It is an absolute necessity to avoid relying on external powers

At present, our Armed Forces has assumed the various duties of the State, in addition to the duty of national defence. Preparations are being made to be ready in every aspect for a gentle transition to democracy and market-oriented economic system. Failure to make a systematic step-by-step transition from one system to another may endanger the nation and the people. During the transition to an unfamiliar system, countries with greater experience usually interfere and take advantage for their own interests. For this reason, it is an absolute necessity to avoid relying on external powers.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From the address delivered at the parade of 65th Anniversary Armed Forces Day)

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

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

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

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Pakistani President

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—On the occasion of the Anniversary of the Pakistan Day, which falls on 23rd March 2011, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Asif Ali Zardari, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.—MNA

Prime Minister U Thein Sein felicitates Pakistani counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—On the occasion of the Anniversary of the Pakistan Day, which falls on 23rd March 2011, U Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.—MNA

First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues for 13th day

Queries raised and replied, proposals submitted and discussed, approval sought at Pyithu Hluttaw session

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—The 13th day first regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw was held at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today. It was attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

First, the Speaker took position and announced the validity and start of the 13th-day session as 432 or 99.77 percent of 433 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were present.

Of the questions raised by Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, members of union level organization Minister for Immigration and Population and for First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw for 13th day in progress.—MNA

Home Affairs U Maung Oo and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo responded to the questions regarding “change temporary identity card with citizenship scrutinized card” submitted by U Zaw Kir Ahmed (a) U Aung Zaw Win of Maungtaw Constituency, “gambling like our days” submitted by U Saw Thein Aung of Hlaingbwe Constituency, “amnesty” submitted by U Sai Hla Kyaw of Langkho Constituency, “ward and village-tract administration” submitted by U Aung Kyaw Zan of Pauktaw Constituency and “to increase subsidy” submitted by U Aung Zin of Pazundaung Constituency.

(See page 5)
**Delta seeing railroads one after another**

Smooth transport contributes towards regional development and economic growth and fortifies relations and unity between national races.

Being blessed with a large number of watercourses, fertile soil and temperate climate patterns, Ayeyawady Delta is a land of crops, fish, meat and salt. In the past, boat was the only means of transport in the region. Now, the delta has witnessed many roads and railroads.

Pathein (Begaret)-Einme section of Pathein (Begaret)-Einme-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) Railroad Project was put into service on 20 March. The 20-mile section has 46 bridges, large and small, on it. Pathein-Yangon Railroad, 89 miles long, goes through Pathein, Kangyidaunt, Kyaungon, Einme, Pantanaw, Nyaungdon and Hlinethaya townships. When the project is completed, Ayeyawady Region will be able to reduce its expenses on transportation of its local products to markets.

Pathein (Begaret)-Einme-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) Railroad is an artery linking Ayeyawady and Yangon regions. Local people of the delta will be able to travel by train from and to Hinthada, Kyangin, Pakokku and Kalay through Pathein, to Sittway in Rakhine State through Minbu, and to Nay Pyi Taw through Pathein and Yangon. Transporting people and goods by train costs less, but is very effective. The number of railroads across the nation is on the increase, thus contributing to transport and commercial growth of local people.

**Luxury cruise liner of Bahamas visits Myanmar**

**Yangon, 22 March—**A luxury cruise liner namely M.V Crystal Serenity of Bahamas carrying 651 sailors and 664 passengers aboard arrived Thilawa Port of Yangon from Thailand at 3:30 pm today. The 20-mile section has 46 bridges, large and small, on it. Pathein-Yangon Railroad, 89 miles long, goes through Pathein, Kangyidaunt, Kyaungon, Einme, Pantanaw, Nyaungdon and Hlinethaya townships. When the project is completed, Ayeyawady Region will be able to reduce its expenses on transportation of its local products to markets.

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**48th Myanma Gems Emporium concludes with sales figures of 13608 jade lots**

Gem merchants at home and abroad purchasing jade lots through competitive bidding system at 48th Myanma Gems Emporium.—MNA

**Commander attends new tarred road opening ceremony in Hlegu Township**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 22 March—**The opening of new tarred road took place at its archway in Hlegu Township of Yangon Region, attended by Chairman of Yangon Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than.

An official explained salient points of the road and a local spoke words of thanks. Next, officials formally opened the new road and the commander unveiled the archway of the road. Then the commander attended the cash donation ceremony of families of All-Bus Line Supervisory Committee at the head office of the committee.

The commander and officials presented cash donations to five Defence Services Hospitals, 18 People’s Hospitals and 11 social organizations through responsible persons.—MNA

**Kaung Myat Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2011 kicks off**

**Yangon, 22 March—**An opening ceremony of Kaung Myat Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2011, conducted by Myanmar Golf Federation and mainly sponsored by Kaung Myat Co Ltd, took place at Yangon Golf Course (Danyingon) this morning. Vice presidents of MGF U Min Thein and U Aung Kyi, Managing Director of Kaung Myat Co Ltd U Maung Maung Myint, executive director of MGF and Yangon Golf Club U Khun Soe Tha respectively teed off to open the tournament.

Yan Myo Aye with 71 strokes led to the men’s event (open) of the tournament, Min Lagon Ein with 72 strokes and Ye Htet Aung with 73 strokes followed.

**People’s Desire**

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

**Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Pakistani counterpart**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 23 March—**On the occasion of the Anniversary of the Pakistan Day, which falls on 23rd March 2011, U Nyau Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Ms Hina Rabbani Khar, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.—MNA
52 feared dead in Pakistan coal mine explosion

SORANJE, 22 March—Rescuers used shovels and bare hands Monday to dig out miners buried after a gas explosion deep in a coal mine in southwestern Pakistan, lining up wooden caskets to await the bodies from an accident that left 52 feared dead. More than 200 people stood outside the mine waiting to help or hear news from the search, but since the accident Sunday only bodies — 27 of them — have been recovered.

“We have yet to dig out and search the remaining two wings, but there is zero percent chance we can get anybody alive,” said government mine inspector Itikhar Ahmed.

Ahmed said the mine, owned by the state-run Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation, was declared dangerous two weeks ago due to the presence of methane gas, but the warning was ignored by the contractor working it.

Methane gas is a major cause of coal mine explosions around the world. It can cause also cause asphyxiation. Ghulam Mohammad said he feared for the lives of his friends.

Mine workers and residents gather outside a coal mine after an explosion in Soranje near Quetta, Pakistan on Sunday, 20 March, 2011. A methane gas explosion in a coal mine in southwestern Pakistan killed 52, a top mining official said. —INTERNET

Two Americans die when raft overturns in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 22 March—Two tourists from the United States were killed Monday in an accident at the Iguazu Falls on northern Argentina’s border with Brazil, authorities said.

Laura Matejik Eborts, 29, and Philip Mungrove, 70, were in an inflatable boat that flipped over after hitting rocks near the base of the waterfall, said Jorge Veron, an official in Misiones province. He did not release their hometowns. Five other people suffered injuries and were treated at a hospital, Veron said. The injured included one American, two Germans, one Colombian and one Argentine. Veron said authorities were still trying to determine what caused the accident. —INTERNET

Mountain torrent traps 34 students, teachers in jungle

BENTONG, 22 March—A total of 34 people have been trapped in a jungle in Bentong of Pahang, a state in the east coast of Peninsula Malaysia, since Sunday, local media reported on Monday.

The stranded victims, including 16 male students, 13 female students and one teacher from a polytechnic institute in Malacca, a southern state in Peninsula Malaysia, as well as four tour guides, had went jungle-trekking at 3.30 am Saturday.

They were expected to return to the waiting area near a waterfall 5pm Sunday, said a teacher who did not join the group in Bentong on Monday.

The teacher, who has to look after two sick students, said he was waiting for the group at the designated place on Sunday, but had later sought help from the Bentong police station when he still did not see other people returning at 8pm.

Bentong police and the fire and rescue department from two districts have organized a team of 19 to search people returning at 8pm.

Bentong police station when he still did not see other people returning. —Xinhua

US soldier killed in bomb attack in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 22 March—A US soldier was killed when a roadside bomb struck his convoy in southern Iraq, the US military said on Monday.

“A US service member was killed Sunday by wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device while conducting convoy operations in southern Iraq,” the military said in a brief statement.

The name of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement added. The latest death brings the number of US soldiers who have been killed in Iraq to about 4,441, since the breakout of the US-led war on Iraq in 2003, according to media account based on Pentagon figures.

In mid 2010, US troops in Iraq had been reduced to below 50,000. Washington said that the remaining US troops in Iraq are conducting support and training missions. US military forces are to pull out completely from Iraq by the end of 2011 according to the security pact named Status of Forces Agreement, or SOFA, signed in late 2008 between Baghdad and Washington.—Xinhua

Three killed in Iraq’s violence

BAGHDAD, 22 March—Three people were killed and two others were wounded in two attacks in Baghdad and Iraq’s holy Shiite City of Najaf on Monday, the police said.

Gunmen using silenced weapons robbed a jewelry shop and a mobile phone shop in central the city of Najaf, some 160 km south of Baghdad, killing two workers in the shops and stole undetermined amounts of gold and money, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi security forces sealed off the scene and launched an investigation in the incident, the source said. In Baghdad, gunmen in a car opened fire with their silenced weapons at a car carrying an Iraqi Oil Ministry employee and his family, killing his wife and wounding him and his son, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

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Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks continue in the Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease of violence over the past few years. —Xinhua

Afghan security transition to start in seven areas

KABUL, 22 March—Afghan President Hamid Karzai said on Tuesday seven areas, including a key city in a Taleban stronghold in the south, would be among the first to be transferred from NATO forces to Afghan control in July.

Karzai said the relatively peaceful provinces of Bamyan and Parjshir, the western City of Herat, areas around the Capital Kabul, part of Laghman province nearby and Mazar-i-Sharif in the north would be secured by Afghan forces alone from July. The city of Lashikar Gah in volatile Helmand province in the south, long a stronghold of the Taleban, was included in the list. —Reuters
Hluttaw candidates, election agents declared as persons of distorted qualification

The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No.9/2011
3rd Waning of Tabaung, 1372 ME
(22 March, 2011)

Hluttaw candidates and their election agents failed to submit election expenses in the prescribed period declared as persons of distorted qualification

1. According to Section 55 of the respective Hluttaw Election Laws and paragraph 77 of the Rules, Hluttaw candidates and their election agents who run for Multi-party Democracy General Election held on 7 November, 2010 are to submit election expenses to the respective sub-commissions in line with the law during 60 days as of the date the names of the representatives-elect are announced.

2. To be able to decide whether those who fail to submit election expenses in accord with the law should be declared as persons of distorted qualification or not, the Union Election Commission formed election tribunals to check with them.

3. The Election Tribunal found that the following Hluttaw candidates and their election agents failed to submit the election expenses during the prescribed period, and in accord with the Paragraph 83 (a) of the respective Hluttaw Election Rules, declared them as persons of distorted qualification.

4. The Union Election Commission declared that the above-mentioned Hluttaw candidates and their election agents are persons of distorted qualification according to Paragraph 84 of the respective Hluttaw Election Rules after scrutinizing the judgment of Election Tribunal.

5. It is hereby announced that Hluttaw candidates and election agents who are declared as persons of distorted qualification, in accord with the Section 88 of the respective Hluttaw Election Law, shall not contest in the election as a Hluttaw candidate, from the date of this declaration, in the existing Hluttaw term and the next Hluttaw term.

Sd/ Thein Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

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Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee meetings continue

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 March—The First Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee meetings continued at their offices of Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

Chairmen, secretaries and members of respective committee attended the meetings. They participated in discussions on work programme of the committee.—MNA

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Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee meetings continue

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 March—The First Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee meetings continued at their offices of Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

Chairmen, secretaries and members of respective committee attended the meetings. They participated in discussions on work programme of the committees.—MNA
Home Affairs Minister answers question on gambling like ‘Our days’

Nav Pyi Taw, 22 March—At Today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session, U Saw Thein Aung of Hlaing Bwe Constituency raised a question about illegal gambling. He said gambling like ‘Our days’ that can harm the public morality and property is rampant in some regions of the nation as if it were legalized. So, he said he would like to ask whether there is any action taken against it.

In response to the query, Minister for Home Affairs U Maung Oo said that the State enacted the gambling law on 20 October 1986 in accord with the 1986 Pyithu Hluttaw Law No (6). According to gambling law section 2 (a), gambling means playing of games of chance or profession for money or materials no matter how toll is collected or not. According to Section 2 (d), gambling equipment means playing cards, token, coin, table, chart, box, list, and things, animal/vehicle used in gambling.

With Order No 1/87 dated 23-6-1987, the ministry issued gambling procedures. They include the meaning of those involved in gambling, arrest procedures and formation of arrest teams.

Today, fundaars, drama, pagoda festivals and state or regional festivities are only approved by regional authorities in accord with the following rules and regulations.

(a) To ensure a clean and healthy environment in the area of a festivity
(b) To take security measures according to the plan
(c) To hold a festivity within designated days
(d) To stop the festivity immediately if informed that it is not appropriate to keep holding it for reasons of security, epidemic or other emergency cases
(e) To ensure any form of gambling does not take place

These are matters to be dealt with in time of the President and, regarding pardons to prisoners, Section 204 of the Constitution states as follow:-

The President has:
(a) the power to grant a pardon;
(b) the power to grant amnesty in accord with the recommendation of the National Defence and Security Council.

Article 401 (1) of Criminal Act regarding the power of the President to grant pardon to prisoners goes as follows:

(1) When any person has been sentenced to punishment for an offence, the President of the Union may at any time, without conditions or upon any conditions which the President and, regarding pardons to prisoners, Section 204 of the Constitution states as follow:-

(a) To ensure a clean and healthy environment in the area of a festivity
(b) To take security measures according to the plan
(c) To hold a festivity within designated days
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I & P Minister replies to question about “changing temporary identity cards into Citizenship Scrutiny Cards”

Nav Pyi Taw, 22 March—At today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session, U Zaw Kir Ahmed (a) U Aung Zaw Win of Maungtaw Constituency said that 90 percent of the population in Maungtaw of Rakhine State are Temporary Identity Card holders and are encountering difficulties in their education, travelling and business matters. It causes losses not only for the people but for the State. Similar grievances occur in other townships of Rakhine State. He asked when authorities concerned will take measures to change the temporary identity cards of locals in Maungtaw and other townships into Citizenship Scrutiny Cards.

Regarding the question, Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Oo replied that there were two documents, Union Citizenship Act, 1948 and Union Citizenship Act, 1948 which allowed foreigners, half-breeds and those who are on suspicion of citizenship who are residing in the Union of Myanmar before Myanmar Citizenship Law was promulgated on 15 October 1982 to apply for naturalized citizenship. Those who want to apply for naturalized citizenship and live beyond doubt regarding the matter as to whether or not they are citizens can follow these Acts. The State conferred citizenships on those who follow prescribed laws. They have acquired citizenships according to law till present.

After enacting Myanmar Citizenship Law on 15 October, 1982, it was stated that citizens prescribed in the following sections are allowed to hold National Registration Cards.

(A) Section (3): Nationals such as the Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine or Shan and ethnic groups as have settled in any of the territories included within the State as their permanent home from a period anterior to 1185 B.E., 1823 A.D. are Burma citizens.
(B) Section (5): Every national and every person born of parents, both of whom are nationals are citizens by birth.
(C) Section (6): A person who is already a citizen on the date this Law comes into force is a citizen. Action, however, shall be taken under section 18 for infringement of the provision of that section. (Section-18 says “A citizen who has acquired citizenship by making a false representation or by concealment shall have his citizenship revoked, and shall also be liable to imprisonment for a term of ten years and a fine of kyat fifty thousand.”)

First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw...

(from page 1) Pyithu Hluttaw representatives discussed the approved proposal “to make arrangement for submitting a bill which would pave ways for more job opportunities, creating a pleasant work environment and ensuring improvement of workers’ skills at second regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw” submitted by U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency. Members of Union level organization Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi discussed the proposals. The Pyithu Hluttaw sought approval.

After that, U Soe Win of Sagaing Constituency submitted a proposal “to provide financial assistance to Small and Medium Enterprises”. The Pyithu Hluttaw sought the approval to discuss the submitted proposal.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw announced the end of the 136th day first regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw and the 14th day session will be held at 10 am on 23 March (Wednesday).

The session came to an end at 12-40 am.—MNA

administrative and security bodies are taking measures such as banning, exposing cases by themselves stop-it-off and taking action. So, there is no way the State shall not take action against such cases in accord with law. However, to achieve the success, public cooperation is necessary, the minister noted.

These are matters to be dealt with in time of the new administration.—MNA

I & P Minister replies to question about “changing temporary identity cards into Citizenship Scrutiny Cards”
I & P Minister replies to question about...  
(from page 5)

and the other is born of parents, one of whom is an associate citizen and the other a naturalized citizen. If firm evidences are not shown, naturalization cannot be made. Persons have been made citizens or citizen and the other a naturalized citizen.

Section (42): Persons who have entered and resided under Section 42 and 43 of Myanmar Citizenship Law, 1982 cannot be made. Persons have been made citizens or citizen and the other a naturalized citizen.

A & I Minister responds to question about increasing subsidy

Home Affairs Minister replies to questions on ward/village administration

Take Fire Preventive Measures
Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein responding to question.— MNA

Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein said that the government is placing much emphasis not only on development of agricultural sector but also on being an industrial-developed nation. In importing materials and goods, the government gives priority to import of industrial raw materials needed for national building tasks and household items. For industrial development, import of goods that can be produced in the country is limited and encouragements are given to produce import-substitute goods. Regarding the import of heavy machinery, priority is given to import of machinery, trucks and public buses more than 500 cars a month.

It can be seen as a tradition that every country is trying every possible way for development of their countries. With joint venture system, China and India manufactured cars in cooperation with foreign car companies before Cherry wagon and (Narno) Tar Tar cars. They got experiences in car manufacturing. In 18 industrial zones, there are 300 carmakers. Ministry of Industry-2 and private companies manufacture more than 10,000 cars a year. During the period from 2003-04 to 2010-11, 65975 cars have been manufactured there. In manufacturing cars, most of engine parts and car bodies are imported from the foreign countries.

The question of use of new cars in public transport sector could benefit is put into practice from their standpoints. But, due to traffic jam caused by small cars, even some developed countries have disadvantages such as traffic jam, more fuel consumption and having effects on domestic industries by allowing import of cars from foreign countries, etc. So, the directives shall not be abolished because the government is putting limit on import of cars under 2000cc at present time. Restricion on import of single items is not usually prescribed by the law and import and export procedures are occasionally issued.

It is not possible to put the points included in the question into practice. According to the nature of selling and buying private property privately, the auction of cars by both the government and the private enterprises are not popular in international. Government-owned old vehicles are being substituted with new cars of Industry-2. As government’s intervention in private sector has become unpopular in international, the wish to take in the private sector by the government is outdated during the period of transition to market-oriented system.

Regarding the question to reduce tax rate on import of new cars, Customs Department exercised trade revenue and custom duties on import of cars since the department announced the list of old-burned customs duties in accordance with Yunnan Province including Xishuangbanna region like the hilly region of U Tun Kyaw are growing coffee, tea and rubber. Such long-term cultivation can earn more income and maintain more fertile soil than slash-and-burn farming. It is therefore needed to work for the benefit of all here.

Regarding the matter of harming morality of staff from checkpoints and bribery cases, the minister said checkpoints are opened to inspect arms, explosives and drugs for security of the lives and property of the people. But there were some cases in which smugglers offered bribes to staff in order to smuggle out their illegal goods and some cases in which some corrupt staff took bribes from merchants. Such cases are being exposed and under investigation and action is being taken. So, the people are urged to cooperate in eliminating smuggling and bribery by informing authorities concerned about such cause if there is any. —MNA

The New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 23 March, 2011

Commerce Minister responds to query about transport of rice to Shan State (North)

Nav Pyi Taw, 22 March.— At today’s Amyotha Hluttaw session, representative Dr Myat Nya Soe of Yangon Region Constituency-4 put a question about “permit for import of cars under 2000cc”.

He said that he would like to put a question on import permit for cars under 2000cc with a view to promoting the living standards of the people according to Section 36 and Sub-section (c) in Chapter-1 of the Constitution, based on six basic principals of the State.

As government’s intervention in private sector has become outdated during the period of transition to market-oriented system.

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Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein responding to question.— MNA

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It can be seen as a tradition that every country is trying every possible way for development of their countries. With joint venture system, China and India manufactured cars in cooperation with foreign car companies before Cherry wagon and (Narno) Tar Tar cars. They got experiences in car manufacturing. In 18 industrial zones, there are 300 carmakers. Ministry of Industry-2 and private companies manufacture more than 10,000 cars a year. During the period from 2003-04 to 2010-11, 65975 cars have been manufactured there. In manufacturing cars, most of engine parts and car bodies are imported from the foreign countries.

The question of use of new cars in public transport sector could benefit is put into practice from their standpoints. But, due to traffic jam caused by small cars, even some developed countries have disadvantages such as traffic jam, more fuel consumption and having effects on domestic industries by allowing import of cars from foreign countries, etc. So, the directives shall not be abolished because the government is putting limit on import of cars under 2000cc at present time. Restricion on import of single items is not usually prescribed by the law and import and export procedures are occasionally issued.

It is not possible to put the points included in the question into practice. According to the nature of selling and buying private property privately, the auction of cars by both the government and the private enterprises are not popular in international. Government-owned old vehicles are being substituted with new cars of Industry-2. As government’s intervention in private sector has become unpopular in international, the wish to take in the private sector by the government is outdated during the period of transition to market-oriented system.

Regarding the question to reduce tax rate on import of new cars, Customs Department exercised trade revenue and custom duties on import of cars since the department announced the list of old-burned customs duties in accordance with Yunnan Province including Xishuangbanna region like the hilly region of U Tun Kyaw are growing coffee, tea and rubber. Such long-term cultivation can earn more income and maintain more fertile soil than slash-and-burn farming. It is therefore needed to work for the benefit of all here.

Regarding the matter of harming morality of staff from checkpoints and bribery cases, the minister said checkpoints are opened to inspect arms, explosives and drugs for security of the lives and property of the people. But there were some cases in which smugglers offered bribes to staff in order to smuggle out their illegal goods and some cases in which some corrupt staff took bribes from merchants. Such cases are being exposed and under investigation and action is being taken. So, the people are urged to cooperate in eliminating smuggling and bribery by informing authorities concerned about such cause if there is any. —MNA

The New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 23 March, 2011

Commerce Minister responds to query about transport of rice to Shan State (North)

Nav Pyi Taw, 22 March.— Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Tin Kyaw of Shan State Constituency-10 put a question about transportation of rice at today’s Amyotha Hluttaw session.

Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein responded to the question saying his question was found to be the same as that of Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Tin Tun (a) U Min Tun of Hsipaw Township Constituency and it was already answered on 11-3-2001.

Regarding the fact that 16th Mile Checkpoint between Mandalay and PyinOoLwin is imposing a restriction on transport of rice to Shan State (North) and coordination is necessary to do so, the camp is not be opened with the aim of restricting the flow of commodities. It is opened for security reasons to check arms, ammunition, explosives and narcotic drugs.

In the past, 16th Mile Checkpoint prioritized security and later on, measures had to be taken to check whether restricted items were carried or not as there had been cases of carrying illegal goods. The camp seized illegal general goods worth K 93.90 million, narcotic drugs worth K 698.40 million and jewellery worth K 2010.10 million in 2009-2010 fiscal year. For the seizure of smuggled goods by the checkpoints along Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Road, general goods worth K 2328.96 million, drugs worth K 940.41 million and jewellery worth K 452.10 million were confiscated in 2009-2010 financial year, and general goods worth K 4482.49 million, drugs worth K 213.02 million an jewell- ery worth K 3086.44 million in 2010-2011 financial year.

Permission has been given to transport local foodstuffs for the people of the townships of Shan State (North). But for transportation of crops such as rice, beans and pulses and wheat that are likely to be smuggled out, they can be transported only after being checked by the camp whether they have been approved or not. It is learned that for the people of Shan State (North), rice merchants are distributing about 2000 bags of rice a month and rice merchants associations from states and regions and rice merchants distributed 280960 bags of rice for the year 2010.

It is not necessary to offer bribes to any checkpoints, including 16th Mile Camp, for distribution and transportation of rice by merchants and if there is any bribery case, complaint can be lodged for taking action.

In the past, rice was distributed to Laukkai and other regions after seeking approval from the said camp. Now again, permission is being granted to do so for townships in need of rice.

Concerning the matter of profit loss because of failture to transport rice from one region to another and purchase of rice from black market by the local people at highprice, the minister clarified that in the past Ayeyawady Region alone was regarded as the granary of Myanmar. Thanks to the guidance of the Head of State and efforts of local authorities and peasants, Bago Region, Sagaing Region and Rakhine State have enjoyed rice sufficiency as well as surplus rice. The government is also encouraging boosting production of rice in other states and regions requiring rice. Now, the whole nation produces 12 million tons of rice and the amount of rice distributed to the regions by major rice producing regions is only 1.2 million tons, accounting for one-tenth of the nation’s total rice production. So, that amount cannot affect the peasants of rice producing townships. It seems that there is no cases of buying rice from black market as rice shops in every town and market are selling their rice normally and openly. It is necessary for regions with rice sufficiency to boost produc- tion and for regions with insufficient rice to make efforts for self-sufficiency. Then, the nation will restore the status of becoming the largest rice exporter of the world. Some nations have offered to grow and produce rice by hiring authorities concerned about such cause if there is any. —MNA

The New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 23 March, 2011
Proposal “to provide financial assistance to Small and Medium Enterprises” submitted

Nav Pyi Taw, 22 March—According to Pyithu Hluttaw session, Pyithu Hluttaw sought the approvals to discuss the proposals submitted by the representatives. U Soe Win of Sanyangyo Constituency submitted a proposal “to provide financial assistance to Small and Medium Enterprises”. It was seconded by Daw Mi Myint Than of Mon State. The Hluttaw decided whether to accept the proposal.

The Hluttaw announced that representatives can submit a new proposal “to assist farmers in getting reasonable price of paddy” submitted by U Kyaw Thein of Mon State Constituency No.4.

After that, the approval of Amyotha Hluttaw was sought and the Hluttaw decided whether to accept the proposal.

L&F Minister responds to query on “high tax being paid by fisherman”

Nav Pyi Taw, 22 March—According to Amyotha Hluttaw session, Amyotha Hluttaw representative Dr Banyar Aung Moe of Constituency-7 of Mon State said that collecting tax should be done fairly in accord with the law; tax should not spoil production and enterprise; if the industry was destroyed, revenue would decrease; if the tax is collected unfairly, the revenue fisheries yearly than that collected at present; he made the question with the intention of increasing revenue of the State; local people catching fish inshore are paying high taxes which force them to stop the business, leave the native land and work in other countries. He asked whether the government knows this situation or not and whether reasonable measures should be taken for recovery from this situation or not.

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein answered the query that the ministry is planning sustainable development of fisheries industry with the objectives of fisheries sufficiency in the whole nation, nutrition development of entire nation, uplifting of health and fitness of the entire nation and individual fish consumption. In supervising the administrative sector, Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, four fisheries laws were issued and tasks to ensure sustainable development of the fisheries sector, to prevent fish species extinction, to prevent water of fish breeding from degradation, to collect reasonable taxes which the State should get and to administer the fishery industry under the law — are being carried out.

In doing so, 561540 tons of salt-water fish were produced in 1998 and individual fish consumption is 17 kg from 2010-2011. The Ministry of Law and Order Reform-Council assumed responsibility of the State. In 2009-2010, the production of salt-water fish reached to 2060780 tons and average individual fish consumption increased to 4.3 kg. Consumption increases yearly in parallel with increasing fish production.

In 2000-2001 fiscal year, 49670 tons of salt-water fish were produced and average individual fish consumption is 23 kg. In 2008-2009, 1867510 tons of salt-water fish were produced and average individual consumption is 43 kg.

The Fisheries Department is registering fishing boats and fishermen and taxing under Myanma Salt-water Fishery Law. Marine products are resources owned by the State. So, the State is taxing breeding entrepreneurs and marine workers at the rates set in Notification No (5/2005) and (7/2003) of the Fishery Department.

The tax rates for offshore fish is K 200 per ton, for inshore fish is K 300 per ton, for motorboat with cost of K 3000 to K 11000. Marine workers are systematically registered and being charged K 500 for registration fee but the offshore marine workers are not charged.

Taxation is to be very low for marine workers in comparison with current price of a yiss of fish. No fisherman has so far made complaints about the taxes imposed by the Department of Fisheries.


Likewise, production of sea-water fish, numbers of onshore and offshore trawlers, tax, average consumption of fish of individual in Ye and Yebyu Townships ranges from 1740 marine workers in 2009-2010.

Minister for Livestock & Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein replying to queries.—

According to the above figures, tax collected by Fishery Department in Ye and Yebyu Townships ranges between K 3500 and K 11000 for the whole year. The rate is fair and would not be tax burden for those fishermen. Fishery department grants tax exemption on small fishing gears. The number of fishermen is on the increase yearly.

The aims of tax collection by Fishery Department are to register systematically, to manage and to collect tax that the government should deserve. Fishery Department is making the arrangement to conserve resources in order to exploit fish resources.

According to the figures compiled by Fishery Department, fishermen from Mon State and Ye and Yebyu Townships in Taninthayi Region do not have to pay heavy tax.

Taxes collected by the government are not too much. So, the factor does not cause a halt to fishing industry. According to statistics, there were no any dramatic drop in the number of fishery entrepreneurs and fishermen.

According to the statistics of Fishery Department, there are no decrease in the number of trawlers, fishery entrepreneurs and fishermen. Fishermen working on managerial scale are doing their traditional businesses in their own regions. Fishery Department has issued announcements and restrictions for preserving fish resources. In order to boost fish resources, the Department puts fishes and prawns into the sea. To create better eco-system for plants and animals, mangrove swamps, in which fishes breed are grown. The Department also educates fishermen to follow code of conduct for responsible fisheries.

After asking and answering queries, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker discussed that according to provisions of the Hluttaw, asking and answering questions shall be allowed only at one hour of morning session, that but there is a reason to allow it till over 2 pm by the Hluttaw Speaker; that Article 11 Sub-section (a) of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar prescribes that three soverignty—legislative power, administrative power and judicial power are to be separately practiced with check and balance system; that Hluttaw is a sovereign organization; that so it is important to know administrative and judicial sector thoroughly.
If entire people including U Za Khun Ting Ring and representatives participate in processes being implemented in accordance with the constitution, eternal peace will be achieved in the whole country including Kachin State

Shwe Lwin Thein Ko

The session came to close on 23 March.
Power plant which can generate 10 megawatt is considered as the small one, he added.

He continued to say that according to the survey, waterpower at Bontala waterfall can be used to generate at least 1.8 megawatt. A hydro power plant at Bontala waterfall can be the small one and can generate only for the local community. It is not a heavy hydro power station, the minister said.

According to the Section-188 in the 2008 Constitution, Schedule Two, Page 189. Paragraph 4 (a) says “Medium and small scale electric power production and distribution: that have the right to be managed by the Region or State not having any link with national power grid, except large scale electric power production and distribution having the right to be managed by the Union”.

Therefore, building a small hydro power plant is within rights of respective state government and the proposal should be put forward to the Chin State government. Besides, private and foreign investments are a must to invite foreign companies to build building power plants and selling the electricity. Therefore, the proposal for building a heavy hydro power plant at Bontala waterfall in Matupi Township should not be brought to Amyotha Hluttaw as the proposal is not eligible to be carried out by the Union. Therefore, the proposal should be withdrawn.

But, he said that he assumed that the proposal of U Tin Maung Win is aimed to protect rights of workers in accord with law. The existing laws on labour are out of date and therefore should be amended.

He then suggested that the bill should be practical and acceptable. Regarding compensation for workers’ injury, there may be cases of injury due to drinking at work. The bill should be practical and fair for both parties. Labour laws of counties whose conditions are almost the same with Myanmar should be taken into consideration in passing the law.

In response to the discussion, Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi said that the government set up a central group in 1.7.2009 with a view to creating jobs and improving skills of workers. The meeting of that central group carried out two duties—reopening of labour exchange offices and improving skills of labour.

Altogether 77 labour exchange offices were reopened in July 2009, which led to an increase in employment rate from previous 112305 to 265694. But, at present laws supporting labour exchange works have not desirable effects for various reasons and so a law that can support more effectively labour exchange works and promotion of job opportunities.

It is important for employers and employees to be able to sign employment contract for ensuring peace at worksite and fair treatment. In accord with rules and laws practiced internationally, Ministry of Labour issued a directive in Notification No. 55 dated 31.12.1976, to sign employment contacts between employers and employees, with a view to ensuring employees enjoy full rights described in labour laws.

In accord with rules and laws practiced internationally, Ministry of Labour issued a directive in Notification No. 55 dated 31.12.1976, to sign employment contacts between employers and employees, with a view to ensuring employees enjoy full rights described in labour laws, disciplined working, good relations between employers and employees, peace at worksite and increased productivity. In response to the directive, employment contracts have been signed in 5817 factories, workshops and departments till 28 February 2011. However, there should be law supporting the notification.
Labour Minister and four representatives...

(from page 10)

Improving the skills of workers is part of the strategy for national development. According to labour statistics taken yearly, there were 793,300 workers in private industry and joint ventures, 285,932 self-employed and manual labourers, totaling 3,652,625 in 2010. The proficiency of that workforce lagged behind in productivity and competitiveness and thus its should be improved to a certain extent as technologies is developing at great pace across the globe and Myanmar is also seeing industrial development. So, a large number of training programmes will be needed to bridge the skill gap of labourers.

Governmental Training School, Government Technical Institutes and Government Technical Colleges run by Ministry of Science and Technology can effectively improve the skills of future workforce. Likewise, training schools of Ministry of Industry-2 and other ministries can also contribute a great deal to the future workforce. But, the State alone cannot handle the problem and employers and employees should also cooperate with the government in union. With workers getting skills improved, their working standards will also get improved increasing per capita income. And the employers will also have the capability to boost production both in quality and quantity.

Labour Ministry set up National Skill Standard Authority (NSSA) under permission of the government of the Union of Myanmar with the participation of ministries and private entrepreneurs in 2007 to establish strong skill recognition system in its bid to standardize skill standard of Myanmar workers with ASEAN nations. From 2008 to 2010, a total of 15 kinds of skill standard have been set in line with norms of ASEAN Skill Standard. The ministry has also found 14 standardization committees and trying to confer proficiency certificates.

Of the many options that the government can choose for human resources development and improving skills of workers, levy and grant system is founded to be successful approach in developing and developed countries. The system is in practice in over 30 nations including Singapore, Malaysia and the Republic of Korea. So, the ministry should observe the system thoroughly so that its can be practiced if necessary.

The Ministry of Labour would arrange for submitting a bill (draft) for vocation and proficiency development law, if Pyithu Hluttaw allow, said the minister.

Next, the hluttaw speaker said that discussion of four representatives and Labour Minister is constructive and points out the importance of investment, technology and management in a work to be successful. The hluttaw approved and accepted the proposal.

Metro says net profit more than doubled in 2010

BERLIN, 22 March—

Metro, the third biggest retail group worldwide, said Tuesday that 2010 sales and earnings had risen on most markets and gave a qualified upbeat outlook for this year as well. The group said sales had gained a modest 2.6 percent to 67.3 billion euros ($96.2 billion) while net profit more than doubled to 850 million from 383 million in 2009.

Metro executives planned to recommend a dividend of 1.35 euros per share for the 2010 exercise, up from 1.18 euros a year earlier, a statement said.

No country for Alzheimer’s patients

BEIJING, 22 March—

Xu Rennin’s favourite activity is to ride in an elevator, up and down, up and down. He prefers this to joining other patients in the recreation room of a Beijing nursing home. The 73-year-old Alzheimer’s sufferer often isolates himself from human contact by plugging cotton balls into his ears.

“When he first came in here, he urinated and defecated everywhere,” said Wang Yingli, a nurse at the home. “Who would have thought that this man used to be an aviation engineer?”

The Chinese Committee for Alzheimer’s Disease International estimated that in 2009 China had more than 6 million Alzheimer’s patients. Today it’s more than 10 million.

Most people in China with Alzheimer’s have no insurance or professional help, according to medical and social experts.

“In China’s battle against aging, the scariest part is not our enormous and rapidly increasing aged population,” said Liu Hongchen, deputy secretary-general of China Aging Development Foundation. “It’s how we deal with Alzheimer’s and other dementia diseases.”

“Once a 90-year-old granny woke up on a peaceful morning and said to me in great fear that an earthquake had happened and she needed to escape from the building,” said Zhang Danuo, a full-time volunteer who has looked after 60 to 70 Alzheimer’s patients in Beijing Songtang Caring Hospice since 2003. Zhang, 39, knew from experience that confrontation and correction wouldn’t work. So he lied to the woman, telling her that authorities from the Earthquake Administration said there was indeed an earthquake, but it was not a major one and there was no need to panic or escape. “The old granny then loosened her strained nerves and felt safe again,” Zhang said.

Japan quake leads GM Korea to cut production

SEOUL, 22 March—

Metro, the third biggest retail group worldwide, said Tuesday that 2010 sales and earnings had risen on most markets and gave a qualified upbeat outlook for this year as well. Internet

The South Korean unit of General Motors said Monday it would reduce production this week by up to 10 percent because of a possible lack of parts from Japan following the devastating earthquake.

GM Korea — formerly GM Daewoo — said it would stop four hours a day of overtime work from Monday at its plants in the western city of Bupyeong and in the southwestern port of Gunsan.

The company said it would also suspend eight hours a day of extra work during the weekend at Gunsan. But it will maintain its current work schedule at its plant in the southern city of Changwon.

“Overall, up to 10 percent of production will be reduced,” a GM Korea spokesman said.

“The move is temporary, and our company will decide whether to reduce production next week while watching the situation in Japan,” he said.

GM owns a 70.1 percent stake in GM Korea, the manufacturing base for smaller vehicles for the Detroit-based carmaker. Its market share in South Korea was just around eight percent last year.

South Korea’s top automaker Hyundai Motor and its affiliate Kia Motors said they have not been affected by the 11 March quake and tsunami in Japan.

People celebrate traditional festival Nowruz in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, on 21 March, 2011. Nowruz, which usually occurs on 21 March, marks the first day of spring and the beginning of the new year in Iranian calendar.
HAILING THE 66th ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

Tatmadaw marching forward with public support and participation

Myat Phone Lu

Only when the Tatmadaw is strong, will the nation be strong

The Tatmadaw is the strongest national force guiding the nation and the people through national politics. It is also the people’s Tatmadaw born in the independence struggles that has been standing firm by the nation and the people since then. Myanmar regained independence and has stood tall as a sovereign country again in the international community the moment thanks to the brilliant performances of the Tatmadaw in the course of its history. So, Myanmar people could throw off the yoke of the colonial rule and become independent people. In addition, the Tatmadaw safeguards the lives and property of national people. It managed to save the nation and the people from threats whenever the nation was on the edge of losing sovereignty, and the nation and the people were standing on an abyss, and the nation is hovering on the verge of threats to security, stability and peace. Historic events reveal that the Tatmadaw faced tremendous challenges to achieve the nation’s independence and safeguard the independence and sovereignty. The Tatmadaw has been able to cope with times of emergency four times that can lead to collapse of the Union: multicoloured armed insurrection that surfaced in 1948-49, fierce conflicts among political parties in 1958, demands for federal system in 1962, and 1988 unrest.

Today, the Tatmadaw stands as the major national force to serve the interests of the nation and the people, guiding the country to democracy. It is implementing the State’s seven-step Road Map it has laid down for democratization as inspired by the people, while restoring stability and peace and scaling up national development. Since its unavoidable assumption of State duties, the Tatmadaw has given the top priority to the rule of law and community peace. In the meantime, it has been implementing national plans to improve infrastructures in the political, economic and social fields to achieve national reconsolidation and economic growth and shaping the future of the nation. As a result, the nation is now in a position to enjoy the sweet taste of significant development in the political, economic, social, education, health and transport spheres. And the people have a promising future ahead of them.

The Tatmadaw government upholds national cause in fulfilling the wishes and hopes of the people. It has been working incessantly to introduce the multiparty democracy system and the market economy to the nation, and the development today Myanmar enjoys is amazing. Investments from sources inside and outside the country are on the increase. The domestic market has been linked with ASEAN market, Asian market and international market. The nation’s productivity, trade and service have met the international level. The nation has opened a new chapter of border trade. The nation has witnessed a lot of positive changes in terms of transport, ICT and health care alongside a massive number of infrastructural buildings such as roads, railroads, bridges, dams, hospitals, health centres, schools, universities and colleges. The agricultural and industrial sectors have made considerable progress, as evidenced by more and more industrial zones and economic zones. The nation has seen national entrepreneurs, middle-class people, experts, mechanized farming and class of modern workers which are necessary for the market economy.

Achievement of national reconsolidation is the greatest among the landmarks the nation has seen due to the efforts of the Tatmadaw. For over 40 years from the regaining of independence, the nation was in a state of panic owing to mushrooming multicoloured insurgent groups and national race armed groups. The AFPFL government, the Revolutionary Council government and the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party government tried in vain many times for building peace with armed groups. Learning lessons from past historic incidents, the Tatmadaw government made reforms and showed benevolent attitude to national race armed groups without seeking any political gains through peace talks. So far, 17 major national race armed groups and over 20 small groups have returned to the legal fold. With peace and stability, it has adopted many projects for progress of border areas and national races.

Now, many peace groups have been transformed into border guard forces in line with the provisions of the constitution to share national defence duties for perpetual peace. Many other groups are gearing themselves for transformation. Ere long, all of the border areas can be guaranteed eternal peace. The transformation of peace groups into border guard forces gives further impetus to the process of building a new nation through peace. If and when all national race armed groups join the Tatmadaw to guard the nation, there will be great security, stability, peace and gradual development across the nation.

It is said that today, every country stands with political might, economic might and military might. Political might is the strength of national unity and collaboration. If the people are not politically united, the strength of the nation will ebb away. Therefore, the people have to work hard to be able to stand on their own feet with economic growth. The nation also needs a strong Tatmadaw capable of defending the country and the people against threats. Only with a strong Tatmadaw, will the nation win respect and admiration from other countries.

All the efforts the Tatmadaw government has been making with might and main are designed to boost the three types of might. In spite of varieties of attacks, accusations and criticisms, the Tatmadaw with fine traditions will remain united as the motto “Whoever divides us, we will remain united” in implementing tasks in the interests of the nation and the people.

Now, the seven-step Road Map is in its sixth and seventh steps. Hluttaws are now in session with people’s representatives and have formed the three bodies to exercise the three sovereign powers: Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Union government and Union Supreme Court. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw practices legislative power; Union government, executive power; and Union Supreme Court, judicial power in accordance with the constitution to satisfy the public aspiration of building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation.

If the people of us aspire to sustainable development of the nation, we will have to strengthen the Tatmadaw to safeguard sovereignty of the nation, to mobilize public participation in national security and defence tasks, and fortify the political might, economic might and military might for perpetuation of sovereignty. Whatever government is in office, it has to strengthen the Tatmadaw and to mobilize the participation of the entire people in national defence duties in accordance with the provisions of the constitution.

The entire people place support and trust in the Tatmadaw government’s nation-building movements. The people’s cooperation with the Tatmadaw implies the people are in fear of recurrence of instability, unrest and violence that can harm State stability, peace, development and social and economic opportunities. The people are in support of and are working with the Tatmadaw government in the plans for sustainable development of the nation and smooth and peaceful transition to democracy.

The Tatmadaw managed to accomplish the operations for independence. It has been able to safeguard independence, sovereignty and the people and produce good results in building a new nation. As a gesture of honouring the 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, I write this article to declare that the people are in support of the objectives: to participate in the leading role of State’s national politics hand in hand with the people, and to build a strong, competent and modern patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes.

Translation: MS
Colorado wildfires threaten hundreds of homes

DENVER, 22 March — Three wildfires fueled by tinder-dry vegetation and fanned by high winds forced the evacuation of 320 homes in the foothills west of Denver on Monday, fire officials said. The largest blaze, the Indian Gulch fire, has blackened 700 acres and its threatening 750 homes, Jacki Kelley, spokeswoman for the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office, told Reuters. The fire is burning through rugged terrain west of Golden, Colorado. “There are no roads to the site, so the guys are fighting it from the ground,” Kelley said.

No structures have burned but 100 homeowners closest to the fire were ordered to evacuate after high winds blew flames within a half-mile of the subdivision, she said. The remaining 650 homeowners in the subdivision were warned to prepare to leave their homes “on short notice,” should the fire make a run in their direction.—Reuters

People attend the parade celebrating the St Patrick’s Day in Montreal, Canada, on 20 March, 2011. Tens of thousands of Canadian partipated in a gorgeous parade in downtown Montreal on Sunday.—Xinhua

Man rescued after falling into swirling sewer

SEATTLE, 22 March — A worker swept more than 3,000 feet through untreated wastewater in an underground sewer pipe was safely rescued with minor injuries on Monday after a 15-minute nightmarish ordeal.

The sewer worker somehow became entangled inside an 80-foot-deep access shaft and was “swung away by the flow” in the pipe that ran 150 feet underground, said Terry Soden, maintenance and operations manager of Chambers Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant near Tacoma, Washington.

The water surge initially carried the worker downstream at about five miles per hour through the darkened pipe, which measured six feet in diameter. But as the pipe narrowed, the worker managed to brace himself against a grate and get his bearings, Soden told Reuters.—Reuters

Electrocuted US man gets new face

BOSTON, 22 March — A young man horri-fically injured by an electric shock while working in a cherry picker has successfully received the United States’ first full face transplant, a Boston hospital said Monday.

Dallas Wiens, 25, can look forward to a new life with a donated face attached last week by a 30-strong team at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, which said it was “the first full face transplant” performed in the country.

Although plastic surgeons could not restore Wiens’s sight, he is otherwise on the road to recovery and already chatting, the lead doctor, Bohdan Pomahac, told a press conference.

“He’s awake and talking on a cell phone,” he said.

“This undated handout image courtesy of Lightchaser Photography, shows surgical staff taking Dallas Wiens to post-op following face transplant surgery in Boston, Massachusetts. Dallas Wiens, 25, can look forward to a new life with a donated face attached last week by a 30-strong team at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, which said it was “the first full face transplant” performed in the country.—Xinhua

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Ministry of Rail Transportation

MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO SEALED TENDERS

1. Sealed Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro;

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<td>7 Items</td>
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<td>Sleeper Production</td>
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2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 22.3.2011 during office hours and for further details, please contact: Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botataung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 95-1-291994.

Ministry of Rail Transportation

Myanma Railways

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**Sports**

**French star Ribery seeks redemption from 2010**

PARIS, 22 March—France playmaker Franck Ribery, back in the national team for the first time since the World Cup fiasco, apologised on Monday for his behaviour in the run up to and down to the 2010 season.

Before his first press conference since the World Cup, Ribery read a statement in which he explained how he “got it wrong in his behaviour as a footballer (during) a horrible 2010 from all points of view.”

“I took the wrong roads, I lost myself,” said Ribery. The 28-year-old had a season to forget in 2009/2010 as he struggled with injury, is under investigation for his involvement in an alleged under-age call-girl scandal and was banned for the Champions League final defeat to Inter Milan after being sent-off in the first leg of the semi-final against Lyon.—Internet

**Smukulis takes first stage of cycling Tour of Catalonia**

MADRID, 22 March—Latvia’s Gatis Smukulis of HTC-Highroad won the first stage of the Tour of Catalonia, a 166.9-kilometre (103.5-mile) ride that started and ended in Lloret de Mar on Monday.

The 23-year-old completed the stage, which included two first category climbs, in four hours, eight minutes and 48 seconds, 28 seconds ahead of Italy’s sprint ace Alessandro Petacchi of Lampre.

Three-time Tour de France champion Alberto Contador finished 11th on the stage in the peloton after his Saxo Bank team helped reduce the large gap the stage winner had built up. Contador, who will miss this week’s International Cycling Union’s decision on the 2010 decision by his national federation to exonerate him over a positive doping test, was second to his teammate Christian Noboa of Ecuador after he crossed the finish line to win the first stage of the Tour of Catalonia cycling race, in Lloret de Mar.—INTERNET

**Gullit out of luck again**

MOSCOW, 22 March—Ruud Gullit is still searching for his first Russian League win after his Chechen side Terek Grozny were beaten 2-0 by Rubin Kazan.—INTERNET

**Ankle injury rules out an Afghancrash**

LAGOS, 22 March—Nigerian footballers suffered a huge blow on Monday when star goalkeeper Vincent Enyeama was ruled out of this weekend’s 2012 Africa Cup of Nations qualifier against Ethiopia because of an ankle injury. The 28-year-old Nigerian player of the year who had wanted to stay and play for his Israeli club Hapoel Tel Aviv preferred he did not.

“Enyeama told head coach, Samson Siasia, that he has an ankle injury which he has been treating with pain killers, but his Israeli club Hapoel Tel Aviv have now ordered him to rest,” said Ademola Ofajere, spokesperson for the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF).—INTERNET

**German replaces Serb at South African club**

JOHANNESBURG, 22 March—German Ernst Middendorp has replaced Serb Zoran Filipovic as coach of struggling South African Premiership outfit Lamontville Golden Arrows, the club said on Monday. The Durban team axed the 58-year-old former Montenegro national coach after a nine-match winless run in the richest football championship on the continent which left them five points above the drop zone.

Middendorp, who is six years younger than the man he succeeds, was axed 10 days ago by Maritzburg United, another other side trying to avoid finishing second last above Mamelandal Black Aces and going into promotion play-offs.

The German previously coached leading South African team Kaizer Chiefs. Ghanaian giants Asante Kotoko and Hearts of Oak and has also worked in China, Cyprus, Iran and his homeland.

**Injured Naismith to miss Brazil friendly**

RANGERS midfielder Steven Naiwmth

Glasgow, 22 March—Rangers midfielder Steven Naismith has withdrawn from the Scotland squad for Sunday’s friendly with Brazil with hamstring and groin injuries, assistant manager Peter Houston has confirmed. Naismith was injured in Sunday’s Scottish League Cup final win over Celtic at Hampden and did not join the rest of the Scotland players who flew out from Glasgow for a week’s training camp in Spain.

Goalkeeper Cameron Bell has been drafted in as a replacement for Ian Turner who called off with injury over the weekend. Scotland assistant coach Houston said: “Steven has a hamstring and groin injury from yesterday and Ian Turner is also out.”

**Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8), of Russia, goes airborne while trying to shoot against the Detroit Red Wings in the third period of an NHL hockey game in Detroit, 16 March, 2011. Detroit won 3-2.—INTERNET

**Capitals’ Alex Ovechkin out 7-10 days with injury**

ARLINGTON, 22 March—The Washington Capitals want Alex Ovechkin as healthy as possible for the playoffs, so he’s getting some downtime.

Coach Bruce Boudreau said Monday that Ovechkin will be sidelined for seven to 10 days with an undisclosed injury.

“He’s been bothered by this nagging ailment for a couple of months,” Boudreau said. “We just thought we’d take care of it now. His body needs a little bit of rest. We thought this was a good time to rest his body for a week to two weeks so he’s fresh come April.”

Boudreau wouldn’t go into detail about an injury, other than to say that Ovechkin is mainly “sore.” The coach said the break would allow his star player a chance to deal with the general aches and pains that come from Ovechkin’s physical style of play.
Gattuso looks to Kaka’s return

ROME, 22 March—AC Milan midfielder Gennaro Gattuso has admitted that he looked forward to Kaka’s return to the San Siro.

The Brazilian, plagued by injuries after moving to Real Madrid, has long been linked with a return to the Rossoneri after failing to settle at the Bernabeu. Manchester City striker Mario Balotelli is also rumoured to be courted by Milan, but when asked who he would prefer to see at the club next season, Gattuso selected his former teammate.

“Kaka, he made history with Milan and if he is loved so much it means he did well. We are waiting for him,” he told La Gazzetta dello Sport.

Defender Alessandro Nesta has hinted that he could retire at the end of the season, but Gattuso is of the opinion that he will play on for a while yet, adding: “He is playing on the injury story. He will stop in two or three years like myself.”

Weaver

Tuesday, 22nd March, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Tanintharyi Region and Kachin State and weather has been partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions, Shan, Rakhine and Mon States, generally fair in the remaining Regions and States and isolated heavy fall in Tanintharyi Region. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperature in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway Regions and Kachin State, (5°C) above March average temperature in Upper Sagaing Region, (3°C) to (4°C) below March average temperatures in Bago and Yangon Regions and about March average temperature in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Magway (41°C), Kalewa, Kalay, Monywa, Myingyan, Chaung Tha and Mibau (40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (3.70) inches and Putao (0.51) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 21-3-2011 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 22-3-2011 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 22-3-2011 was (53%). Rainfall on 22-3-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 21-3-2011 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 22-3-2011 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 22-3-2011 was (76%). Total sunshine hours on 21-3-2011 was (10.3) hours (Approx). Rainfall on 22-3-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (5.579) inches at Mingaladon, (6.80) inches at Kaba-Aye and (7.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northwest at (15:30) hours MST on 21-3-2011.

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

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 23-3-2011: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-3-2011: Generally fair weather.

WEATHER

 Rome, 22 March—AC Milan midfielder Gennaro Gattuso has admitted that he looked forward to Kaka’s return to the San Siro.

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Real Madrid midfielder Kaka (R) from Brazil leaves the Apra AZ Monica Clinic after an operation on his left knee in Antwerp 6 August, 2010. Kaka has been operated by Belgian doctor Marc Martens, specialized in sport injury, and could be ruled out for three to four months, the clinic which carried out the surgery said on Thursday.

Xinhua
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC—sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB—generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

First regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 13th day
Queries raised and replied, proposals submitted and discussed, approval sought at Amyotha Hluttaw session

NAY PYI TAW, 22 March—The 13th day first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw was held at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today. It was attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

First, the Speaker took position and announced the validity and start of the 13th day session as 220 or 98.65 percent of 223 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives were present.

Of the questions raised by Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, members of union level organization Leader of the Government Spoke Authoritative Team Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Commerce U Tin Maung Thein and Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein responded to the questions regarding “armed groups that are against the government” made by U Za Khan Ting Ring of Kachin State Constituency No.4; “transport of paddy to Shan State (North)” made by U Tun Kyaw of Shan State Constituency No.10; “permit to import household-used under 2000CC cars” made by Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No.4 and “heavy tax imposed on fishermen” made by Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency No.7.

After that, U Paul Han Htai of Chin State Constituency No.3 discussed the proposal “to build heavy hydropower station in Bontala waterfall” submitted by U Paul Lyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No.9. Member of union level organization Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min discussed the proposal.

(See page 9)

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL 66TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

In spite of varieties of attacks, accusations and criticisms, the Tatmadaw with fine traditions will remain united as the motto “Whoever divide us, we will remain united” in implementing tasks in the interests of the nation and the people.