8 hours.—MNA



Director U Soe Myint introduces new brand of Mars mosquito coils.— MNA

Entries invited to open article contest to mark International Literacy Day

YANGON, 23 July — Hailing the International Literacy Day which falls on 8 September 2007, the department concerned today announced that the open artical contest will be held.

The entry must be between 3,000 and 4,000 words on A-4 size papers. The entries must be own creation. The contestants are to send two copies of manuscripts together with brief biography and three licence-sized colour photos in an envelope to Director U Khin Maung Lu of Myanmar Education Research Bureau at 426, Pyay Road, University Post Office, Kamayut Township, not later than 14 August. For further information, dial 503987 and 502077.—MNA

ADVERTISEMENT

TRADEMARK CAUTION

XIAMEN THREE CIRCLES CO., LTD. of No.519, North Avenue, Jimei District, Xiamen City, Fujian, P.R. China is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademarks:

Three Circles

(Reg. No. IV/2018/2007)



(Reg. No. IV/2019/2007)



(Reg. No. IV/2020/2007)



(Reg. No. IV/2021/2007)

in respect of - Int'l Class 9: "Batteries; electric; batteries for lighting; batteries for pocket-lamps; accumulators; electric; solar batteries; chargers for electric batteries".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of these trademarks will be dealt with according to law.

Htain Lin Oo (LL.B) Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
 E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
 Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:666
 Yangon. 24 July 2007

Clash kills 25 militants, four guards in W Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 July— A conflict killed 25 Taliban fighters and four guards of a company in Farah Province of western Afghanistan, the police said Saturday.

Taliban militants attacked a convoy of private Angar company in Bakwa District on Friday afternoon, a local police officer told *Xinhua* anonymously. The guards of the convoy fought back, and as a result 25 militants as well as four guards were killed, he said.

The police officer did not say the company was a local or international one, but said it was supplying logistics for international troops deployed in Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua

TRADEMARK CAUTION

KEEWAY Nemzetközi Fejlesztési Kft, a Company incorporated in Hungary at 2000 Szentendre, Közúzó u. 8, Hungary is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following Trademark:-



Reg. No. 4/2822/2007

In respect of :“Int’l Class 12: (motorcycle).

In respect of :“Int’l Class 9: (helmets).

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trademark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Myint Lwin, Advocate, LL.B, DBL
 Dip in Marine Affairs(UK)
 myint.advocate@mptmail.net.mm
 Ph : 371 990 24.July.2007

Seven killed in coal mine gas blast in N -E China

SHENYANG, 23 July— Seven workers were killed in a coal mine gas explosion that occurred Saturday afternoon in northeast China’s Liaoning Province, local authorities said on Sunday.

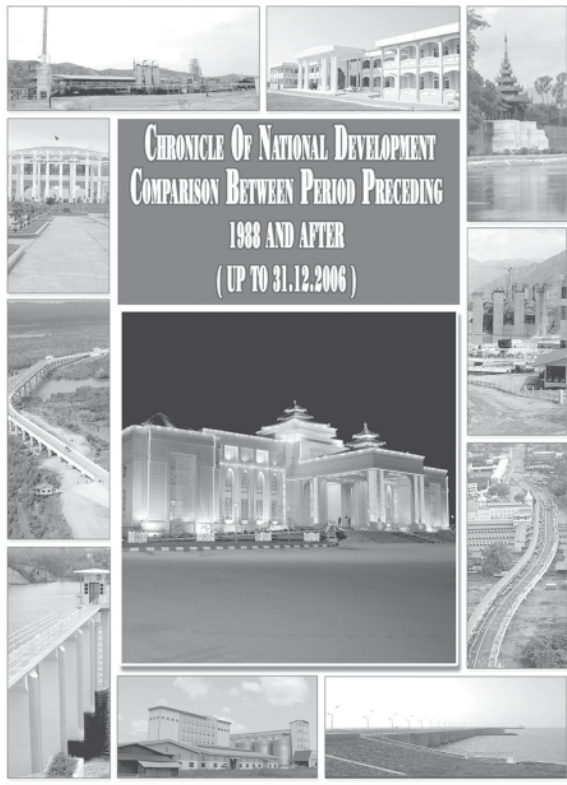
The blast happened at the Xinfu coal mine in Fuxin City at 6:08 pm Saturday, when 34 miners were working underground, said an official with the Liaoning coal industry administration.

Twenty-seven managed to escape safely, but seven others died in the accident, said the official, adding rescuers have retrieved the seven bodies.

Authorities are still investigating the cause of the blast at the licensed coal mine, which has an approved annual capacity of 60,000 tons.

MNA/Xinhua

ပန်းမန်သစ်ပင်
 လေသန့်စင်၍
 ဥယျာဉ်တောတန်း
 စိတ်ရွှင်လန်း၏။



CHRONICLE OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

COMPARISON BETWEEN PERIOD PRECEDING 1988 AND AFTER (UP TO 31 - 12 - 2006)

- * This book features firm evidences, correct data and figures and documentary photos.
- * This book reflects the success in building the infrastructure according to the political, economic and social objectives for the brighter future of the State.
- * Illustrated with charts and colourful photos.
- * Published by the Ministry of Information.

Now On Sale USD 3.00

Available at

- Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon ☎ 01-381448, 249031
- Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, No-55, Thabyaygon Market, Nay Pyi Taw
- News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, 212, Theinbyu Street, Yangon ☎ 294306
- Hotels, Supermarkets and Shopping Malls in Yangon.

“DWE”

Is it a dream?
 Deeply sad in my heart
 Warm and wet tears in my eyes
 Eleventh July the day I want to forget.
 SAN SAN NU HAN

Taliban claims killing two Germans in Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 July— Afghanistan’s Taliban movement on Saturday killed two German hostages after the group’s demands were ignored, a spokesman for the militant group said.

“The Mujahedin also shot dead the second hostage,” Qari Mohammad Yousuf told *Reuters* by telephone from an unknown location after the first hostage was killed.

The Taliban had yet to decide what to do with the bodies of the two Germans who were killed after the expiry of two separate deadlines, he said.

They were shot dead in Ghazni Province which lies to the southwest of the capital, Kabul, he added.

The German Foreign Ministry said it had received no independent confirmation that the hostages in Afghanistan, kidnapped on Wednesday, had been killed by the Taliban. “We are taking these statements very seriously,” German Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Jaeger said in a statement.

“So far we have no

independent confirmation that a hostage was murdered in Afghanistan.” A day after kidnapping the Germans, the Taliban seized a group of South Korean Christians travelling in a bus in Ghazni Province which has in recent months seen unprecedented violence.

The Taliban said they would decide later on Saturday about the fate of the South Koreans who the Afghan Government says number 23, with 18 of them women.

MNA/Reuters

S Korea to withdraw troops from Afghanistan as scheduled

SEOUL, 22 July—South Korea will withdraw its troops from Afghanistan by the end of this year as scheduled, South Korean Foreign Minister Song Minsoon said Saturday.

“The withdrawal will be conducted as scheduled,” said Song at a Press briefing held in the Foreign Ministry. The government has informed the National Assembly last year that the South Korean troops in Afghanistan will complete their missions and withdraw from Afghanistan by the end of this year, he said, adding that the preparation for the withdrawal is underway. According to Song, a total of 23 South Koreans were abducted by Afghan militants Thursday afternoon 150 kilometres southwest of the capital city of Kabul. A spokesman of the Taliban said earlier that they kidnapped 18 South Koreans.

The South Korean Government is seeking cooperation with the Afghan Government and will send a delegation to Afghanistan on Saturday, Song said. The South Korean Government has not formally received Afghan militants demand and is working to exactly make clear the situation there, Song told reporters. The South Korean Government has tried to get information about the whereabouts of the kidnapped South Korean citizens and believed that the kidnapes are safe, he said.—MNA/Xinhua



Chinese models present outfits during a demonstration at the 13th China International Beauty Festival in Beijing on 20 July, 2007. —INTERNET

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Study finds poor memory linked with sleep woes

LOS ANGELES, 21 July — Sleep woes might be blamed for poor memory, anxieties or early dementia in aging women, a new study shows.



Sleep woes might be blamed for poor memory, anxieties or early dementia in aging women, a new study shows. — XINHUA

Older women who have trouble falling asleep are more likely to suffer memory problems than those who have no sleep woes, according to the study by researchers of the University of California in San Francisco.

The researchers examined almost 2,500 women, average age 69, with no signs of memory problems at the start of the study. They underwent cognitive tests over a period of 15 years and, at the end of the study, were assessed for sleep problems.

signs of mental decline on the tests “were nearly twice as likely to have difficulty staying asleep and one-and-a-half times as likely to have problems falling asleep and being awake for more than 90 minutes during their sleep cycle,” study author Dr Kristine Yaffe said.

“Women who declined on one of the tests were also nearly twice as likely to nap more than two hours a day,” Yaffe said.

There was no association between cognitive decline and total sleep time, said the study, which is published in the July issue of the journal

Neurology.

“Perhaps the most likely reason why memory loss may increase the risk of sleep disturbances is that they share a common underlying cause, such as brain changes seen in Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias that could increase risk of both memory loss and sleep problems,” Yaffe said.

Xinhua

“Harry Potter” book breaks global record at “Borders”

NEW YORK, 23 July— The final book about boy wizard Harry Potter broke a single-day record at Borders Group Inc selling about 1.2 million copies worldwide.

“This is the highest single-day sales of any title ever in Borders history,” the book store company said on Sunday in a release. Borders is the second-largest chain of book sellers in the United States.

Fans have lined up outside book stores around the globe for a copy of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* — the seventh and final volume of the series written by JK Rowling.

The sixth book in the series — *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* — sold 850,000 copies worldwide by Borders in 2005 during its first day of sales, Borders said. —MNA/Reuters

West Nile virus kills one woman, infects 27 in California

LOS ANGELES, 23 July — West Nile virus has surged in parts of California, killing one woman and infecting 27 other people, health officials said on Sunday.

One elderly woman has died from complications of the disease, making her the first death in the state from the virus this year, according to health officials.

Officials attributed the surge to unusually high temperatures throughout the state in March.

High temperatures triggered an earlier start to the West Nile virus season than in other years, officials said. Of the 27 cases, 18 incidents were recorded just last week. By this time last year, only five had been reported.

Dead birds or other animals in 36 of California’s 58 counties, including Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, have tested positive for West Nile virus, according to the state website tracking the

disease, westnile.-ca.gov.

The California Department of Public Health warned earlier this month that the rising numbers “could indicate that the mosquito and vector control agencies may have another busy year battling West Nile virus-carrying mosquitoes”.

Dr Mark Horton, director of the state’s public health department, recommended that people take steps to avoid mosquito bites.

MNA/Xinhua

China to announce precise altitude of 59 famous mountains

BEIJING, 21 July — China will confirm and publish the altitude of 59 famous mountains in the coming two years, as a step to clean up the country’s still messy geographical data.



Wuyi Mountain locates in south-east China’s Fujian province, on the border with Jiangxi. It is one of China’s best known beauty spots.

XINHUA

The 59 mountains, all renowned tourist destinations and national reserves, include the World Heritage Site Wuyi Mountain in Fujian Province and snow-capped Yulong Mountain in Yunnan Province.

The State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping (SBSM) said Saturday that experts are measuring mountains with Global Position System (GPS) and other high-tech devices.

The bureau will announce the altitude of 30 mountains in 2008 and that of the rest will be announced in 2009.

“Elevation data for many mountains in China are currently inconsistent

and inaccurate, sometimes the difference can be as much as 100 metres,” said Li Weisen, SBSM’s deputy director.

Li attributed the inaccuracy mainly to technological and equipment limits, saying the demand for accurate, standardized geographical data has increased in recent years. A total of 78 mountains located in key national scenic spots have been put on the SBSM’s significant geographic information and data list,

taking into account their fame and influence, public function and their bearing on national security.

In April 2007, the SBSM announced the altitude of 19 mountains after nine months of surveying.

According to the Chinese laws, no organizations or individuals are allowed to issue important geographic data without verification and authorization of the SBSM.

Xinhua

4th international AIDS conference opens in Australia

CANBERRA, 22 July — Some 5,000 delegates from 133 countries attending the 4th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention (IAS 2007) in Australia will discuss cutting edge developments in HIV/AIDS research.

The four-day conference opened on Sunday in Sydney, Australia’s largest city.

With important scientific advances setting the stage, the IAS 2007 organizers called for even greater vigilance to ensure universal access to HIV prevention and treatment, and expanded research to inform and strengthen the global response to HIV.

Over 3,100 original abstracts were submitted for consideration and 978 were accepted for oral or poster presentation, according to a media release from the conference on Sunday.



A staff member at St Vincent’s Hospital Centre for Immunology in Sydney removes archived plasma samples used for HIV research from a minus 80 degree Celsius (-112 Fahrenheit) freezer on 20 July, 2007. — INTERNET

This represents more than a 50 percent increase in the number of abstracts submitted to the 3rd IAS held in Rio de Janeiro in 2005.

Xinhua

SPORTS



Cyclists compete during the last, 110km stage of Tour de Qinghai Lake in Xining, capital of northwest China's Qinghai Province, on 22 July, 2007. XINHUA

Saudis hold off Uzbekistan to reach semis

JAKARTA, 23 July — Saudi Arabia survived a furious Uzbekistan onslaught to win their Asian Cup quarter-final 2-1 on Sunday to set up a semifinal clash with Japan. Yasser Al-Qahtani gave the Saudis the best possible start, putting them ahead in only the third minute. After soaking up heavy pressure, the Gulf side went 2-0 up in the 75th minute when Ahmed Al Mousa strode onto a return pass in the box and confidently clipped the ball home.

Uzbekistan, who hit the woodwork five times and had a goal disallowed, grabbed a lifeline when substitute Pavel Solomin pulled one back with eight minutes left, but they were unable to convert pressure into more goals and paid the price.

Uzbek coach Rauf Inilejev bemoaned his team's lack of fortune in front of goal but refused to be drawn on Maksim Shatskikh's disallowed strike.

MNA/Reuters

Belgian qualifier Darcis wins Amersfoort title

AMERSFOORT (Netherlands), 23 July — Belgian qualifier Steve Darcis clinched his first significant title when he beat Austrian Werner Eschauer 6-1, 7-6 in the final of the Amersfoort Open on Sunday. Darcis, world-ranked 297 and playing only his second tournament on the ATP Tour, made a flashing start by winning the first five games.

The 33-year-old Eschauer, also in his first ATP final, fought back in the second set but failed to convert one of the six break chances he created and lacked the answer to Darcis' aggressive baseline performance in the tie-break.

MNA/Reuters

Ukraine leads Nigeria 2-0 in Davis Cup playoff

LAGOS, 23 July — Ukraine led Nigeria 2-0 in the opening matches on Friday at the Euro-Africa Group Zone 11 Davis Cup play-off.

Nigeria's number two, Abdulmumini Babalola, began the losing streak when he was beaten in three straight sets of 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 by Ukraine's Sergei Bubka.

As if that loss was not bad enough, Nigeria's number one, US-based Jonathan Igbinoia, could not find enough fire power while faced with the challenge of Sergei Stakhovsky in the second match of the day. The hard hitting Ukrainian did not waste much time in beating Igbinoia in three sets of 6-2, 6-0, 6-3.—MNA/Reuters

South Korea grind down Iran to seal penalty win

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 July — South Korea beat Iran 4-2 on penalties after a gruelling 0-0 draw in humid conditions to reach the Asian Cup semifinals on Sunday.

Kim Jung-woo converted the winning spot-kick to send the inexperienced Koreans through to a last-four clash with Iraq on Wednesday at the same Bukit Jalil Stadium.

Victory avenged Korea's 4-3 quarterfinal loss to Iran at the 2004 Asian Cup in China and levelled their Asian Cup quarterfinal meetings over four consecutive tournaments at 2-2. Korea coach Pim Verbeek was pleased that his young players stood up

to a virtual Iranian World Cup line-up.

Iran, who practised penalties specially in training, used substitute goalkeeper Vahid Taliblou for the shootout, replacing Hassan Roudbarian in the 119th-minute.



South Korea's fans celebrate as South Korea beat Iran 4-2 in a penalty shootout in their 2007 AFC Asian Cup quarter-final soccer match in Kuala Lumpur on 22 July, 2007. — INTERNET

But Verbeek's players had the cooler heads, sending their more than 4,000 vocal Korean supporters into ecstasy.

Iran coach Amir Ghalenoei felt his team dominated the match against the 2002 World

Cup semifinalists.

Showing good individual skills and support play, the Koreans had a dominant spell midway through the first half, with Oh Beom-seok stumbling after a mazy run and Lee Chun-soo's deflected shot well saved by Roudbarian.

Iran's best chance of the half came in the 42nd minute when Ali Karimi found himself one-on-one with Korean goalkeeper Lee Woon-jai, who saved at his feet.

Iran pressed forward after halftime but a rare defensive mistake in the 60th minute allowed Yeom Ki-hun a good chance to shoot from outside the box.—MNA/Reuters

Beckham makes Galaxy debut in 1-0 defeat

CARSON (California), 23 July — Chelsea ended their pre-season tour of the US with a 1-0 win against Los Angeles Galaxy on Saturday in a match highlighted by David Beckham's long-awaited debut for the hosts.

Chelsea captain John

Terry scored the only goal in the 49th minute after being lined up by Joe Cole, driving a powerful shot into the post before the ball ricocheted into the net.

US international striker Landon Donovan came close to equalizing for the Galaxy in the 70th minute after latching onto a cross from Quavas Kirk but he headed over the bar.

Beckham, signed by the Galaxy from Real Madrid on a 32.5-million-dollar five-year deal, came on as a substitute in the 78th minute and helped steady the midfield with a polished cameo performance.

His mere appearance on the bench seemed to lift his new teammates, who delivered one of their best performances in an otherwise dismal campaign.

MNA/Reuters



Czar Amonsot of the Philippines, left, takes punch from Michael Katsidis of Australia during their WBO interim lightweight title boxing match at Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas on 21 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Hopkins wins Vegas points decision over Wright

LAS VEGAS, 23 July — Bernard Hopkins defeated Winky Wright by a unanimous points decision on Saturday to remain the universally recognized light-heavyweight world champion.

One judge scored the bout 116-112, while the other two had it 117-111 in favour of Hopkins.

"It was a tough fight, a very close fight," Hopkins told reporters after improving his record to 48-4-1 with 32 knockouts.

"Winky's tough and he kept on coming so I had to use the bait-and-fish."

"You put the bait out there, the fish gets a little closer, you pull it back, and then you finally catch the fish."

Although the fight was contested at a catch-weight of 170 pounds, five pounds below the light-heavyweight limit, the bout was for the linear light-heavyweight title, which Hopkins won by defeating Antonio Tarver in June last year.

Wright was frequently the aggressor during the contest, but Hopkins was able to slip many of the blows and smother his offence by tying him up when the two were close, scoring with short, sharp counter right hands on the counter attack.

However, Wright (51-4-1, 25 KOs) still felt he should have been awarded the victory.

MNA/Reuters

Controversial winner hands Royal Armed Forces victory

RABAT, 23 July — Morocco's Royal Armed Forces scored a dramatic injury time winner to secure their first points of their African Champions League group campaign on Saturday.

But the controversial nature of the goal against Al Ittihad of Libya set off a 10-minute fracas near the end of the match.

Striker Jawad Ouaddouch got a glancing header to a long range effort but looked to be in an offside position, setting off an invasion of officials and a fight between players.

MNA/Reuters



Cuba's Mariela Gonzalez, left, Yailen Garcia, center, and Mexico's Jessica Rodriguez compete during the Pan American Games women's marathon at Copacabana beach in Rio de Janeiro, on 22 July, 2007. — INTERNET

Bush orders CIA to comply with Geneva Conventions

WASHINGTON, 23 July — US President George W Bush, under fire over the treatment of terrorism suspects, has issued new rules to ensure that detention and interrogation by the CIA comply with the Geneva Conventions' ban on torture.

An executive order from Bush set out how to deal with detainees and gives interrogators from the US spy agency new legal protections against allegations of cruel and inhumane treatment, forbidden by Common Article 3 of the conventions, CIA Director Michael Hayden said on Friday.

The Bush Administration has faced pressure at home and abroad over interrogation techniques used on suspected militants at CIA prisons and other locations, including the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"The order provides specific requirements that ensure a CIA-run terrorist

detention and interrogation programme would be in full compliance with US obligations under Common Article 3," Hayden said in a statement.

"The President's action ... gives us the legal clarity we have sought."

The new order comes 10 months after the Bush Administration was forced to suspend its secret prison system because of a Supreme Court ruling that cast doubt on its legality.

Fewer than 100 detainees, including suspected senior al Qaeda members, were held in CIA secret prisons over a period of five years.

A smaller number were

subjected to what CIA officials describe as "enhanced interrogation measures."

Critics said CIA methods included techniques such as simulated drowning that

amounted to torture. The agency also had been buffeted by media reports that CIA officials refused to carry out interrogations for fear of legal liability.— MNA/Reuters

Floods kill 15 in Bangladesh, thousands stranded

DHAKA, 23 July — At least 15 people have been killed in floods in Bangladesh triggered by heavy monsoon rains over the past three days and nearly half a million stranded in their homes, officials said on Sunday.

Meteorologists said over 100 mm (4 ins) of rain fell in northern areas over the past 24 hours and several rivers had burst their banks.

More than 770 people have died as a result of this year's monsoon season across India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

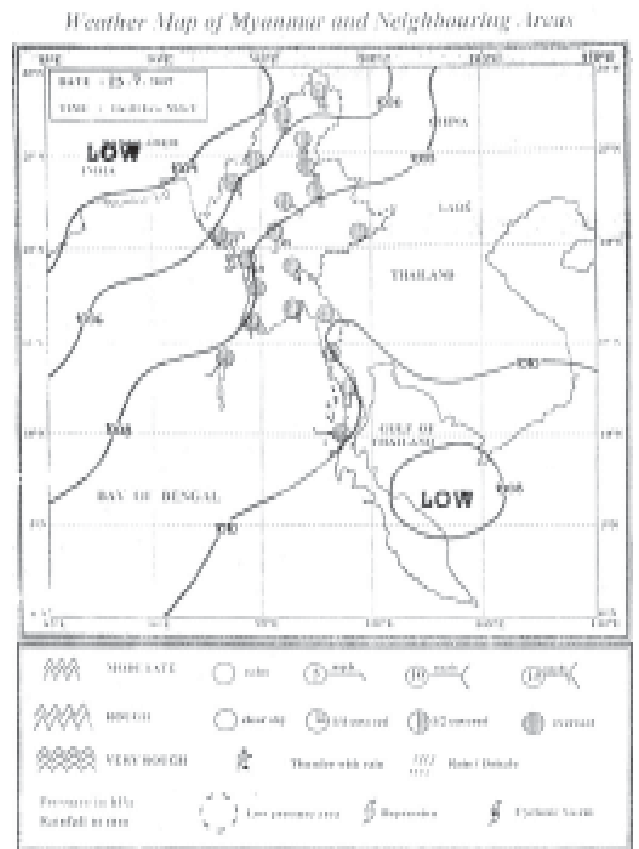
Officials in Bangladesh said floods in rivers in the south and eastern parts of the country had left nearly half a million people stranded in their homes.

More rains have been forecast for the next few

days, the Dhaka weather office said. Streets in the capital were under knee-deep rain water.

The deaths were mostly from house collapses and mudslides, officials said.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Monday, 23 July, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, rain has been isolated in Chin, Kayin and Mon States, scattered in Shan State and Magway Division, fairly widespread in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungdaw (3.11) inches, Hkamti (2.16) inches, Myitkyina (1.53) inches, Homalin (1.49) inches, Sittway (1.22) inches, Meiktila (0.83) inch, Yamethin (0.71) inch, Kalay and Pynmana (0.67) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 22-7-2007 was 83°F. Minimum temperature on 23-7-2007 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 23-7-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 22-7-2007 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 23-7-2007 was (0.83) inch at Mingaladon, (0.04) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (75.85) inches at Mingaladon, (80.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (82.13) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (20:30) hours MST on 22-7-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 24-7-2007: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin, Shan, Mon and Kayin States, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 24-7-2007:** Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 24-7-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 24-7-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 23-7-2007)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Hkamti is (1441) cm. It may remain above its danger level (1360) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.



German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier makes a statement to the media in Berlin on 21 July, 2007. Afghan Taliban rebels said they had killed two German hostages on Saturday, but an Afghan Foreign Ministry official said one of the Germans was still alive and the other had died of a heart attack. — XINHUA



Tuesday, 24 July
View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
 - 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercise
 - 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
 - 7:40 am
 4. Nice and sweet song
 - 7:55 am
 5. ကဗျာပန်းဥယျာဉ်
 - 8:05 am
 6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 8:10 am
 7. Song of yesteryears

- 8:20 am
 8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 8:30 am
 9. International news
 - 8:45 am
 10. Let's Go
 - 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
 - 4:15 pm
 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
 - 4:30 pm
 3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ
 - စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ)
 - 4:45 pm
 4. Dance of national races
 - 5:00 pm
 5. Sing and Enjoy
 - 5:45 pm
 6. အာဆီယံနိုင်ငံများအချင်းချင်း ပေါင်းစပ်ဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း (အာဆီယံဒေသအတွင်း ဝတ်စုံကျင့်ထိန်းသိမ်းရေး

- ပူးပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်မှု
- 6:00 pm
 7. Evening news
 - 6:30 pm
 8. Weather report
 - 6:35 pm
 9. ကြွယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်စွန်းသံ
 - 6:50 pm
 10. သိုင်းခါးရေလွှဲဆည်
 - 6:55 pm
 11. စိုက်ပျိုးလိုသီးပွင့်ကာ အောင်မြင် ခြစည်းရိုး ကြက်ဆူပင် (အနောက် မြောက်တိုင်းစစ်ဌာနချုပ်၊ မုံရွာ)
 - 7:05 pm
 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သန်းတစ်ရာရွှေအိမ်မက်” (အပိုင်း-၁၉)
 - 8:00 pm
 13. News
 14. International news
 15. Weather report
 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ရေသူမလေး ဒုတိယချစ်ပုံပြင်” (အပိုင်း-၃၀)
 17. The next day's programme



Tuesday, 24 July
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
 - Tell me her to make you smile (Aaron Carter)
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
 - If you had my love (Jennifer Lopez)
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
 - Yellow river (Asimou)
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:
 - Somewhere I belong (Linking Park)
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music:
 - Open your heart (Europe)
 - Where does my heart beat now (Celine Dion)
- 9:00 pm English Speaking Course
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9:30 pm Listening pleasure
 - Just between you and me (April Wine)
 - Come back when it ain't raining (Trisha Year Wood)
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

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

Panel of Alternate Chairmen presents collections of suggestions made by NC delegates on laying down detailed basic principles for Chapters “Amendment of the Constitution”, “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital”, “Transitory Provisions” and “General Provisions” to be included in State Constitution



Plenary Session of National Convention in progress at Pyidaungsu Hall in Nyaungnabin Camp. — MNA

YANGON, 23 July — The plenary session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall in Nyaungnabin Camp, Hmawby Township, here, at 9 am.

The Panel of Alternate Chairmen presented collections of suggestions made by NC delegates on laying down detailed basic principles for the chapters “Amendment of the Constitution”, “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital”, “Transitory Provisions” and General Provisions” to be included in the State Constitution to the plenary session of the National Convention.

Present on the occasion were National Convention Convening Commission Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and members, members of National Convention Convening Work Committee, National Convention Convening Management Committee Chairman Maj-Gen Lun Maung

and members, chairmen and officials of sub-committees, delegates of political parties such as National Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party, Union Kayin League, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, independent representatives, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, (See page 8)

Collections of suggestions to be published

YANGON, 23 July— Concerning the suggestions of NC delegates on laying down of detailed basic principles for the chapters “Amendment of the Constitution”, “State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital”, “Transitory Provisions” and “General Provisions” to be included in the State Constitution, the collections of the Panel of Alternate Chairmen on the Chapters “Transitory Provisions” and “General Provisions” presented at the Plenary Session of the National Convention which was held at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaungnabin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division today will be published in the dailies.—MNA