While shouldering its major responsibilities for defending the State, our Tatmadaw has also been undertaking nation-building tasks for the benefit of the people. Being warriors who have travelled extensively to every corner of the country, we can fully sympathize the sub-standard livelihood of our national races caused by armed insurgencies and difficulties in communication in far-flung areas. Therefore, we have made vigorous efforts by implementing projects for the development of border areas and national races.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From the address delivered at the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day)

Prime Minister felicitates Bangladeshi counterpart

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 March — On the occasion of the anniversary of the National and Independence Day of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26 March 2009, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh.—MNA

True patriotism

* It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section opens for ensuring better transport from Nay Pyi Taw to other regions

Vehicles running on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section) seen after its inauguration ceremony.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 March — Hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section) was inaugurated at Nay Pyi Taw C Junction at mile post No. 202/1 of the expressway today. The road section of international standard was built by Public Works and Directorate of Military Engineers of the Ministry of Defence under the guidance of the Head of State.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiba Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivered an address and formally opened the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section).

(See page 4)
**PERSPECTIVES**

Thursday, 26 March, 2009

**Implement more hydropower projects for socio-economic development**

Peace and stability, good transport and wealth of aquatic and terrestrial resources are the basic requirements for social and economic development.

Nowadays, favourable environment is being created in every way so that peace and tranquility prevail the length and breadth of the nation and the people can enjoy higher living standard.

Electric power projects are among the plans being carried out for overall development of the entire Union and momentum of hydropower projects implementation is being raised to generate more electricity necessary for development of the production, service, social and economic sectors.

Kengtawng hydropower station constructed by the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 in Monai, Langkho district, Shan State (South), was commissioned into service on 21 March. The station, with 54-megawatt generating capacity, can generate over 377 million kilowatt hours per year.

Kengtawng hydropower station will be able to supply electricity not only to townships in Loilem and Langkho districts in Shan State (South) but also to other states and divisions through the national grid.

More and more hydropower projects are being implemented for all-round development of the nation and, at present, there are 12 power stations including the newly-opened Kengtawng hydropower station and they are generating and supplying more and more electricity.

Now is the time when new industries are being established. Therefore, implementation of new hydropower projects and supply of more electricity will surely contribute to industrial, economic and social development of the nation.

**Over 9,000 acres of poppy plantations destroyed this year**

Yangon, 25 March—A total of 1,103.5 acres (446.57 hectares) of poppy plantations were destroyed in Namkhak and Kutkai townships of Shan State (North), Pinaung, Phehkhoen, Hsihseng, Nyanawshwe, Loilem, Namhsam and Monglang townships of Shan State (South), Kengtung and Metmang townships of Shan State (East) and Waingmaw, Tanai and Putao townships of Kachin State from 7 to 13 March.

Likewise, a total of 279.4 acres (113.07 hectares) of poppy plantations were destroyed in Tangyan and Namhak townships of Shan State (North), Pinaung, Hsihseng and Kaukauk townships of Shan State (South), Mongton Township of Shan State (East) and Waingmaw Township of Kachin State from 14 to 20 March. So far, a total of 9,275.76 acres of poppy plantations have been destroyed in States and Divisions in this year’s poppy cultivation season.—MNA

**Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Bangladeshi counterpart**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 26 March—**On the occasion of the anniversary of the National and Independence Day of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, which falls on 26 March 2009, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Dr Dipu Moni, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh.—MNA

**Hlawga Park kept open on Armed Forces Day**

**Yangon, 25 March—**Hlawga Park of Forest Department is open from 8 am to 4 pm daily and it will be kept open from 8 am to 5 pm on 27 March (Armed Forces Day) for public relaxation.—MNA

**Development of Kayin State, Yatanarpon Tele-Port inspected**

**Yangon, 25 March—**Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, on 17 March attended the ceremony to commission Lonkhin Digital Auto-exchange into service in Phakant Township.

After making trunk calls, the minister inspected D-AMPS cellular system control room of the exchange.

In Seikmu Village of Phakant Township, the minister viewed tasks of proper flow in Uru Creek and construction of the dike for prevention against the overflow of the creek. Next, he met local authorities, village elders and local national races at Seikmu Basic Education High School.

The minister met local officials and people at the Dhammayon of Shwemyinzu Yaye Pagoda in Lonton Village of Indawgyi region and townswelders and officials in Hopin.

After inspecting CDMA-450 control room, D-AMPS cellular room and exchange control room of Mohnyin Auto-exchange, the minister met officials concerned and townswelders in Mohnyin.

On 18 March, the minister looked into progress in construction of the sand filtering lake and the water tank being undertaken by Mandalay City Development Committee at the area of Yatanarpon Myothit Project near PyinOoLwin.

The minister viewed construction of factories and workshops of companies in Soft Base Factories and installation of exchange machinery by Fisca Co at Incubation Centre.

At the hall of the Yatanarpon Tele-Port, the minister met responsible persons of the tele-port, departmental officials and entrepreneurs and attended to the needs.—MNA

**Eccentric Economic Crisis on 28 March**

**Yangon, 25 March —**Jointly organized by Myanmar Fishery Federation and Myanmar Shrimp Entrepreneurs’ Association and sponsored by Toyo Battery, Writer Maung Su San will give a talk entitled “Eccentric Economic Crisis” at Thiri Annawath hall of MFPI at 2 p.m. on 28 March (Saturday). Enthusiasts may attend the talk.—MNA
Obama likely to disclose new Afghan strategy

WASHINGTON, 25 March—US President Barack Obama is likely to unveil the long-awaited new strategy for the war in Afghanistan on 27 March, US media reported on Tuesday.

Although the president didn’t raise the issue during his prime-time press conference Tuesday night, the website of Washington Post quoted official source as saying that the new decision on Afghanistan will probably be announced on Friday.

Last Sunday, Obama hinted in an interview with CBS’s “60 Minutes” that the ongoing US military build-up in Afghanistan will eventually lead to the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the country.

“There’s got to be an exit strategy...There’s got to be a sense that this is not perpetual drift,” Obama said. Officials disclosed last week that the new plan for Afghanistan will include a new plan to move US troops to front-line garrisons in remote areas of the country instead of the present method of staying in large rear area bases and venturing into remote areas from time to time, according to media reports.

Obama has been conducting a complete review of the Afghan strategy since swearing-in in January.

He ordered an increase of US troops in Afghanistan by 17,000 last month.

Three Australian soldiers wounded in Afghanistan

CANBERRA, 25 March—Australian Defence Force announced on Wednesday three Australian soldiers were injured in Afghanistan by a roadside bomb after engaging Taliban fighters on Tuesday.

“Their wounds were caused by fragmentation from the improvised explosive device (IED). It is not known what caused the device to activate,” representative of the defence force said in a statement. Defence said the patrol has returned fire and coalition air support was called in. And operations were continuing on the battlefield.—Internet

Three Iraqis killed in attacks

MOSUL, 25 March—Three Iraqis were killed in northern Iraq in two separate attacks on Tuesday, a local police source said.

Unknown gunmen armed with pistols shot dead a policeman out of duty in al. Nigeely street in the centre of Mosul, the capital city of Nineveh Province, 450 km north of Baghdad, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.—Internet

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 597

WASHINGTON, 25 March—As of Tuesday, 24 March, 2009, at least 597 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures on Tuesday at 10 am EDT.

Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these sites as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.

There were also four CIA officer deaths and one military civilian death.—Internet

Poland to increase troops in Afghanistan by 400

WARSAW, 25 March—The Polish government on Tuesday forwarded a motion to President Lech Kaczynski for the increase of the number of Polish troops in Afghanistan from 1,600 to 2,000.

The change is to take place in mid-April when the fifth Polish contingent is sent to Afghanistan, Polish news agency PAP reported.

The government’s motion stems from growing tension in Ghazni Province for which Poles are responsible. Crucial presidential and local elections in Afghanistan are scheduled for 20 August.—Internet

Italy ready to send more troops to Afghanistan

ROME, 25 March—Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini said Italy is ready to send more troops to Afghanistan for training mission.

In an interview published on Tuesday in the Turin daily La Stampa, Frattini said Italy was “ready to contribute” with the deployment of a greater number of men in Afghanistan, as long as they are only used to train the local military force and police.

Both the NATO and EU members, Italy has taken part in the international peace-keeping forces in Afghanistan. If there is a need to train the police and military force in that war-torn country, then Italy is “ready to do our part,” Frattini said.—Internet

Bomb kills seven civilians in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 25 March—Seven people are dead and nine are wounded after a roadside bomb exploded and hit a van carrying civilians in eastern Afghanistan.

Police Chief Abdul Qaium Bakizoy says the early Wednesday blast ripped through the van in Sabari district of Khast Province.

The area is known for militant activity and clashes between US coalition troops and militants. The Taliban and other militants groups regularly use roadside bombs in their attacks against Afghan and foreign troops, but the majority of the victims in such attacks have been civilians.—Internet
Also present were Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, the ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Nay Pyi Taw Mayor, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, departmental heads members of District and Township Peace and Development Councils in Nay Pyi Taw District, Nay Pyi Taw, Nay Pyi Taw Pyimana, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon and Nay Pyi Taw Lewe, staff of Public works, members of social organizations, teachers, students members of pom pom dance troupe and local people. General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo said he was pleased to open Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw road section of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Construction Project linking upper Myanmar and southern regions of the country.

The State Peace and Development Council has laid down short-term and long-term plans and is building infrastructures on political, economic and social sectors with greater momentum. After regaining independence, the successive governments had to settle internal strife that occurred due to evil legacy of the imperialists. The Tatmadaw government restored national reconsolidation and built the nation that lagged behind in development in the 20th century to keep abreast of the progress of neighbouring countries and those in the regions in the 21st century, overcoming the obstacles and hindrances.

He said Yoma mountain ranges, delta region, rivers, lakes and creeks, forests, heights and plains are natural barriers to transport from one region to another in the Union of Myanmar where over 100 national races live. Overcoming the barriers and historical legacy, the government built roads, bridges and railroads in states and divisions for ensuring better transport and communication.

(See page 5)
Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section opens for ensuring …

(From page 4)

Transport in the regions and equitable development in political, economic and social sectors of the national races, he said.

Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, one of the Union road networks, links Yangon and Mandalay, commercial cities of Myanmar. It is also a life blood and a strategic road for communication and transport of commodities. Improved transportation contributes toward the development of administration, economy and social sectors. The existing 412-mile long Yangon-Mandalay road has been in use for many years and it passes over 20 townships. With the increased population and number of vehicles, it is necessary to build a safer road of international standard. This is why a new expressway that serves the interest of the nation was built. After regaining independence, the successive governments tried to build Yangon-Mandalay Expressway but to no avail.

The government has built infrastructures nationwide for future government and is building Nay Pyi Taw, an administrative capital, in central region of the Union in accord with the characteristics of international capitals. At the same time, Yangon-Mandalay Expressway projects being implemented for ensuring better transport from Nay Pyi Taw to other regions in accord with the guidance of the Head of State.

(See page 6)
Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section opens for ensuring …

(from page 5)

Plans were made to build the strategic Yangon-Mandalay expressway at various times but construction work could be started only in April, 2005. It is 325 miles and 6 furlongs long from No 3 highway junction in Yangon to Sagaim roadabout in Mandalay. Now, the two-way, two-lane of 202-mile-long Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw road section of the expressway has been finished and opened for public use, the Secretary-1 said.

There were, for instance, failed projects were unsuccessful although large amounts of money were spent. But, nowadays, these failed projects were implemented with heart and soul bearing in mind that the people should be proud of. During the period of more national endeavours and something the government and technicians were hired for nation-building work. Some former projects can be successfully implemented due to self-reliant efforts of Myanmar technicians.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 called for cooperation of local people and all those responsible to maintain the expressway in order that it can be used for many years to come, for timely completion of national development infrastructures including the Yangon-Mandalay expressway, for systematic use of already-completed development infrastructures to contribute to social and economic development of respective regions and for successfully carrying out national duties with Union Spirit and conscientiousness.

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin delivered an address. He said that Nay Pyi Taw is located between middle mountain range (Bago Yoma) and eastern mountain range (Shan Yoma). In the past, the region was facilitated with Yangon-Mandalay highway, Yangon-Mandalay railroad, Pyinnma-Taungdwingyi Kyaukpyuadang railroad and Pyinmana-Pinlaung road, he added. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the government constructed many railroads and motor roads with Nay Pyi Taw at the center, he said. Nowadays, he continued to say that an international level expressway emerged and it will contribute to development of economic, health, education, social and communication not only for the region but also for the whole nation. In conclusion, the commander said the Nay Pyi Taw Command will joint hands with the local authorities and the local people for maintaining the expressway for its durability.

In his report, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint said that in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the Special Projects Implementation Committee Meeting No. 1/2004 held on 30 March 2004 had decided to construct the expressway as from April 2005. Hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the newly opened expressway was divided into two sections: the 112 miles and six furlongs long section was constructed by the Ministry of Construction and the 83 miles and three furlongs long section by Directorate of Military Engineers of the Ministry of Defence, he said. The 12 inches thick upper layer of the expressway and the six inches thick lower layer were placed concrete. A total of 172 bridges were built along the expressway, he added. For durability of the expressway, the minister said that the earth work was undertaken with the use of heavy machinery by applying modern technology. The minister said that three toll gates were opened: one at the junction of No. 3 Highway, another near Pyu and the third at C junction in Nay Pyi Taw facilitated with advanced technology and equipment. In setting up the road networks in the nation, there are 35 Union Highways from the east to the west, 45 Union Highways from the north to the south, the roads linking States and Divisions, the inter-township roads and the strategic roads are being constructed in line with the guidance of the Head of State.

U Htay Win of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township, on behalf of the local people, spoke words of thanks. The Secretary-1 and party cordially conversed with those present.

Next, the Secretary-1, the commander and the minister formally opened the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section). — MNA

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party posed for documentary photos together with the guests and engineers of Public Works.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the road in a motorcade.

This morning, the ceremony to inaugurate the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon section) was held at the paternal near the junction of No. 3 Highway in Hlegu Township, with an address by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, senior military officers, departmental heads, social organizations and local people.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint delivered addresses. Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein reported on tasks for construction of the Nay Pyi Taw -Yangon section of Yangon Mandalay Expressway.

On behalf of local people, U Khin Wai of Thingangyun Township thanked the government for the construction of the expressway.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint and Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein formally opened the expressway and had documentary photos taken along with engineers and workers who engaged in the construction tasks.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party inspected the expressway and a toll gate on the way and cordially greeted the local people.

Similarly, an opening ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon Road Section of the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway was held at the mile post No 115/2 near Pyu and Maj-Gen Ko Ko of Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony and formally opened the road.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tin Swe, Director of Military Engineers Brig-Gen Nyan Tun, senior military officers, members of social organizations and local people.

First, Brig-Gen Ko Ko and Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min delivered addresses and Director of Military Engineers Brig-Gen Nyan Tun reported on construction of the expressway and bridges on the express way.

On behalf of the local people, U Thet Naing Oo of Pyu Township thanked the government for the construction of the facility.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min and Brig-Gen Nyan Tun formally opened the expressway. Afterwards, Maj-Gen Ko Ko and party posed for documentary photos along with officials concerned.

After the opening ceremony, they viewed the motor vehicles running on the expressway.

Express buses have started to use the way as from today.

MNA
HAILING THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY
ARMED FORCES DAY

Yatanarpon Teleport built in Yatanarpon Myothit of PyinUoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, for ensuring development of ICT.

Nay Pyi Taw General Post Office

A microwave station facilitated in Falam of Chin State for better communications in Chin hilly region.

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Development of communication sector in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Nay Pyi Taw
General Post Office

Nay Pyi Taw General Post Office opened for enabling local people to have easy access to all regions of the country through postal service.
THE TATMADAW IS THE NATION’S STRENGTH

“The national races had been living through thick and thin in the country for thousands of years. However, they came to fight in armed conflicts on each other due to the wedge the colonialists had driven among them. As a result, our country lagged behind other countries in development.

“As you know, today we have achieved national reconsolidation and maintained peace and stability far more than ever, and so we have been able to carry out development tasks with all our might.”

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From speech delivered at Graduation Parade of 51st Intake of Defence Services Academy)

Outstanding versatility of the Tatmadaw

Outstanding versatility and primary duties of the Tatmadaw

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

“Outstanding versatility and primary duties of the Tatmadaw

The Tatmadaw was born in a context of national disaster and disintegration during its historic birth. In the 1940s, the Tatmadaw was able to crush all those dangers, sacrificing lives and limbs of a large number of its members.

Capability of saving motherland in times of emergency

In 1958, the ruling AFPFL government split into two factions — Nu-Tin faction and Swe-Nyien faction, then into three factions — “U” faction, “Bo” faction and “Thakin” faction. On 29 September 1958, the Tatmadaw was assigned duties to serve as the Caretaker Government. In 1960, it handed over power to the AFPFL (Clean) party that won in the elections.

While it was ruling the country as the Pa-Hta-Sa government, the Union was on the point of some states’ secession from it and collapse, which greatly forced the Tatmadaw to take over state duties on 2 March 1962. Then, it handed over State power to the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party government in line with the 1974 constitution.

Good leadership

Myanmar had exercised the multiparty democracy system since independence period. According to the objective conditions, the nation replaced the old system with the Socialist democracy system in 1974.

The economic decline and general crises culminated in nationwide mass protests, anarchic riots and mob rule in 1988.

At that time, no one including the leaders of the groups of demonstrators and political parties was capable enough of restoring peace and stability, and the nation was heading for the abyss of collapse. The Tatmadaw, the only force capable of working out the issue, had no choice but to take over State responsibilities on 18 September 1988, and took the leadership role in reconstructing the anarchy-torn nation.

The time of the Tatmadaw government

Since its assumption of State duties, the Tatmadaw has been working hard from sunup to sundown to realize the 12 objectives for all-round development of the nation, peace and stability, with Our Three Main National Causes, namely, non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty in the fore. As a result, the nation is now in a position to enjoy unprecedented development with all infrastructures built.

Since its assumption of State duties, the Tatmadaw has been working hard from sunup to sundown to realize the 12 objectives for all-round development of the nation, peace and stability, with Our Three Main National Causes, namely, non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty in the fore. As a result, the nation is now in a position to enjoy unprecedented development with all infrastructures built.

THE TATMADAW IS THE NATION’S STRENGTH

Outstanding versatility of the Tatmadaw

Every historian knows well the Tatmadaw’s outstanding versatility well covers good innate nature, historic birth, efficient discharge of national defence duties, capability of saving the motherland in times of emergency, and good leadership.

Good innate nature

The Tatmadaw has had a strong sense of patriotic spirit since birth. Inspired by patriotic fervour, the Tatmadaw managed to help the nation regain the independence.

Historic birth

The Tatmadaw was born on 27 March 1945, which came to the global knowledge. On that day, the Tatmadaw was released from the yoke of colonialism and Fascism and became an independent force with the rights of self-determination. It was the date on which the entire people under the leadership of the Tatmadaw launched Anti-Fascist Resistance.

The Tatmadaw’s date of birth is the 27th of March 1945, so it turns 64 this year (2009).

At the age of three years, the Tatmadaw showed brilliant military and organizing prowess, which helped the Union of Myanmar regain sovereignty on 4 January 1948.

Efficient discharge of national defence duties

In the post-independence period, the Tatmadaw (Anti-Fascist People’s Freedom League) government with President Sao Shwe Thaik and Prime Minister U Nu ruled the Union of Myanmar. It was not long the Tatmadaw had relieved itself from extra duties because on 21 March 1947, members of the Burma Communist Party (BCP) went underground, followed by multicoloured insurgency, and the nationalist Chinese troops’ intrusion of the nation. So, the Tatmadaw had to crush all those dangers, sacrificing lives and limbs of a large number of its members.

The Tatmadaw is the nation’s strength

The Tatmadaw is the nation’s strength.

Tatmadaw playing leadership role

The Tatmadaw was capable of playing the leadership role in the independence struggles, defending the nation from all forms of internal and alien threats, and saving the nation from disintegration in times of emergency due to the fact that the Tatmadaw has vast experience of political affairs, resilience to great difficulties, and vision to generate a prosperous future of the nation.

So, it can be deduced from the foregoing points that the Tatmadaw will remain resolute in the leadership role throughout the history of the nation.

The Road Map

In his speech at the Graduation Parade of the 51st Intake of the Defence Services Academy, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said, “Our Tatmadaw government upholds Our Three Main National Causes as the national belief of the State and is building infrastructures with benevolent attitude to the people.

“So, in May 2008, the vast majority of the people approved the draft of the State constitution in the fourth step of the State’s seven-step Road Map we laid down for transition to a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

(See page 9)
Outstanding versatility and primary duties of the Tatmadaw

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

The Tatmadaw is trying its utmost to build itself into a strong, efficient and modern patriotic force with outstanding versatility in its bid to chart a promising future of the nation.

The Tatmadaw members (army, navy and air force) are some of the community welfare tasks and Executive Director U Zaw Win of FISCA and CDMA-450 mobile communication system were formed with motherland’s offspring to prevailing condtions, normal or serious, throughout the nation.

It is required of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw to remain united in improving the infrastructures and building a peaceful, modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Objectives of the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

1. To work hard together with the people to accomplish the State’s seven-step Road Map in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation
2. To uphold Our Three Main National Causes as the national policy at risk to life
3. To crush, in cooperation with the people, internal and external subversive elements that are disrupting stability, peace and development of the nation
4. To build a strong and patriotic modern Tatmadaw capable of safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation

The Tatmadaw is trying its utmost to build itself into a strong, efficient and modern patriotic force with outstanding versatility in its bid to chart a promising future of the nation.

Mindat, Matupi get digital auto-exchanges

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March — As a gesture of hailing the 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the digital auto-exchange and linkage of digital microwave and CDMA-450 mobile communication system were opened at the office in Mindat Township in Chin State on 21 March.

Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Maj-Gen Thein Tun and Chairman of Chin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Hong Ngai opened the exchange. Afterwards, the deputy minister donated K 500,000 for regional development tasks and Executive Director U Zaw Win of FISCA Enterprises also donated K 500,000 to Mindat People’s Hospital.

The deputy minister inspected mobile offices, and residents of the township have directly attended the opening of digital auto-exchange in Matupi.

The Tatmadaw is trying its utmost to build itself into a strong, efficient and modern patriotic force with outstanding versatility in its bid to chart a promising future of the nation.

Translation: MS

It is required of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw to remain united in improving the infrastructures and building a peaceful, modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation.
Importance of dissemination of health knowledge including benefits of personnel hygiene and sanitation stressed

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo received U Saw Tha Mu He and party of Haungthayaw peace group from Kayinseikyi Nyeinchanye Myothit in Kayin State at Mawlamyine Station on 22 March. Also present at the meeting were Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naung Win, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Deputy Minister for Ministry of Defence Maj-Gen Aye Myint, Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Zaw Min and departmental officials.

At the meeting, U Saw Tha Mu He, leader of Haungthayaw peace group, reported on development tasks in Kayinseikyi Nyeinchanye Myothit and requirements for the development of the new town. The Secretary-1 attended to the needs for the development of the new town. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 presented medicine and gifts to U Saw Tha Mu He. After the meeting, the Secretary-1 and party went to the General Hospital in Mawlamyine and met with doctors and nurses at the meeting hall of the hospital.

At the meeting, Medical Superintendent Dr Nyan Zaw reported on condition of the hospital, patients receiving treatment at the hospital and the funds of the hospital. Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-1 called on dissemination of health knowledge including benefits of the personnel hygiene and sanitation among the people as part of the prevention of diseases. He also stressed the need for coordination of the local authority, Ministry of health and Ministry of Education in an attempt to disseminate health knowledge through health staff, teachers and students to the people. He also stressed the need for systematic distribution of medicine and providing effective treatment to patients.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye presented syringes and medicines to Medical Superintendent Dr Nyan Zaw. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 presented cash for the funds of the hospital through Head of Kayin State Health Department U Htay Aung. The Secretary-1 inspected the general hospital and the construction of paediatric unit of the hospital. The three-storey new building will be opened soon. The Secretary-1 and party also inspected beautifying tasks along the Strand Road and development tasks in Mawlamyine in a motorcade.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party flew to Kyakhto Pagoda in Kyakhto Township by helicopter and paid homage to the Buddha Image at the pagoda. The Secretary-1 and party contributed cash to the funds of the pagoda through the Pagoda Board of Trustees and the Secretary-1 signed in the visitors book. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party offered gold foils to the pagoda. They also inspected the renovation of religious buildings. They flew to Nay Pyi Taw by helicopter and arrived back in the afternoon.

Kayin State has sound foundations to grow rubber, other perennial crops

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo met with departmental officials at state, district and township levels at Zwekabin hall of Hpa-an in Kayin State on 21 March. Present at the meeting were Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naung Win, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Chairman of Kayin State PDC Deputy Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Zaw Min, departmental heads and officials at state, district and township levels.

First, Secretary of Kayin State PDC U Maung Maung briefed the Secretary-1 on regional data and matters relating to agriculture, livestock, education, health and social welfare.

Next, Chairman Brig-Gen Zaw Min gave a supplementary report on construction and renovation of the roads and bridges, efforts for drinking water in rural areas, progress of communications and education.

Afterwards, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint made clarifications on exploitation of mineral resources thanks to prevailing of peace and stability in Kayin State and business prospects in the state.

Later, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung made clarifications on human resources and development tasks and facts about the opening of University of Technology and University of Computer Studies. After hearing the reports, Secretary-1 General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo made a speech saying that he went to Myainggyingu and Htohtkawkoe regions where family members peace groups who had returned to the legal fold were living and fulfilled the requirements there.

This meeting was to fulfil the requirements regarding the development tasks in Kayin State. The reports showed that regional rice security was 143.48 percent and palm oil security, 59.91 percent in the state.

(See page 11)
Kayin State has sound foundations to grow ...

(from page 10)

It is expected that GDP in 2008-2009 financial year will hit the target, but it is still needed to work harder to meet the targeted per capita income of K 600,000. It is, therefore, to seek more possible foundations in various sectors township-wise in the state in order to meet the targets set by the State. Natural disasters and destructive acts can temporarily interrupt the processes of transport and communications. At such a time local people faced a food shortage. With that concept in view, it is required of local people to strive for meeting the targets. Now, any crop can be grown in any place with advanced agricultural methods. Food security covers all species of crops including rice. At a time when every country is working hard to alleviate poverty in line with the new millennium goals all over world, the people have to cooperate in unison to be able to keep abreast of other global family members. With lots of vacant lands left to be reclaimed, Kayin State has favourable conditions to grow rubber, which is in high demand globally, along with perennial crops. If the people in Kayin State try harder, every local can get per capita income of K 600,000. Service personnel need to coordinate farmers and merchants so as to keep a good balance of benefits between them. In that case, service personnel are to supervise the processes in accord with rules and regulations. The government is implementing a variety of projects to narrow the development gap between one region and another. It is important that service personnel are to focus on correct leadership and to apply effective means and ways according to the conditions of the region concerned. It is required to organize educative campaigns so that the public will pay more attention to in the projects.

Next, the Secretary-1 cordially greeted the attendees. — MNA
Big Pineapple on heritage list

BEING, 25 March—Australian authorities yesterday placed The Big Pineapple on the Queensland state heritage register, ranking it alongside the state’s top historic buildings and cultural sites.

The 16-meter fibreglass pineapple has graced Queensland’s Sunshine Coast tourist strip since 1971, thrilling and perplexing visitors.

The Queensland Heritage Council said the pineapple had attracted millions of visitors since it opened.

“It is important in demonstrating the development of agri-tourism and roadside attractions in Queensland,” the council said.

The pineapple was one of the first of the “Big Things” that now dot the Australian landscape, it added.

These include Big Banana at Coffs Harbour, the Big Trout at Adaminaby and even the Big Gumboot, an oversized wheat town that adorns Australia’s wettest town, Tully.

Casual flushing drinkers at higher cancer risk

BEING, 25 March —US and Japanese researchers find that Asians who get flushing when they drink too much alcohol have a higher risk of getting esophageal cancer, according to media reports on Wednesday.

The study said about a third of East Asians — Chinese, Japanese and Koreans — have an enzyme deficiency that occurs in people who too much alcohol have a higher risk of getting esophageal cancer, according to media reports on Wednesday.

The deficiency is reported to occur in people who have a variation in the ALDH gene, which makes the enzyme.

People with two copies of this gene variant have such extreme symptoms that they avoid drinking alcohol.

“The concern is for people who have one copy,” said Philip Brooks of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, whose study appears in the Public Library of Science journal PLoS Medicine.

“They feel that because they can tolerate drinking.”

“In general, people with one copy have about a six to ten fold increase in the incidence of esophageal cancer,” he said.

Childhood soy diet may cut breast cancer risk

BEIJING, 25 March—A new US study suggests that women who ate a large amount of soy as children have a much lower risk of developing breast cancer later in life, according to media reports on Wednesday.

Earlier studies have suggested links between soy intake and breast cancer risk. This finding also shows that higher soy intake has a preventive effect at any stage of life and further suggests that the strongest protective effect may be seen with childhood soy consumption.

The research involved nearly 1,600 Asian-Americans women, 600 of whom had breast cancer and the rest were healthy.

Women with regular intake in childhood — roughly once a week or more — were 58 percent less likely to develop breast cancer than the ones with lower intake.

Regular soy consumption in adulthood, meanwhile, was linked to a 25 percent reduction in breast cancer risk. Still, researchers warn that although the findings are positive, it is not enough to suggest an increase in soy for children’s diets. They call for more research.

“This is the first study to evaluate childhood soy intake and subsequent breast cancer risk, and this one result is not enough for a public health recommendation,” said senior researcher Dr Regina Ziegler, of the US National Cancer Institute, “The findings need to be replicated through additional research.”

Researchers create catalysts for use in hydrogen storage materials

WASHINGTON, 25 March—A team of scientists have identified that carbon nanostructures can be used as catalysts to store and release hydrogen, a finding that may point researchers toward developing the right material for hydrogen storage for use in cars, according to a statement issued on Tuesday by the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU).

The achievement was made by scientists from Virginia Commonwealth University, the University of Uppsala in Sweden, and the Savannah River National Laboratory.

Scientific findings indicate that hydrogen has all the makings of an ideal alternative fuel because it is clean, renewable and abundant, but there are challenges to safely and efficiently store it.
LOS ANGELES, 25 March—Protein taken from yellow peas may help reduce blood pressure and prevent chronic kidney disease, a Canadian study said on Sunday.

Researchers from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, said they purified a mixture of small protein called pea protein hydrolysate from the yellow pea and fed small daily doses of the protein mixture to laboratory rats with chronic kidney disease. The findings were presented on Sunday at the American Chemical Society's 237th national meeting in Salt Lake City in the United States.

At the end of the eight-week-long study period, the protein-fed rats with kidney disease showed a 20-percent drop in blood pressure compared with diseased rats on a normal diet, the researchers said. “This is significant because a majority of chronic kidney disease patients actually die from cardiovascular complications that arise from the high blood pressure associated with kidney malfunction,” said the study’s leading author Rotimi Aluko, a food chemist at the University of Manitoba. In both rats and humans with chronic kidney disease, urine output is severely reduced and the kidneys are unable to properly remove dangerous toxins. The researchers showed that pea extract caused a 30-percent boost in urine production in the diseased rats, bringing their urine volume to normal levels.

Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 26 March, 2009

SOUTH AFRICA’S NEW WAYS OF TREATING DRUG RESISTANT TB

CAPE TOWN, 25 March—Hospitalizing patients suffering from Multiple Drug Resistant (MDR) and Extremly Drug Resistant (XDR) TB in order to isolate them from their crowded communities has often proved disastrous in South Africa.

“Bored, depressed and ravaged by the treatment, which causes daily nausea and leaves 20 percent deaf, patients escape from the hospitals and abandon treatment, which encourages drug resistance in the disease.”

Floating above the top of the white mask stretching across her face, Lydia Pinzie’s dark brown eyes are spirited and alert, despite nearly three years on toxic tuberculosis treatment.

Some white, some grubby, some askew, some comically large over the faces of toddlers; the sea of masks in the waiting room at a South African TB clinic harbour an often deadly drug resistant form of the virus.

Every day Pinzie, 35, comes to this centre in Khayelitsha, some 40 kilometres (25 miles) outside Cape Town, to receive handfuls of medication in the long and painful process to banish resistant tuberculosis from her body, already battling AIDS.

Internet

SCIENTISTS FIND NEW SPECIES IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

SYDNEY, 25 March — A brilliant green tree frog with huge black eyes, jumping spiders and a striped gecko are among more than 50 new animal species scientists have discovered in a remote, mountainous region of Papua New Guinea. The discoveries were announced on Wednesday by Washington D.C.-based Conservation International, which spent the past several months analyzing more than 600 animal species the group found during its expedition to the South Pacific island nation in July and August. Of the animals discovered, 50 spider species, three frogs and a gecko appear to have never been described in scientific literature before, the conservation group said. The new frogs include a tiny brown animal with a sharp chimp, a bug-eyed bright green tree frog and another frog with a loud ringing call. One of the jumping spiders is shiny and pale green, while another is furry and brown.

"If you’re finding things that are that big and that spectacular that are new, that’s really an indication that there’s a lot out there that we don’t know about,” said expedition leader Steve Richards.

Internet

Protein from yellow peas may reduce blood pressure

Internet

EATING TOO MUCH RED MEAT BOOSTS DEATH RISK

BEIJING, 25 March—People who eat too much red meat and processed meat are more likely to die from cancer, heart disease, and other causes than those who eat less, according to a US study.

The study of more than 500,000 middle-aged and elderly Americans began in 1995. Participants were between the ages of 50 and 71, and all provided detailed information about their food intake.

The results showed that those who consumed highest proportion of red meat, about 4.5 ounces (127.6 grams, the equivalent of a small steak), every day were more than 30 percent more likely to die in the following 10 years, mostly from heart disease and cancer. Processed meats also increased the risk.

Conversely, those who ate the highest proportion of white meat had a lower risk of overall death, and a lower risk of fatal cancer or heart disease than those who ate the lowest proportion.

“We found the consumption of red and processed meat is associated with a modest increase in overall mortality, as well as cancer and cardiovascular mortality in both men and women,” says study researcher Rashmi Sinha, a senior investigator at the National Cancer Institute.

Internet

STUDY SHOWS VITAMIN D SUPPLEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH REDUCED FRACTURE RISK IN OLDER ADULTS

WASHINGTON, 25 March—Oral vitamin D supplements at a dose of at least 400 international units per day are associated with a reduced risk of bone fractures in older adults, according to results of a meta-analysis published on Monday in the U.S. journal Archives of Internal Medicine.

“The anti-fracture benefits of vitamin D have been questioned by several recent trials, leading to uncertainty among patients and physicians regarding recommendations for vitamin D supple-mentation,” the authors write as background information in the article. “Factors that may obscure a benefit of vitamin D are low adherence to treatment, low dose of vitamin D or the use of less potent ergocalciferol (vitamin D2),” Heike Bischoff-Ferrari of the University of Zurich, University Hospital, Zurich, Switzerland, and colleagues performed a meta-analysis on 12 previously published clinical trials of oral vitamin D supplements among adults age 65 or older.

Internet

Scientists find new species in Papua New Guinea

Internet
Gerrard hopes for England win

MADRID, 25 March—World number one Rafael Nadal will try to nab a second elite ATP Masters 1000 title in as many starts as he heads the men’s field for the Miami hardcourt tennis tournament that starts on Wednesday.

Nadal, the Australian Open champion, arrives in Florida fresh from his triumph in the opening Masters event at Indian Wells, California, on Sunday.

On the women’s side, world number one Serena Williams returns to action after skipping Indian Wells, along with her sister Venus.

Nadal, who won his sixth Grand Slam title and his first on hardcourt in Melbourne and said his World Cup qualifier against Ukraine. His latest win coupled with their shock 4-1 triumph away to Manchester United the previous week, has enabled the Merseysiders to close to within a point of the leaders.—Internet

Nadal, Serena top Miami fields

MIAMI, 25 March—Seven times Grand Slam winner Serena Williams returns to action fresh from his triumph in the opening Miami men’s field for the Miami 1000 title in as many weeks, insisting that starts on Monday.

The 28-year-old midfielder, who scored a hat-trick in Liverpool’s 5-0 thrashing of Aston Villa last weekend, is set to feature in both England’s friendly with Slovakia on Saturday and next week’s World Cup qualifier against Ukraine.

Liverpool’s latest win coupled with their shock 4-1 triumph away to Manchester United the previous week, has enabled the Merseysiders to close to within a point of the leaders.—Internet

Lance Armstrong breaks collarbone after heavy fall in Spanish cycle race

MADRID, 25 March—Seven times Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong was taken to hospital on Monday after breaking his collarbone in the Tour of Castilla-Leon.

The American was involved in a group fall with several other riders 20 km from the finish in the town of Balianos, during the first stage of the five-day stage race, which is being held in central Spain.

He was riding in Spain to prepare for three-week Tour of Italy (Giro d’Italia) in May and subsequently the Tour de France in July.

TV images showed the American sat on the roadside holding his right arm. He was forced to abandon the race as an ambulance took him to hospital in Valladolid.

Internet

FIFA, UEFA reject anti-doping ‘whereabouts’ rule

GENEVA, 25 March—FIFA and UEFA on Tuesday formally rejected rules that allow anti-doping authorities to locate individual players for out of competition drugs testing.

The governing bodies of world and European football said in a joint statement that they could only allow footballers to be tested while they were with the teams, unless they were suspended or suffering from long-term injury. Since the beginning of January, the world anti doping code requires elite athletes to give notice of their location on a chosen one-hour period each day, seven days a week.

The new rules, which had been in the offing for several months, sparked criticism from some high-profile sports figures such as British tennis star Andy Murray, who claimed their privacy was being harmed.

Internet

Evra criticises French football fans crown on the same pitch in 1998 and reaching the World Cup final under Domenech in 2006.

C L A I R E F O N T A I N E, 25 March—France left-back Patrice Evra on Tuesday lamented the “unbelievable” attitude of certain sections of the French public following abuse from the terraces during recent internationals.

The under-fire French are still reeling from their Euro 2008 flop when they failed to get past the first round and coach Raymond Domenech has come in for particular criticism as he tries to revive their World Cup fortunes with a win in Kaunas against Lithuania in 2010 qualifying on Saturday.

The two teams then meet again on April 1 at the Stade de France in Paris, a venue where fickle French fans have often barracked their own team despite winning their only global triumph in California made it a “dream start” to the season, insisted that he “couldn’t afford to be complacent.”

“Good thing of tennis is when you lose, you have another chance next week,” he said after a topsied win over Andy Murray in California.

World number one Rafael Nadal

Mata replaces Iniesta in Spain’s World Cup squad

MADRID, 25 March—Spain coach Vicente Del Bosque on Sunday replaced Barcelona’s injured Andres Iniesta with uncapped Valencia winger Juan Mata for World Cup qualifiers against Turkey at home on Saturday and away four days later.

Iniesta, who had been with the Spanish squad since his graduation from their academy, injured his thigh on Sunday during Barcelo-

na’s 6-0 thrashing of Malaga in a Spanish league match and is expected to be sidelined for two weeks.

Internet

Manchester United’s French defender Patrice Evra clears the ball during his team’s UEFA Champions League first knockout round first leg football match against Inter Milan at San Siro Stadium in Milan, Feb-

uary 2009.—Internet

Manchester United’s English striker Wayne Rooney

LONDON, 25 March—England striker Wayne Rooney will not face further disciplinary action following the red card he received against Fulham last weekend. The Man-

chester United forward was sent off for two bookable offences during the Premier League cham-

pions’ shock 2-0 defeat. Although he had words with Phil Dowd after being shown the red card, the official has confirmed he was not sworn at by Rooney, an offence which could have led to a longer ban. However, the Football Association (FA) are to write to Rooney, whose temper has been a worry to some within the English game, about his conduct after the former Everton favourite punched a corner flag while leaving the pitch.

An FA spokesman said here on Monday, “We’ve clarified with Phil Dowd that there was no abuse from the player after he was dismissed.—Internet

Valencia’s Turkish midfielder Gokhan Tore celebrates after scoring his team’s third goal during their Spanish league match against Valencia at Mestalla, Sunday.

Internet

Internet

Internet

Manchester United’s English striker Wayne Rooney

Romeo escapes fresh FA action after red card

ROME, 25 March—Inter Milan president Massimo Moratti can’t imagine Inter without Ibrahimovic.

Inter, 25 March—Inter Milan president Massimo Moratti tried to dampen down speculation that striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic might leave at season’s end by saying he couldn’t imagine the club without the Swedish star. Ibrahimovic scored two goals in Inter’s 3-0 win over Reggina on Sunday, taking his personal goals tally for the season to 19, as the Milan club moved seven points clear at the top of Serie A.

After his star performance, Ibrahimovic, who signed for Inter from Juventus in 2006, hinted that he may be considering a future away from the San Siro.—Internet

Evra criticises French football fans

PARIS, 25 March—Chelsea striker Nicolas Anelka has been ruled out of France’s World Cup qualifiers against Lithuania due to his toe injury.

Anelka played Saturday as Chelsea lost 1-0 at Tottenham in the Premier League. He has hurt his big toe on his left foot and will be out about three weeks, the French Football Federation said on its Web site after earlier indicating he would be out for about 30days.

Anelka will be replaced by Paris St-Germain striker Guil-

laume Hoarau for the Group 7 matches on Saturday and 1 April.

Injured Anelka sidelined for France WC qualifiers

Lance Armstrong breaks collarbone

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Injured Anelka sidelined for France WC qualifiers
Three quakes rock area in S California

LOS ANGELES, 25 March—Three earthquakes—one capable of causing at least moderate damage—rocked the area around the Salton Sea in Southern California on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey (USGS) announced.

The area around the lake has been hit by a series of quakes in the past, prompting scientists to watch closely to see if small faults crossing under the lake are transferring energy to the more dangerous San Andreas fault.

The latest quakes occurred early on Tuesday morning, including a magnitude 4.8 shaker whose epicenter was three miles (4.8 kilometres) south of Bombay Beach and 90 miles (144 kilometres) east-northeast of San Diego, according to the USGS.

San Diego is about 80 miles (about 128 kilometres) south of Los Angeles.

The photo “Dancers of Royal Theatre in Copenhagen” taken by Christian Als wins the silver prize in the Arts, Culture & Entertainment News Singles in the 5th China International Press Photo (CHIPP) Contest held in Shanghai, China, from 20 to 25 March, 2009.—XINHUA

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Shan and Kayah States, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhi, Mon States and lower Sayaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas.

Day temperatures were (3˚C) to (4˚C) above March average temperatures in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, (5˚C) to (6˚C) above March average temperatures in Kachin and Mon States and about March average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (42˚C), Minbu, Aunglan and Thayawadi (40˚C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mogok (0.16) inch and Loikaw (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 24-3-2009 was 97˚F. Minimum temperature on 25-3-2009 was 72˚F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 25-3-2009 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 24-3-2009 was (7.3) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 25-3-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (24) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 24-3-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 26th March 2009:

Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Shan, Mon and Kayah States, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhi, Mon States and upper Sagaing Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 26-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-3-2009: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-3-2009: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER

Wednesday, 25 March, 2009

WEATHER Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

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Development of communication sector in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Outstanding versatility and primary duties of the Tatmadaw

YADANASI SAYADAW (LOILEM)

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

POEM

The Armed Forces Day
- Born of the people, the national races
- Emerged the Tatmadaw
- The Tatmadaw of the patriots
- Ever fresh and consolidated

Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section of Expressway helps facilitate transport of the Union

Secretary-I General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivers an address at inauguration of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section).—MNA

Vehicles running on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section) seen after the inauguration ceremony. —MNA

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL THE 64TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

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

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

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

Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section of Expressway helps facilitate transport of the Union

Secretary-I General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivers an address at inauguration of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section).—MNA

Vehicles running on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon road section) seen after the inauguration ceremony. —MNA

The Armed Forces Day
- Born of the people, the national races
- Emerged the Tatmadaw
- The Tatmadaw of the patriots
- Ever fresh and consolidated

Development of communication sector in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Outstanding versatility and primary duties of the Tatmadaw

YADANASI SAYADAW (LOILEM)