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Democratization process

In the democratization process, given that a well-established mature democracy that is the end result of two or three centuries of development cannot reasonably be made to appear overnight, all-round consideration and thoughtful action will be advisable. Democracy in Myanmar today is at a fledgling stage and still requires patient care and attention. As a Myanmar proverb puts it, a recently dug well cannot be expected to produce clear water immediately; understanding the process of gradual maturity is crucial, as is contributing to it through concerted constructive efforts in an environment of peace and tranquillity.

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 64th Anniversary Armed Forces Day)



First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues for 12th day Queries raised and replied, proposals submitted and discussed, approval sought at Pyithu Hluttaw session

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—The First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw was held for 12th-day 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 12th-day session as 431 or 99.54 percent of 433 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were present.

Of the questions raised by Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, members of union level organization Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan responded to the questions regarding “rights of scholarship students

and scholarship programme” by U Khin Maung Yi (a) Khaing Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency; “out-standing students at matriculation examination” and “to promote education standard of Maungdaw District” by U Shwe Maung (a) U Adu Raw Zat of Buthidaung Constituency; and “aspiration of people in Kayin State” and “war refugees affairs in Kayin State” by U Saw Thein Aung of Hlaingbwe Constituency.

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives discussed the approved proposal “to level power charges of Regions and States covered by the national power grid and Regions and States not covered by it yet at equal rate” submitted by U Maung Nyo of Sittway Constituency and “to make necessary arrangements for drawing a new international level Social Security Insurance Law (draft) and to submit it to the second regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw” by U Pwint Hsan of Mayangon Constituency. Members of union level organization Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Myint and Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi discussed the proposals. Pyithu Hluttaw sought the approvals.

U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency submitted a proposal “to make arrangement for submitting a draft of development of job opportunity, safety at worksites and development of workers’ skills” at second regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw. The Pyithu Hluttaw sought approval to discuss the submitted proposal.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw announced the end of the 12th-day first regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw and the 13th-day session will be held at 10 am on 22 March (Tuesday).

The session came to an end at 3:25 am.—MNA



First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw for 12th day in progress.—MNA

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 22 March, 2011

Tatmadaw with fine traditions

The Myanmar Tatmadaw was conceived in the independence struggles. The Tatmadaw has stood tall with dignity since its birth due to its sense of duty and self-discipline. Tatmadaw members are sons of the people and are held in high esteem by the people.

The nation regained independence and sovereignty as a result of bravery, military prowess and patriotism of the Tatmadaw and collaborative efforts of the people. It protects the motherland risking life and limb for perpetuation of the sovereignty. It safeguards lives, property and security of the people at risk to life.

It dedicates itself to the formidable task of building a modern, developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in addition to its primary duties: national defence, training and public wellbeing.

Tatmadaw members regard the people they deal with while discharging duties in the regions they are posted to as their parents. They put sustainable development of the nation and public property at the forefront. The Tatmadaw has been laying sound foundations in the agricultural, industrial, electric, transport, health and education sectors.

Inspired by nationalistic sentiment, patriotic spirit and the spirit of serving the interests of the people, Tatmadaw members engage in community welfare services apart from national defence duty and nation-building tasks. So, there has been consolidated unity between the Tatmadaw and the people.

Preserving its fine traditions, the Tatmadaw shoulders bounden duties with a lion heart and a sense of responsibility. It keeps on building a new nation in harness with the people for a new system.

Myanma jade attracts gems merchants

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — The 48th Myanma Gems Emporium, organized by the Central Committee for Organizing Myanma Gems Emporium, continued for the twelfth day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near Myanma Gems Museum here today.

Secretary of the Central Committee for Organizing Myanma Gems Emporium Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and committee members supervised local and foreign gem merchants bidding for jade lots.

So far, 60 jade lots have been sold through competitive bidding system since 19 March. The emporium concludes tomorrow.—MNA

Peoples' Desire

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



Chairman of Mandalay Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Ye Aung, Mandalay Mayor U Phone Zaw Han, FIFA President Mr Joseph S Blatter and Myanmar Football Federation President U Zaw Zaw formally open Myanmar Football Academy in Mandalay on 15 March.—MNA

Industry-2 Minister visits Magway Industrial Region

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein visited Magway Industrial Region in Magway Region yesterday.

The minister inspected progress in construction of No. 13 General Heavy Industries and its current production capacity. He also

inspected production of heavy turbo trucks.

The minister then viewed nearly-finished 16-bed hospital for healthcare of staff in the industrial region, and final touches of Technical Training School (Magway) scheduled to be opened in June and coordinated essentials.—MNA

Staff of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar donate blood

YANGON, 21 March — Staff of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd donated blood for the Tatmadawmen patients being warded at Defence Services General Hospital No. 1 in Mingaladon Township on 18 March.

Officials gave encouragement to 40 blood donors.—MNA

Staff of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd donated blood collectively for fifth time.—MNA

Roads, water supply infrastructures opened to mark 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — Hailing the 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the opening of new tarred road was held at the archway of the new road in Ayemya Kyilin Ward in Kyaukse Township of Mandalay Region on 9 March. Officials concerned formally opened the 850-foot long and 12-

foot wide new road which was built by Kyaukse Township Development Affairs Committee in 2010-11 fiscal year.

In Ayeyawady Region, a new rural earth road at Michaungtaya village in Kangyidaunt Township, new tarred roads in Einme and Bogale Townships were opened on 12 and 13

March.

Likewise, the openings of rural gravel road and new tarred road were held in Kyaukpadaung and Katha Townships on 13 March separately.

In Danubyu Township, officials concerned formally opened the water supply infrastructures on 15

March.

The opening of new gravel road section built by township DAC took place at Ward-5 in Kawa Township in Bago Region on 15 March.

Similarly, a new tarred road emerged in Salin Township in Magway Region on 16 March. The new road was built with the contribution of K 10.5 million from the funds of township DAC.

MNA

Spring storm dumps snow in mountains, rain in LA



A man gets ready to jump off the hood of his car, stalled on flooded Vineland Ave between Vanowen and Sherman Way, in the North Hollywood area of Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley on 20 March, 2011.—INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 21 March— A storm brought strong rains to the Los Angeles area and heavy snow in the mountains on the first day of spring Sunday, shutting down major highways, cutting power

to thousands and forcing dozens of evacuations over threats of mudslides or rising rivers.

Rain caused rock slides in Malibu and closed parts of the Pacific Coast Highway, while snow and ice force

the shutdown of parts of Interstate 5 connecting Los Angeles with northern areas.

In the San Fernando Valley, mud and debris threatened a retaining wall and forced the evacuation of 30 people in Woodland Hills, Los Angeles Fire Department spokeswoman Diana Igawa said.

The National Weather Service said Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley received at least 3 inches of rain — its average rainfall for the month of March — which led to closure of several streets. More than 1.5 inches pelted coastal cities and more than 2 inches fell on Hollywood, the service said.—*Internet*

Fears for British nuclear plans after Japan crisis

LONDON, 21 March—

The crisis at the Fukushima plant in Japan could delay plans for a new generation of British nuclear power stations, dealing a blow to the atomic energy industry's hopes for a £30-billion boost.

Britain currently has 10 plants and 19 nuclear reactors up and running which provide around a fifth of the country's electricity production.

The Labour government in 2008 adopted a policy of maintaining nuclear power as part of the country's energy mix and it was retained by the administration of Prime Minister David Cameron.

In line with this, several European firms want to build five new



Steam rises from the cooling towers at Sellafield nuclear plant in North England.—INTERNET

plants with at least 10 reactors, which would be worth the equivalent of about £30 billion to the nuclear industry.

The companies have been involved in a long process to get their bids approved but it had been going well. Now, however, Japan's atomic crisis is threatening to delay the lucrative deals.

Since the emergency began at the Fukushima

plant, the British government has been at pains to stress that nuclear power is vital to meet the country's energy needs.

"I do think that nuclear power should be part of the mix in the future as it is part of the mix right now," Cameron told parliament on Wednesday.

Internet

Three killed as small airplane crashed in California

LOS ANGELES, 21 March— Three people aboard a small airplane were killed as the aircraft crashed shortly after noon Sunday in Barstow, California, authorities said.

"According to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, three people on board were killed," Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor said. "There were no survivors."

The plane, which was believed to be a Cessna 210, crashed at approximately 12:40 pm local time (1940 GMT) near Daggett, about 10 miles (16 km) east of Barstow, or 120 miles (192 km) northeast of downtown Los Angeles, Gregor said.

The aircraft was believed to be heading from John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, Southern California to Henderson Executive Airport near Las Vegas in Nevada, he said.

The airplane, which can carry up to six people, was fully engulfed in flames, according to San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.—*Xinhua*



Iraqi fire fighters douse the flames following a car bomb that ripped through a crowd outside a hospital in Kirkuk on 16 March. Improvised bombs in the Iraqi cities of Baghdad and Tikrit have killed four people, police and security sources said.—INTERNET

Two Turkish nationals kidnapped, two detained in Iraq

TIKRIT, 21 March—

Two Turkish construction workers were kidnapped and two others were detained in Salahudin and Diyala Provinces respectively, the police said on Sunday.

In Salahudin Province, unidentified gunmen kidnapped two Turkish construction workers late on Saturday in a village near the town of al-Sherqat, some 280 km north of Baghdad, a provincial police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The two were employed by the Iraqi government to help build a school in the village, the source said.

Salahudin Province, located in northern Iraq, is a mainly Sunni Province. Its capital City Tikrit is the hometown of the former President Saddam Hussein.

Xinhua

Civilian killed, 13 wounded in Baghdad bombings

BAGHDAD, 21 March— A civilian was killed and 13 people were wounded in separate bomb attacks in Iraqi Capital Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said.

A roadside bomb went off in Baghdad's central District of Karrada, killing a civilian and wounding four others, along with damaging several nearby shops and civilian cars, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Separately, a roadside bomb struck a police patrol near Al- Tahariyat Square in central Baghdad, damaging

a police vehicle and wounding three policemen aboard, the source said.

A third roadside bomb hit another police patrol while passing through a thoroughfare in Karrada, wounding three policemen and three passersby, he said. Also in the capital, three mortar rounds landed in Baghdad's eastern district of Baladiyat with no reports of casualties, the source added.

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

Xinhua



Students learn about bird lore in the Guangzhou Zoo in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, on 20 March, 2011. Guangdong celebrated the Bird Festival and the start of the 30th Bird-loving Week on Sunday.

XINHUA

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

NAY PYI TAW, 21 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 held first meetings at their offices of Pyithu Hluttaw Hall

of Hluttaw Building here this evening.

Chairmen, secretaries and members of respective committees attended the meetings.

They participated in discussions on works of the committees.

MNA

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

NAY PYI TAW, 21 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 held first meetings at their offices of

Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

Chairmen, secretaries and members of respective committees attended the meetings.

They participated in discussions on works of the committees.

MNA

Education Minister responds to question on scholarship programme

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—At today's Pyithu Hluttaw sessions, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein responded to the query raised by U Khin Maung Yi (a) Khine Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency.

U Khin Maung Yi (a) Khine Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency said that it is known that international organizations annually grant scholarship for Myanmar citizens through the Government-To-Government system; that Myanmar citizens have to miss the chance of scholarship programme; that whether or not there is any plan to get international scholarship programme, to send cent per cent rate of students and to get more scholarship from industrialized countries.

Regarding the question, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein said that with respect to the international scholarships, scrutinizing com-



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein replies to question.—MNA

mittee for choosing scholarship including Minister for Education as chairman, four deputy minister level officials, ten director-general level officials from ministries and four deputy director-general level officials scrutinized the scholarship.

In 2008, a total of 1706 trainees were sent to 29 countries for scholarship programme; 1881 trainees to 32

countries in 2009; and 1766 trainees to 36 countries in 2010.

With respect to scholarship programme from 2008 to 2010, 98.95% or 5353 out of 5410 trainees were sent. To be able to get more international scholarships and send more trainees, Ministry of Education is making coordination with respective departments.

MNA

Education Minister responds to query regarding "students who passed matriculation examination with high marks"

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — At today's Pyithu Hluttaw session, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Shwe Maung (a) U Adu Rawzak of Buthidaung Township stated that students in Buthidaung and Maungdaw Townships who passed matriculation examination with high marks are losing

opportunities to attend vocational universities; it is lost not only for students but for the State; and it also happens in other townships in Rakhine State. He asked how the officials concerned will help the students not to lose pursuit of vocational education.

Regarding the query, Minister for Education

Dr Chan Nyein answered that **anyone, who applied for vocational universities, colleges and institutes and is Myanmar citizen under existing citizenship law, is allowed to join the universities, colleges and institutes if they have lowest mark considered for the admission and meet the set qualifications.**—MNA

Education Minister responds to question as to improvement of education standard of Maungdaw District

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Shwe Maung (a) U Adu Rawzak of Buthidaung Con-stituency at today's Pyithu Hluttaw regular session asked how the State will help Maungdaw District improve its education standard, stating that teachers from other townships are assigned to Buthidaung and Maungdaw Townships in Rakhine State and are meeting difficulties in language, and accommodation; and the education standard of Maungdaw District will improve if well-qualified local teachers are appointed.

Regarding the query, Education Minister Dr Chan Nyein answered that, to appoint teachers at basic education schools, locals in equal ratio from each Region and State meeting set qualifications are trained at teacher training courses and are assigned to their own Region or State as priority.

Fifty teachers out of 51 at three basic education high schools in Buthidaung Township are locals and the other high school teacher is wife of a service personnel assigned in the region. All 124 middle school teachers at six

BEMSs and 790 teachers at 145 BEPSs are also locals. So, 964 teachers out of 965 in Buthidaung Township are locals.

All 92 teachers of five BEHSs, all 165 teachers of 11 BEMSs and 821 teachers out of 822 of 143 BEPSs in Maungdaw Township are locals and the other one is a family member of staff assigned in the region. So, well-qualified teachers, well rid of language and accommodation difficulties, have been assigned to Maungdaw District for improvement of education standard of Maungdaw District.

MNA

Thuta Tagun Library building opens

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—The new building of Thuta Tagun Library in Kuntaw Village, Kuntaw Village-tract of Mongngot Township, Kyaukse District, Shan State (North) was opened on 17 March.

Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council

U Tun Chit, Head of the Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Khin Nilar Soe and the village-tract PDC Chairman U Ar Yu formally opened the new building.

The Township PDC chairman spoke on the occasion and the head of Township IPRD

explained measures for durability of the library and benefits of reading. And wellwishers donated publications and cash to the library.

The new RC type one-storey building was built with a contribution of K 2.3 million by the State and local people.

MNA

EP-1 Minister responds to query about “hydropower projects in Maykha Malikha river valley at the confluence of Ayeyawady River”

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Zakhun Ting Ring of Kachin State Constituency-4 revealed that seven hydropower projects are being implemented in Maykha Malikha River valley at the confluence of Ayeyawady River; residents from five villages which are included in the area of projects have been moved to better places equipped with roads, electricity, potable water, hospital, school and religious buildings; and local people are enjoying higher living standard and emerging job opportunities. He asked which arrangements will be made for people who inhabit in basin areas in the upper part of Myitsone hydropower project.

He also questioned on the situation of electricity supply of the hydropower projects and present opportunities and future prospects for local people depending on the projects.

In response to the query, Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min answered that, regarding the first question, five villages in the area of Myitsone Hydropower Project which have been relocated are Tanphe, Kyeinkaram, Myitsone, Khappa/Aungjayan and Daungpan villages, with the total 410 households and a population of 2146. The former three villages were moved to Aunmyintha new model village and the latter to Maliyan new model village. Roads of the villages were of concrete type and each household was provided a plot of land. The villages have 410 two-storey wooden houses, one high school with two extended school building, three primary schools, one police station, one post office, one general administration office

with fire station, 16-bedded hospital and four religious buildings.

Two-storey houses are Kachin traditional houses and of RC type, with water system and electricity. The newly-established model village is situated on Myitkyina-Myitsone concrete road. Compensation for farmlands and perennial crops were given to locals with the negotiation of local authority and the reclamation of lands was carried out.

Local people who live in basin areas in the upper part of Myitsone hydropower project will also be relocated to better places and a community with higher social and economic status will be established systematically.

Regarding the second question, eight hydropower projects will be implemented in Maykha Malikha River valley at the confluence of Ayeyawady River, namely Myitsone, Chepwe, Chepwenge, Wusauk, Khaunglanphu, Yinan, Phizaw and Laiza. Total installed engine power is 18499 MWs. The projects will be completed within 15 years. The installed engine power of Myitsone project is 6000 MWs. First engine will start running in 2018 and all others in 2019.

Current opportunities for locals depending on the projects were job opportunities in stone and sand production, building and road construction, civil engineering works in the projects and food supply business for tens of thousands of workers of the projects. Only a food supply business is a huge business.

For future prospects, all-weather 261-mile



Minister for Electric Power No. 1

U Zaw Min replying to question.

MNA

motorway from Myitsone to Yinan and 170-mile motorway from Myitsone to Laiza, seven bridges which can withstand 80 tons of load will emerge on completion of the projects. Construction of Ayeyawady river-spanning bridge south of Myitsone is underway and will be finished in 2011. The emerging roads and bridges will contribute towards development in socio-economic status of local people and enhance regional friendship.

Local youths and educated persons will enjoy job opportunities at power plants upon completion of the projects. Kachin State will experience huge improvement in electricity supply and industrial enterprises using electricity, social, education, economic and transportation sectors will become developed with added momentum.—MNA

EP-2 Minister replies to question on supply of electricity from National Power Grid to all towns in Chin State in order to establish factories and workshops in Chin State

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — At Amyotha Hluttaw session held today, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Zung Hlei Thang of Chin State Constituency No-2 put a question about supply of electricity from National Power Grid to all towns in Chin State in order to establish factories and workshops in Chin State.

Regarding the question, Minister for Electric Power No-2 U Khin Maung Myint replied that although Chin State did not enjoy electricity from National Power Grid yet, arrangements have been made in two ways— building of small-scale hydropower stations and supplying electricity from diesel engines—for supply of electricity to 12 towns including Haka, Chin State's capital, and Falam and Mindat, district towns.

Under the first way of supplying electricity to nearby towns and villages from hydropower stations, eight power stations were built with total installation capacity of 3013 kilowatts.

Libar power station with generating capacity of 600 kilowatts benefits Haka and its surrounding four villages and Thantlang and its surrounding four villages, Daungbar with 400 kilowatts, Haka and its surrounding two villages, Ngasitbar with 1000 kilowatts, Falam and its surrounding nine villages, Zarlwee with 400 kilowatts, Tiddim and its

surrounding three villages, Htwehsuang with 164 kilowatts, Tongzan and its surrounding two villages, Chichau with 260 kilowatts, Mindat, Namtlaung with 139 kilowatts, Matupi and Paletwa with 50 kilowatts, Paletwa.

Therefore, eight small-scale hydropower stations can supply 24-hour electricity to eight towns and 24 villages in Chin State during the seven months period from July to January. During the remaining five months, 19 diesel engines with installation capacity of 1119 kilowatts can supply electricity six hours a day.

Under the second way of supplying electricity through diesel engines, nine diesel engines with installation capacity of 423 kilowatts benefit Kanpetlet, Yayzwa, Reidkhawdah and Kyikha. As engines run on diesel allotted by the government, those towns can enjoy electricity two hours a day.

In calculating the cost of supplying electricity through diesel engines, the government is supplying electricity to Chin State at a loss of K 10.7 million a month or K 128.4 million a year.

Supply of electricity is being carried out by 15 Electrical Engineers' Offices with the strength of 197 officers and other ranks in Chin State. As 177 out of 197 service personnel are Chin national, 177 Chin national staff made up 89.85 per cent of all

staff. The monthly salary for all staff is K 7.29 million. Construction of eight hydropower stations in Chin State cost K 89 million and 28 diesel engines K 28.95 million. The government uses 3640 gallons of diesel per month worth K 14.25 million to generate electricity from the diesel engines. The government spent K 1535.667 million for extended construction of power lines and subpower stations and maintenance of hydropower stations and diesel engines in 2010-11 fiscal year.

Then the minister continued arrangements being made for supply of electricity from National Power Grid to all Chin State. He said that plans are underway to supply electricity from 40-megawatt Myitha hydropower station in Gangaw Township and 380-megawatt Manipur hydropower station in Kalay Township through Gangaw, Kyaw, Chaungku, Pakokku and Nyaungbingyi subpower stations and to install and build 66 KV power line and subpower stations in Haka, Falam and Tidim in Chin State. Besides, arrangements are being made to supply electricity to Matupi through Gangaw and then Mindat through 66 KV power line. Plans are underway to build 33 KV power line linking Kyauktaw subpower station and Paletwa Township in Chin State and a subpower station in order to supply electricity from hydropower plant projects— 76.5 –megawatt Saidin, 500-megawatt Laymyot and 111-megawatt Thahaychaung—in Rakhine State. Hence, the government has spent a lot of money on supplying electricity to Chin State on a nonprofit basis.

MNA

Information Minister replies to question of U Saw Thein Aung of Hlaingbwe Constituency about aspiration of Kayin nationals

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—At today's Pyithu Hluttaw session, U Saw Thein Aung of Hlaingbwe Constituency put a question about government's plans for restoration of peace and stability in Kayin State and role of Kayin nationals in the process. He said that peoples of Kayin State aspire to ceasefire and peace for they are sympathetic towards war refugees in Kayin State.

In his response the question, leader of government Spoke Authoritative Team Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan said that **the government, like Kayin nationals, also has longed for ceasefire and peace. So, the government has made every effort to bring about peace and stability and development in the nation.**

He then gave an account of endeavours of the government for peace and progress of the nation. In 1988, the Tatmadaw assumed State's duties as the nation was on the verge of collapse due to political turmoil. Since then, the Tatmadaw has strived for stability and development of the nation.

Stability or peace is instrumental in progress of a nation. During the period between 1948 in which the nation regained independence and 1962, there was almost no stability and tranquility in the nation because of multi-colored insurgency. Stability could be restored to a certain extent between 1962 and 1988, but it was rather weak and fragile. The successive governments made several abortive attempts to restore stability in the nation and could not make remarkable progress of the nation.

Taking lessons from the history, the Tatmadaw and Tatmadaw Leader Head of State sought different but effective means to restore stability and could bring about stability in the nation practicing the policy which avoids seeking political advantages, is based on goodwill, pragmatic, beneficial to locals, and acceptable to anti-government organizations. So, 17 major armed groups and 23 small armed groups returned to legal fold. That means all armed groups against the government have returned to legal fold except three armed groups. So, the nation is enjoying the fruits of peace and stability.

The government while trying to restore stability has made endeavours for development of the nation. It has laid down plans and implemented for development of border areas and national brethrens. The Head of State as the chairman of the development project supervised for the success of the project. So far, over K 341.52 billion has gone to the project. In addition, 24 regions were designated as special development regions and

seven rural development tasks were laid down for development of rural areas. Furthermore, five-year plans were implemented for economic growth of the nation. As a result, the nation today is witnessing unprecedented progress in every aspect. Almost every infrastructure for further development of the nation has been built and so the nation is on the right track to greater development.

The government has also made efforts for practicing democracy as aspired by the entire nation. National Referendum was successfully held in the face of various difficulties and obstacles. The constitution was ratified by the referendum and now the respective hluttaws are in session in accord with the constitution after the general election. Those hluttaws are forming Union-level, State and region-level legislative, administrative and judicial bodies which will establish peaceful, modern, developed democratic nation, which is the national goal of the nation.

In democratization process, the government has tried to make peace with armed groups for ever rather than for a period in accord with the constitution. Most of the armed groups that have returned to legal fold have been dissolved in line with the constitution. Some have even formed legal political parties and entered into national politics. Armed groups are also assuming the State's duties as border guard forces and regional militia forces in compliance with the constitution under the command of the Tatmadaw.

However, some armed groups are still refusing to follow the provision of constitution and the government is trying to make eternal peace with those groups with its genuine goodwill, farsightedness and sympathetic attitude. The door to peace is also kept open for the remaining armed groups in some border regions. And it is also of the policy of the new government, said the minister.

Nevertheless, the armed groups need to have a thirst for stability like the government and the peoples. Only then, peace and stability can be created. Nowadays, some organizations which do not want peace themselves are trying to persuade or prevent other organizations longing for peace from the road to peace. Those organizations even use threats and attacks to stop other organizations seeking for peace. Some certain remaining armed groups, exiles, super powers, INGOs are agitating national armed groups that have returned to legal fold but still fail to follow the provisions of the constitution to go underground.

Information Minister replies to question of Pyithu Hluttaw representative of Hlaingbwe Constituency

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — At today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw, U Saw Thein Aung of Hlaingbwe Constituency questioned what kind of humanitarian aid is being rendered to the refugees in Kayin State due to armed clashes and to what extent aid measures have been taken.

In response to the question, leader of the government Spoke Authoritative Team Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan said the government wants only peace and development, not war. It wants no bloodshed, either. But, measures have to be unavoidably taken to take the offensive for

national security and for the security of the people and their property.

It is natural that armed clashes spark loss and damage for both sides. Besides, it is true that the people in the regions where armed clashes broke out will suffer economic, education and health losses, more or less. It has been known to all that the Tatmadaw government has been trying to seek peace since its assumption of State duties in 1988.

As a result, many of national raced armed groups from Kayin State have returned to the legal fold and they are DKBA group led by U Tha Htoo Kyaw,

(See page 7)



Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan responding to question.—MNA

In reality, modest cooperation of some certain powers, INGOs and the neighbour is the effective solution to remaining unrest and disability in Kayin State. There are base camps which they call refugee camps in the territory of the neighbor near Myanmar border. Those camps are founded with contribution of some certain super powers, INGOs and the neighbour. There may be some refugees in those camps as representative U Saw Thein Aung had said. Likewise, there are also a considerable number of insurgents, their families and exiles. Insurgents use those camps as their base and launch guerilla attack on the army, which is the reason that exchange of fires are still occurring in Kayin State. In fact, those remaining insurgents manage to be alive with the assistance of some certain super powers and INGOs.

The minister pointed out a similar case as an example. The north-eastern part of the nation once had been the home to Burma Communist Party. As BCP forces were strong and powerful, the Tatmadaw had to take hard and massive military actions against them. The neighbour, as a friendly nation of Myanmar, took principled stand against interfering in internal affairs of other nations. As a result, BCP were demolished and stability could be restored.

If the neighbour would stand as a friendly nation, problems of Kayin State would soon be solved. No matter what, the incumbent Government and the new Government will keep open the door to peace for armed groups and will make efforts for peace and stability of Kayin State in accord with the constitution. The new government will promote all sectors including agriculture, livestock breeding and transportation with added momentum for physical growth. In addition, for mental growth, it will take wider actions for promoting the standard of education, health and social and cultural sector of the nation, with a view to flourishing genuine Union Spirit.

The minister then made suggestion about the role of Kayin nationals in peace process, saying that peoples are to work for further development and stability of home regions in cooperation with the State and the region/state government to achieve widespread stability and then to full and eternal peace, stage by stage, in line with the constitution. The minister added that he believed that it is the best and most appropriate way for the nation to enjoy peace and stability.

In short, the minister said, the government is striving for development and stability of the nation. The new Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will also endeavour for progress of Kayin State and make effort for full and eternal peace in Kayin State with genuine goodwill, farsightedness and sympathetic attitude in line with the constitution. People would see peaceful and tranquil Kayin State for sure if they are willing to partake in the peace process in line with the constitution.—MNA

Information Minister replies to question...

(from page 6)

Haungthayaw special region peace group led by U Saw Thamuhe, Phayagon special region peace group led by Phado Aung San, Thantaung special region peace group led by U Saw Phery Moe, Thantaung (North) special region peace group led by U Ko Gyi, and KNU/KNLA peace council led by U Htay Maung Oo totalling six. Those groups had a strength of 5973 troops together with over 20000 people affected by the armed clashes. For those national races armed groups and public refugees, the government took systematic measures to provide necessary assistance.

Provisions, including rice, table salt and iodized salt, money, clothing, household items and consumer goods were provided for them. Moreover, to improve their livelihoods in the long run, seasonal and perennial crop strains, cultivation methods, winnowing machines, pumps, tractors and vehicles for business and transport purposes were provided. In addition, pedigree piglets, chicks and breeding methods were provide for livestock breeding, and other necessary assistance for transport, education,

health and communication sectors. So far, the State has spent K 6773.253 million or over K 6.773 billion for such assistance.

To ensure smooth transportation and construction work for Kayin national race armed groups, the Ministry of Defence helped license 383 cars officially.

Now, those national race armed groups have transformed themselves to be border guard forces. For those who were too old to be members of border guard forces, physically handicapped and unhealthy, the State provided them with lump sums of money, which totalled K 340.3 million.

As internal armed insurrections have not yet stopped completely, it has been 129 times from 1988 to date that the people were affected by the insurgents. Due to internal armed clashes, 12679 houses or 14953 households or 64929 people had to be moved to other places. Most of them are from Kayin State.

This is why for the whole Kayin State including the people of Kayin State affected by armed clashes, the government is working for the improvement of all sectors like economy, education, livestock breeding, communication and transport under the programme of progress of border areas and

national races. For those measures, K 18812.86 million or over K 18.81 billion has been spent so far.

Despite the government's efforts for peace and development, some of the people are in the other country to live in refugee camps. However, most of them are remnant insurgents and their families, expatriates and those who fled after committing crimes.

As said in the first clarification, the government side by side with the people will try in accord with the constitution so as to ensure eternal peace after putting an end to all armed clashes and an eternal peaceful life in Kayin State, said the minister.

After raising and replying to the question, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw said continued measures will be taken as there are points to be considered regarding the questions and answers. The clarification has made it clear to all that they have understood the issues of Kayin State more although they seem to be simple in a superficial manner. It is hoped that today's discussions will contribute to achieving peace completely. The State always opens the peace door and created opportunities to achieve peace. So the representatives are urged to convince the people that the public strength, genuine goodwill and cooperation are necessary for seeking eternal peace in the nation.—MNA



**Minister for Finance and Revenue
U Hla Tun answering question.**—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—Representative Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency-4 raised a question at today's session of Amyotha Hluttaw. He said it is found that the government has formed a trade policy council for development of market-oriented economic system in accord with Article 35 of Chapter 1 of the constitution and for development of general investments in accord with Article 36 Sub-subsection (c). So, he said he would like to know whether the collection of 10 percent tax – 2 % trade revenue and 8% income tax in import processes and collection of 3.5% tax in import processes could be abolished only by gathering income tax from companies concerned and proprietors according to financial year so that national entrepreneurs could enjoy more opportunities in international market and that GDP could increase and whether the State could render additional cash assistance for export items like the People's Republic of China, the second biggest economy of the world.

Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun

F&R Minister answers query of Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency-4

responded to the question saying that at present income tax is being collected in kyats from individuals and companies or organizations in accord with the income tax law and companies law respectively. Likewise, income tax is being collected in foreign currency from those individuals or companies earning foreign currencies in accordance with the income tax law. A directive has been issued to collect only 2 percent tax over the sales of goods sold in foreign currency in order that the staff from related tax and revenue departments cannot be overtaxed and that the work of paying tax can be simple and easy as 30 % tax on net profit has to be paid according to the income tax law. This is the policy adopted by the trade policy council. That 2 percent tax of foreign currency is subtracted when the financial statement is submitted at the end of the financial year.

Similarly, regarding trade revenue, there are laws, and directives are issued occasionally. UMFCCL and other business associations are also informed of those directives. There are rates of tax and 5 to 200 % revenue taxes according to types of goods. Server taxes are imposed against the goods unnecessary for the country and relaxed taxes against the goods necessary for the country. Some kinds of commodities are exempted from tax. According to the decision of the trade policy council, a directive has been issued to collect only 8 percent trade revenue over the goods sold in foreign currency. The State is now doing so as necessary and will review it later depending on the increase in tax and revenue.

As to the collection of 3.5 percent tax in import processes, withholding tax is not to be paid

by paying organizations but to be paid by a seller/importer or one take in charge of the business. And 3.5 percent tax is collected over the money paid for purchasing goods. So, the tax has to be paid by importers from foreign countries. Such taxes are being imposed according to the withholding method to ensure there is no avoidance of tax as foreigners do not usually settle in Myanmar. It is therefore done by in accord with the taxing right of Myanmar, a sovereign nation.

The Union of Myanmar and other six nations signed avoidance of double taxation agreement. Those six countries are the UK, Vietnam, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, India and Singapore. Withholding method is also employed by western countries, European countries, Asian countries and almost all of Southeast Asian countries.

The minister continued that in successive eras, Myanmar is still weak in enjoying the right of tax. At a time when the market economy system is in progress, the nation will be able to work for development only if necessary taxes and revenues are collected. The following are rates of collected tax and GDP of ASEAN+3 countries in 2009-2010 financial year: 30% in Brunei, 8% in Cambodia, 11% in Indonesia, 10.8% in Laos, 15.5% in Malaysia, 14.4% in the Philippines, 13% in Singapore, 17% in Thailand, 13.8% in Vietnam, 27.4% in Japan, 26.8% in ROK, 17% in China and 3.2% in Myanmar. So, in comparison with those nations, Myanmar cannot enjoy full right of collecting taxes, and according to the existing laws, the State cannot render additional cash assistance yet for export items. —MNA

Five Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives discuss proposal of U Maung Nyo of Sittway Constituency Minister for Electric Power No.2 replies

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March —At the session of Pyithu Hluttaw today, five Pyithu Hluttaw representatives held discussions on the proposal which is approved to discuss **"to level power charges of Regions and States covered by the national power grid and Regions and States not covered by**

it yet at equal rate" raised by U Maung Nyo of Sittway Constituency.

Daw Khin Saw Wai of Yathaedaung Constituency said that there was no argument on the clarification of the Electric Power No-2 Minister to the question raised by Pyithu Hluttaw representative

U Ye Tun of Thandwe Constituency. But there were other points to think. She said there was a great difference between K 25 and K 50 a unit charged for electricity from power grid and K 450 or K 500 a unit charged in Rakhine State. Instead of taking financial point of view on this public services, other political, economic and social points of view should be taken. Although the Ministry of Electric Power No-2 is an enterprise, it is a service industry by nature. All national race voters residing in the Union should have equal rights and harmonious development should be guaranteed in all parts of the Union.

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Five Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives discuss...

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K 200 per unit will be a reasonable rate for the regions where electricity is being generated from diesel engines. By doing so, the rate of electricity bill will be equal in the regions that has not got electricity from national power grid before the completion of hydropower projects. There were many government-funded programmes.

Hydropower projects—Thahtaychaung in Thandwe, Saidin in Buthidaung and Laymyot in Minbya—being implemented in Rakhine State will not be completed within few years. She called on the government to render assistance to more electricity supply in Rakhine State that gets electricity from 6 to 10 pm.

In his discussion, U Gyi Phon Sah of Naugmon Constituency said that regarding the proposal to charge for electricity bill at equal rate, it is required to study the nature of generating and supplying electricity logically.

Like Rakhine State, rates of electricity bill are different in Kachin State. Systems of supplying electricity from hydropower station, from diesel engines, from neighbouring countries and from committees for availability of electricity made differences in charging for electricity bills. According to cost of production and the length of time electricity supplied, rates of electricity bill will vary. For instance, electricity users are charged K 800 per unit in Phakant region in Kachin State and K 160 in Myitkyina. It is learnt that the government lost K 100 million a month on supplying electricity through diesel engines.

The government could not afford to bear the cost in all sectors. It is difficult to fulfill the requirements of a particular region. The government is trying hard for ensuring equitable development in all corners of the nation. The proposal should be reviewed as it is impossible to charge electricity bill at equal rate from the political, management and economic points of view.

Next, U Tun Aung Kyaw of Ponnagyun Constituency said that the amount of electricity received in Rakhine State and electricity bills is making it difficult for businesses to run in full swing and the region is witnessing losses rather than profits.

Being an independent state formed with Union system, development of the whole Union calls for development of Regions and States and economic infrastructures.

Electricity insufficiency, increase in cost of living and closure of factories due to high electricity bill will lead to high unemployment and hard living.

He seconded the proposal submitted by U Maung Nyo because he believed in honesty that regional development can contribute towards peace and stability and perpetual existence of the Union.

Next, U Sai Tun Sein of Mongping Constituency said that supplying electricity at a loss through diesel engines to the regions with lack of hydropower. It is difficult to see the proposal logically. Like Rakhine State, it is difficult to charge for electricity bill at equal rate in Shan State. There are different systems in supplying electricity in Shan State.

He expressed his firm belief that the State is striving to supply adequate power to all regions. Due to differences in production cost, geographical situation and supply duration, unit prices cannot be the same in the whole country. Equal unit charges will be possible when the country has national energy security to the full. Hence the proposal should be reviewed.

Dr San Hlaing of Taungup constituency said the State in implementing plans for the whole nation to equally enjoy the benefits of national grid. He thanked the government for building hydropower

stations in Thahtay creek, Saidin, An and Laymyo of Rakhine State. He expressed belief that after completion of the stations, most of the towns in state will get power from the grid and that unit price will be the same in the whole nation. At present, diesel and husk-fired generators are distributing power to regions outside the grid. Unit prices will vary to a certain degree depending on production cost, transport charges and fuel prices. The unit price in Taungup is K 450. Equal development is not possible yet. Logically, the government cannot take all the responsibilities in market economic system.

Then, he discussed that the proposal should be reconsidered with positive view as it is unlikely that the electricity bills are paid at equal rate.

Regarding the proposal, Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Myint said the State is supplying electric power to the public through five ways – power supply by building national power grids, power supply by building small-scale hydropower plants, power supply from diesel engines, power supply from diesel engines after formation of electric power supply committees with local authorities and townspeople, power supply by building small-scale hydropower plants and power supply to some regions adjacent to neighbouring nations through purchase of electricity from those nations.

The electricity bill rates in the regions being supplied through the investment of the ministry are 25 kyats per unit for household meter and 50 kyats per unit for commercial meter. But, the regions which are supplied electricity with private investments have different rates.

Way One in distributing electricity includes:

- (1) The national power grid supplies power to 10 out of 14 cities where region and state offices are seated and four other states and regions are supplied electricity through the other ways.
- (2) The national power grid supplies power to 42 out of 67 towns where district offices are seated and 25 other towns are supplied electricity through the other ways.
- (3) The national power grid supplies power to 224 out of 330 towns where township offices are seated and 106 other towns are supplied electricity through the other ways.
- (4) The said ten Region/state capitals, 42 district capitals, 224 townships, 26 sub-town and towns and 1393 villages get power from national grid through self-help means. The remaining 4986 villages get power through other means. Hence 6379 villages get electricity on self-help basis.

The price is K 25 per unit for households and K 50 for business purposes. In the second way, the EP-2 Ministry has 32 mini hydropower stations. They with 33,237 megawatt-capacity are supplying power to 31 towns and 42 villages round the clock for seven months from January to July and diesel generators distribute power six hours daily to them during the remaining months charging the same unit price as in the places covered by the grid. A total of 568 state-owned generators are supplying power to 309 townships not inclusive in the previous two methods. The annual consumption of diesel is 1400,448 gallons. But the generators can run only two hours with the fuel provided by the ministry. Per unit price is K 25 for households and K 50 for businesses. The cost for the State is K 300 for diesel plus K 19 for transport charges for every unit. If other costs are added, the State is distributing electricity at a loss of K 294 per unit.

The State is supplying power to Kachin State, Chin State, Rakhine State, Shan State (North), Kayah State and Kayin State at an annual loss of K 1807.35 million. Annual revenue is K 84690.397 million meaning average income per unit is K 33.25 of which



Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Myint making clarification.—MNA

every K 20 goes to the EP-1 Ministry and only K 13.25 to EP-2 Ministry. If other costs including maintenance, tax, fuel are subtracted the ministry gets a per unit profit of only 63 pyas.

Concerning the fourth way, towns and villages which want to have electricity more than two hours daily are forming region-wise committees and bearing the extra fuel cost. Depending on duration and cost, unit price goes between K 400 and K 600. There are 47 power distributor groups.

Kachin State has one group supplying six hours daily at K 800 per unit. Sagaing Region has one group supplying 13 hours daily at K 550 per unit. Rakhine State has 12 groups supplying 13 hours daily in Kyauktaw at K 500 per unit; 12 hours daily in MyaukU at K 450 per unit; 10 hours daily in Taungup at K 400 per unit; five hours daily in Myinbya at K 500 per unit; four hours daily in Thandwe at K 600 per unit; three hours daily in Kyaukphyu and Manauang at K 300 per unit; four hours daily in Gwa at K 550 per unit; four hours daily in Sittway (four groups) at K 400 per unit.

Shan State (South) has one group supplying 12 hours daily at K 700 per unit. Moreover, two hydro generators with 375 kva are distributing four hours daily at K 275 per unit.

Mon State has two groups supplying round the clock to Ye at K 500 per unit and 10 hours daily to Kawza at K 500 per unit. Taninthayi Region has 30 groups. Two are supplying from 18 to 24 hours daily to Dawei at K 430 per unit; one is supplying four hours daily to Myitta at K 285 per unit; two are supplying four hours daily to Yebu at K 450 per unit; two are supplying 14 hours daily to Maungmakan at K 500 per unit; one is supplying four hours daily to Launglon at K 450 per unit; one is supplying four hours daily to Kaleinaung at K 300 per unit; eleven are supplying 24 hours daily to Myeik at K 300 per unit; one is supplying 24 hours daily to Palaw at K 450 per unit; one is supplying five hours daily to Palauk at K 450 per unit; one is supplying five hours daily to Taninthayi at K 450 per unit; one is supplying 24 hours daily to Kawhtoung at K 400 per unit; one is supplying three hours daily to Khamaukgyi at K 450 per unit; one is supplying 15 hours daily to Bokpyin at K 470 per unit; one is supplying four hours daily to Pyigyimandaing at K 450 per unit; two are supplying three hours daily to Karathuri at K 450 per unit. There are 47 groups in the whole nation charging from K 300 to 800 per unit. Per unit cost is K 319 (K 300 for diesel+K 19 for transport). If K5 for Royal Fee is subtracted, they have K 76 for maintenance and other expenses. So, K 400 per unit is a reasonable price. But it depends on the price of fuel.

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Five Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives discuss...

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There are 14 groups distributing power with mini-hydropower stations. Buga Co is supplying to Myitkyina and Waingmaw 24 hours daily at unit price of K 160 for households and K 300 for small industries with three 3.5-megawatt stations; one group is supplying 24 hours daily to Chipwe at K 200 per unit with 200-kv station.

Shan State (North) has three groups. One group in Kutkai is supplying 24 hours daily at unit price of K 200 for households and K 300 for small industries with 640-Kv station; one group in Tangyan is supplying eight hours daily at unit price of K 250 for both the households and small industries with 75-Kv station; One group in Manton is supplying 24 hours daily at unit price of K 250 for first 50 units, K 200 for second 50 units, K 100 for 100 units and above.

Shan State (East) has two groups. One group in Kengtung is supplying 24 hours daily at unit price of K 60 with 3480-Kv station; One group in Tachilek is supplying 24 hours daily during high water level and two hours daily during low water level at unit price of 6 Baht or K 195 with 50-Kv station.

In Shan State (South) one group in Kunhing is supplying 24 hours daily at unit price of K 60 with 175-Kv station.

Taninthayi Region has five groups. One group in Kyunsu is supplying 24 hours daily in rainy season and five hours daily in summer at unit price of K 250 with 150-Kv station; three groups in Taninthayi are supplying four to nine hours daily at unit price from K 480 to 500 with 124-Kv stations; one group in Malikyun is supplying six hours daily at unit price of K 500 with 192-Kv station.

Small hydropower plants are charging 60 to 500 Kyats per unit of electricity.

There are 12 units for accessing electricity which are buying electricity from neighbouring countries in some regions adjacent to neighbouring countries as the fifth method. Lwalkyal of Kachin State is buying

electricity from China and supplying electricity 24 hours a day. One unit charge is 145 Kyats.

There are seven units in Shan State (North) buying electricity from China and supplying electricity 24 hours a day. One unit charge is 1.2 Ywans in Chinshwehaw; 1.5 Ywans in Monekoe; 1.2 Ywans in Manhero; 1.2 Ywans in Hopang; 300 Kyats in Nantphatka, Khomone, Mongyulay; 1.4 Ywans or about 210 Kyats for both ordinary household metre and small industrial use metre in Kunlong and 1 Ywans for 150 Kyats for ordinary household metre and 1.2 Ywans or about 180 Kyats for small industrial use metre in Laukkai.

In Muse, Namhkam and Kyugok, one unit charge is 1.2 Ywans or about 162 Kyats. Now, the State is charging 120 Kyats per unit electricity supplied by Shweli Hydropower Plant. The State charges 120 Kyats per unit because it has bought the electricity from Shweli Hydropower Plant with Ywan.

Tachilek in Shan State (East) is buying electricity from Thailand and supplying electricity 24 hours a day. One unit charge is 6.25 Bahts or about 200 Kyats for ordinary household metre and 7.5 Bahts or 240 Kyats for small industrial use metre.

One unit charge in No (1) Ward of Myawady in Kayin State with 24-hr electricity supply is 4.5 Bahts or about 144 Kyats for ordinary household metre and 6 Bahts or about 192 Kyats for small industrial use metre; that in No (2) Ward of Myawady is seven Bahts or about 244 Kyats for ordinary household metre and 9 Bahts or 280 Kyats for small industrial use metre; that in Phaya Tonezu of Kayin State six Bahts or about 192 Kyats for both ordinary household metre and small industrial use metre.

It can be seen that Committee for availability of electric power supply are supplying electricity by using every possible way; that the committee could serve interest of the people depend on its ability; that the government is doing it without taking any profit, that there could be different electricity charges across the nation at the time when electricity can not be distributed from national power grid and that now it is not impossible to equalize electricity charges nationwide.

The government does not neglect regions that have

no links with national power grid. The 26 hydropower projects (3035 MW) and a coal-fired power station (six MW) are being implemented with the private sector investments and 36 hydropower projects (36360 MW) and two coal-fired power station (870 MW) are under implementation with the foreign investment.

Upon completion of the 65 projects (40271 MW), electricity would be supplied to regions and surrounding areas through national power grid. Then, electricity power charges can be equalized.

Of 65 projects, Thahtay Chaung Hydropower project would generate 111 MW, Laymyo hydropower project, 500 MW, Saidin Hydropower project, 76.5 MW and An Hydropower project, 10 MW respectively. Electricity will be supplied to 17 townships of Rakhine State and Paletwa Township of Chin State through national power grid. Electricity charge per unit will be the rate fixed by the government.

Due to natural barriers, privileges and rights would never be same.

So, the proposal submitted by U Maung Nyo is good with benevolent attitude. But it is less possible and impossible to take action under current situation. Now, it is impossible and very difficult to have equal rights across the nation. So, he discussed that U Maung Nyo should review his proposal and it is a proposal not to continue to discuss.

The Hluttaw Speaker said that five representatives and the Minister for Electric Power No.2 fully discussed the proposal submitted by U Maung Nyo of Sittway Constituency; that discussions on the proposal are beneficial not only to region but also to the State. So, it will be put on record at Hluttaw and taken into account in the future. He asked U Maung Nyo's option of whether or not his proposal should be submitted to the Hluttaw.

U Maung Nyo said that I thank for submitting aspiration of the people at the hluttaw on behalf of the people; that the detailed explanations of representatives and the Minister are reasonable. But the State should put into consideration at opportune time and he postponed his proposal.

Pyithu Hluttaw announced the postponement of U Maung Nyo's proposal was agreed.—MNA

Ministry of Labour, if granted by Pyithu Hluttaw, will take measures for submitting new social security insurance law (draft) as supported with possibility thinking

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—Four representatives discussed the approved proposal “to make necessary arrangements for drawing a new international level Social Security Insurance Law (draft) and to submit it to the second regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw” submitted by U Pwint Hsan from Mayangon Constituency at the regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw today.

U Tin Win from Dedaye Constituency said that Section 24 of the constitution (2008) says, “The Union shall enact necessary laws to protect the rights of workers”, Section 26 (b) “The Union shall enact necessary laws for Civil Services personnel to have security and sufficiency of food, clothing and shelter, to get maternity benefits for married women in service, and to ease livelihood for welfare of retired service personnel”, Section 28 (a), “The Union shall earnestly strive to improve education and health of the people”, Section 31, “The Union shall, to the extent possible, assist to reduce unemployment among the people”, Section 32 (a), “The Union shall care for mothers and children, orphans and fallen Defence Service members’ children, the aged and the disabled”, and Section 351, “Mothers, children and expectant women shall enjoy equal rights as prescribed by law.”

In other countries, staff who become disabled and injured have access to benefits in accordance with the social security scheme, and other staff have the rights to withdraw their deposits with interests.

When a new social security insurance law is drafted, staff members who become disabled due to normal illness and family members of late workers can benefit from the security plan. The plan can attract more attention from employers if health care is provided to fee-payer employers as well as employees.

If an employed insured worker can enjoy unemployment benefit, that will contribute towards the State's economy and will comply with Article 31.

If the social security scheme is implemented on a wider scale, instability of employment can be reduced and production of goods can be boosted with an increase in number of skilled workers. And that will benefit employers. The plan will be implemented with combined efforts of the State, employers, and workers.

So, he is in support of the proposal, he said.

Daw Win Maw Tun from Yenangyoung Constituency said that the present social security scheme guarantees workers health security only. Workers

whose homes are distant from hospitals and dispensaries still find it hard to receive medical treatment. In addition, workers in a town or village where there are no security hospitals or dispensaries have no access to social security according to the present law. Even if they have access, they cannot enjoy the rights to receive medical treatment due to lack of medical facilities.

Providing employment grants for a redundant worker ensures his life security and contributes to State's currency circulation and economic stability. So, the majority of countries have prescribed a provision of social security insurance laws.

Unlike civil servants, workers of private-run enterprises have not had access to old age pension. If a social security insurance law is drafted with suitable points, workers can enjoy life security and that will provide impetus to the nation's economic stability and development. So, she is in favour of the proposal.

U Kyi Myint from Latha Constituency said that a new bill should be written based on the 1954 Social Security Act. Present act benefits only private and civil servants only. Even in the US, the congress held discussions in 2010 to benefit more citizens. Security systems include regional hospitals and dispensaries, cost-sharing system in government-owned hospitals, pension-saving system as part of the medical trust funds set up by donors, life and other insurance systems, savings bond, shares in private companies, and purchasing houses by installment.

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Proposal to build heavy hydropower station in Bontala waterfall submitted at Amyotha Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—At today's Amyotha Hluttaw sessions, Amyotha Hluttaw sought the approvals to discuss the proposals submitted by the representatives.

U Paul Lyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No.9 submitted a proposal "to build

heavy hydropower station in Bontala waterfall."

It was seconded by U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region Constituency No.3.

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

proposal.

The Hluttaw announced that if there are representatives who want to discuss the proposal, they are to register at deputy director-general of Hluttaw Office at the time when the session was ended.

MNA

Ministry of Labour, if granted by...

(from page 9)

However, there is no link between security systems. Even staff do not know what for they are paying. The government makes major contribution to the systems, which is against market economy.

In the international community, social security is called security or national insurance as well as social security net.

In market economy, the whole security and insurance system is based on the contribution of parts of the grants provided for unemployed people. A rust fund is established with parts of the grants and contributions made by employers and the government concerned. The fund is raised by investing it by economic enterprises in stock market. That may be similar to establishment of a medical trust fund.

In the insurance security system, either the government or private sector has to contribute more. So, he is in support of the proposal.

U Tin Maung Oo

from Shwepyitha Constituency said that employers and employees do not take much interest in Myanmar Social Security Project. When a female staff member is on a maternity leave of 12 weeks, the Social Security Board has the right to take 66.66% of her salary in the period.

However, unlike female counterparts in other countries, female staff members do not have the right to get maternity grants yet. According to the existing law, female staff members who have paid insurance fees can enjoy maternity leave. If those systems are included in the new law, it will win more trust and reliance from workers.

According to the law, those with health care are exclusive of employers. So, they are not much interested in the system. So, it is needed to draw a new security law. He said that therefore he seconded the proposal.

Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi said that Social Security Act was

issued on 22 October 1954, and put into practice since 1 January 1956. When workers who pay insurance fees can receive free treatment when they are sick, pregnant, dead and injured and they suffer diseases related to their



Labour Minister U Aung Kyi making clarification.—MNA

work. In addition, they are provided with grants during the period of leave. If a worker receives treatment in other hospital or clinic in an emergency case, he is provided with the expenses.

When a female worker is pregnant, she can take a 12-week leave and enjoy maternity grants. She can receive

Proposals submitted, approvals sought at Pyithu Hluttaw Session

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—A new proposal for

"Making arrangements for drafting a bill which would pave ways for creating more job opportunities, making peace at work sites and improvement of skills of workers at the second regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw," is accepted during today's Pyithu Hluttaw meeting to discuss the proposal at 13th meeting of Pyithu Hluttaw on Tuesday, 22 March, 2011.

The proposal was submitted by U Tin Maung Win of

Mingaladon Constituency and it was seconded by U Aung Kyaw Khin of Kyauktan Constituency.

Pyithu Hluttaw announced that representatives can enlist at Deputy Director-General of the hluttaw to discuss the proposal.

Afterwards, the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw discussed the question of U Saw Thein Aung saying that his question related to peace in Kayin State not only focus on Kayin State but also across the country.

He continued to say in his retrospect, he quoted what local people in Kachin State said after armed clashes between the Tatmadaw and Kachin armed insurgents during his service in Kachin State, that if the dead bodies from both sides were laid side by

side, the series of dead bodies which started from Tanai could not end till it reached Myitkyina reaching over 100 miles.

The Speaker quoted that local people that they thanked the Kachin brothers who returned to the legal fold after understanding the goodwill of the Tatmadaw government as the state has enjoyed security, peace and smooth transportation due to peace in the state. That showed that the people desired peace while the State wanted it, he said. In his conclusion, the Speaker urged the representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw to actively participate constitutionally as they and the people play an important role in making fully prevalence of peace in a new nation.

MNA

money is low in proportion to consumers' prices. The number of workers who pay insurance fees is only over 520,000. That implies that the law is not reliable enough.

Social Security programmes in the majority of ASEAN countries cover sickness, maternity, funeral expenses, grants for worksite accidents, cash assistance for permanent disability, monthly pensions and old age pensions. Old age pension guarantees security to over 3.6 million workers from private industries in Myanmar. Similarly, many countries exercise unemployment grants as well as health care for

family members of employee. So, the present law needs amendments.

The majority of ASEAN countries have amended their social security insurance laws at least once. So, the Ministry of Labour, if granted by Pyithu Hluttaw, will take measures for submitting a new social security insurance law (draft) as supported with possibility thinking.

The speaker said that the discussions are related to human rights. The proposal should go on, and it needs approval of the hluttaw.

The hluttaw approved the proposal and confirmed it.—MNA

Roads, tube well put into services to hail 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—Hailing the 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, new tarred roads and tube wells were opened at the townships across the nation.

On 5-10 March, tarred roads put into services in Wakema, Thabeikkyin, Einme Townships of

Ayeyawady Division, Pakokku Township. Likewise, tube well was opened at Mingalar ward in Aungban Township on 13 March. Gravel road and tarred roads were commissioned into services in Htantabin, Kyaukdaga and Nganzun Townships in Bago Region on 16-17 March.—MNA

Hninzigon Great Home for the Aged holds AGM

YANGON, 20 March—The Hninzigon Home for the Aged Management Committee held the annual general meeting for 2010 at its hall on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Bahan Township today.

Chairman of the committee U Kyaw Shein made a speech. Vice-Chairman U Aung Than read the annual

report and treasurer U Chit Swe the annual financial statement.

Approval was sought to substitute Hninzigon Home for the Aged with Hninzigon Great Home for the Aged. The annual general meeting followed, and the chairman of the executive committee made a concluding remark.—MNA

HAILING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

The people thank the Tatmadaw for national development

Maung Wun Tha Nu

It was on 18 September 1988 when the Tatmadaw unavoidably took up State duties following the state of public panic and anarchic acts such as a fleet from a western power invaded the Myanmar's waters to pose threats to the sovereignty and security of the Union, opportunist politicians are attempting to seize sovereignty in their interests, opportunists were looting public property and goods from State-owned and private owned warehouses, some Myanmar people were beheading people of own race, and many people were demolishing tombs in cemeteries to get bricks for sales. Leading a life of luxury with the funds provided from local and foreign donors, leaders of protesters were speeding up mass protests and putting pressure on civil servants to take part in the protests. In consequence, the government's administrative machinery came to a halt. The people dared not get out of their homes, whereas those who got involved in the protests for various reasons took to the streets. In many townships, behaviours of leading protesters became intolerable for local people. So, the Tatmadaw had to assume State duties, which has come to the knowledge of the people.

The entire people of the Union know well that the fine traditions of the Tatmadaw such as it stands firm by and loyal to the people in times of emergency, and saves the country whenever the country was on the point of losing sovereignty and independence.

Soon after the World War II ended British colonialists reentered Myanmar and resorted to all possible tricks to undermine the nationalistic fervour of the people because they were well convinced that national races bravely fought back Fascists in unison and were trying their utmost to regain independence. They reduced the strength of the Myanmar armed forces that drove them in the beginning of the World War II and Fascists in late war out of the Myanmar's soil. British colonialists invited Myanmar leaders to Kandy in Sri Lanka to sign Letya-Freeman Agreement under which the Myanmar Tatmadaw would be reduced to a force with 200 officers and 5000 other ranks.

To make things worse, several commanders (Communists) went underground together with their troops and joined the Burma Communist Party (BCP) that was already underground. At that time, Red Flag Communists, White Flag Communists (BCP), People's Yebaw Communists (White Yebaw), KNDO (Kayin insurgents) who were engaged in armed revolts with the aid and abetment from the west to secede from the Union, MNDO (Mon insurgents), Mujahit separatists (Indian insurgents) who had migrated illegally into the nation, and Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang troops that fled China after being defeated by Communist troops of Mao Zedong got involved in armed revolts against the Myanmar government in the post-independence period.

Insurgents well outnumbered Tatmadaw members. So, they shared and occupied townships and villages. KNDO troops under the command of Saw Ba Oo Gyi had occupied Insein and were attacking Yangon. BCP troops were marching to occupy Yangon. The AFPFL government was seeking its way to flee. However, the Tatmadaw repulsed the attacks of insurgents to help the Yangon government survive. The Tatmadaw managed to occupy all fallen townships in cooperation with the people. The Tatmadaw launched fierce battles to enable the AFPFL government to become the Union government again. It managed to save the country that was standing on an abyss of collapse. If the Tatmadaw had not involved in the

national affairs, the nation would have lost independence again. General Aung San pledged that he help the nation regain independence in a year. In the time of Prime Minister U Nu of AFPFL, the nation was likely to lose independence in a year. The people joined hands with the Tatmadaw in independence struggles and in safeguarding independence.

The people remained united with a sense of nationalistic sentiment in the independence struggles. Yet, when it was about to regain independence, the nation saw many forces in rivalry against each other for power such as Communists (White), Communists (Red), Communists (Blue), Communists (Pink), combined Communists, left-wing Socialists, right-wing Socialists, democratic force, liberal and conservatives. The armed insurrection claimed lives of hundreds of thousands of people. Politicians were by nature in rivalry against each other to come to power at the expense of national interests, thereby troubling the public. But, the nation seemed to collapse due to their misconducts, they disregarded national cause. And they raised their heads when it was opportune for them to seize power. If the Tatmadaw shrugged off the national duties, it would have been an opportunity for colonialists that are anxious to occupy Myanmar again. So, colonialists harboured animosity towards the Tatmadaw. Professional politicians seeking opportunities to seize power came to regard the Tatmadaw as the guardian of the State power, whereas the people praised the Tatmadaw for its role.

Ten years after regaining of independence in 1958, the AFPFL government split into two factions—Stable AFPFL and Clean AFPFL. Many small groups had broken away from the AFPFL party. The two factions came to arm themselves with forces and weapons. So, the Tatmadaw had to restore the State stability on 28 October 1958. After restoring stability and peace, the Tatmadaw Caretaker government held an election in February 1960. And it handed over power to the winning Clean AFPFL of U Nu on 4 April 1960. Had not the Tatmadaw intervened in the affairs, the nation would have seen bloodshed following the conflicts between the two AFPFL parties. If so, the nation would collapse and lose independence again, and the nation would fall under the subjugation of the colonialists. For colonialists, the Tatmadaw was hindrance to their goal of occupying the nation through neo-colonialism. But, the people thanked the Tatmadaw for its safeguarding national interests.

Clean AFPFL government renamed Pyi-Htaung-Su Federation (Pa-Hta-Sa). Later, the Pa-Hta-Sa government collapsed into three factions: Oo group, Bo group and Thakin group. The Pa-Hta-Sa government of U Nu who canvassed for votes making a stepping stone of religious affairs was in mess with religious problems, uprisings and protests. In the time of U Nu's Pa-Hta-Sa government, the nation encountered a plan of those in favour of Shan State policy and federal system to break up the Union into eight parts, many of them would join the colonialists' bloc (SEATO). The Tatmadaw hypersensitive to collapse of the Union had to take up State responsibilities again, which was a serious blow to the west bloc that was desperate to have military influence over Asia. So, they were angry with the Tatmadaw again. However, the people thanked the Tatmadaw for its role in preventing collapse of the Union and protecting the Union against political hegemony.

From 1962 to 1988, the government tried to expedite the practice of Socialism initiated by General Aung San. Whatever it was, the goal of Socialism was

achieved to an extent. In 1988, a western radio station BBC sparked public outrage, naming the protest 8-8-88 unrest. A fleet of warships intruded into the Myanmar territorial waters, awaiting an opportunity to interfere in the internal affairs of the nation. Therefore, the Tatmadaw put an end to the 8-8-88 mass disturbance to ensure non-disintegration of the Union and safeguard sovereignty. Again, professional politicians and colonialists nursed a grudge against the Tatmadaw, whereas the people thanked the Tatmadaw.

The Tatmadaw government managed to build internal peace for which previous successive governments tried in vain. Despite sanctions imposed by internal and external elements to make the people impoverished, the nation enjoyed development in various sectors thanks to the efforts of the Tatmadaw. Today, the nation has seen a huge number of infrastructural buildings; a tangible proof of rapid development. Positive changes are seen everywhere across the nation, for which the people thanked the Tatmadaw.

The Tatmadaw government managed to build internal peace, while working hard for all-round development and safeguarding the Union of non-disintegration and perpetuation of sovereignty. In the meantime, it has been implementing the State's seven-step Road Map. So far, the Road Map is in its sixth step. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Region/State Hluttaw have been in session since 31 January 2011 have formed the Union government that will exercise the sovereign powers namely legislative, executive and judicial powers in line with the constitution, along with Union Supreme Court, Region and Region executive and judicial bodies.

The newly-formed Union government, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Union Supreme Court will play a leading role in pursuing the national goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation in union. At the sessions of State Hluttaw, Region Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, people's representatives are submitting, discussing and approving proposals on economy, environmental conservation, national reconciliation, education promotion, better health care, and research for greater development of the Union. The more the people's representatives are in favour of public interests, the greater development the nation will enjoy in a short time.

The Tatmadaw has been steadfastly discharging duties to regain independence, independence-safeguarding duties and national defence duties. Apart from that, it has been engaged in processes constantly for restoration of stability and community peace, national reconsolidation, prosperity of the nation and democratization. Old and neo-colonialists are casting a covetous eye on rich deposits of natural resources in Myanmar are leveling accusations against the Tatmadaw. Nevertheless, national brethren are grateful to the Tatmadaw government for the reason that they are enjoying the taste of peace, liberty and development or independence.

According to the constitution, defence services personnel representatives to hluttaws will soon assume their charge of duties on Union affairs and public affairs in collaboration with representatives of various national races. So, the people are expressing their thanks to the Tatmadaw for that.

Translation: MS

TRADEMARK CAUTION

TOTO LTD. of No.1-1, Nakashima 2-chome, Kokurakita-ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Japan are the Owners and Sole Proprietors of the following trademark:

TOTO

(Reg. No. IV/474/2005)

used in respect of - Int'l Class 6: "Towel bars of metal, manifolds of metal for pipeline, hooks made of metal [metal hardware], pipe holders made of metal, drain pipes of metal, water pipes of metal, pipe muffs of metal, junctions of metal for pipes, pipes of metal, towel dispensers, fixed, of metal, pipe work of metal, hand rails of metal"

Class 11: "Water closets, bath fittings, gas water heaters, hand drying apparatus for washrooms, heating and drying apparatus for bathroom, water purifying apparatus, solar water heaters, accessories for bathtubs and bathroom, water valves, showers, ball taps (parts of water closet tank), level controlling valves in tanks, parts of water closet tank, water treatment tanks for household purposes, toilet stool units, toilet stool units with a washing warm water squirter, toilet bowls, urinals (sanitary fixtures), auto washing apparatus for toilet bowls and urinals, aerators (bubble makers fixed to faucets), water-supply pipes for sanitary installations, water conduits installations, pipes [parts of sanitary installations], safety valves [parts of sanitary installations], decompression valves [parts of sanitary installations], water stopping

valves [parts of sanitary installations], automatic seat paper dispenser, wash-hand bowls [parts of sanitary installations], automatic wash-hand bowls [parts of sanitary installations], wash-hand basins [parts of sanitary installations], bathtubs, faucets, shower booth, gas burner, flush valves, bidets, shower pans, HID lamps and other lamps"

Class 20: "Towel bars, not of metal, washstand [furniture], dressing tables, mirrors [looking glasses], towel dispensers, fixed, not of metal, bolts, not of metal, cupboard, drains traps [valves] of plastic, furniture for bathroom, water-pipe valves of plastic, shampoo dresser [furniture], baby seats (furniture), system sideboards for kitchen (including washstand, not including gas burners), baby chair (furniture)"

Class 21: "Holders of paper for toilet seat, liquid soap holders, toilet paper holders, chamber pots, water apparatus for cleaning teeth and gums, dust bins, dishes for soap, soap dispensers, boxes of metal, for dispensing paper towels, cleaning instruments [hand operated], baby baths [portable], hand rails, not of metal, cloths impregnated with anti-tarnishing chemicals for vehicle windows"

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

Thein Aung B.Sc.R.L.D.B.L Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel: 376318 G.P.O Box: 666
Yangon. 22nd March 2011



A flock of homing pigeons prepare to land at their enclosure in Sagua La Grande in central Cuba's Villa Clara Province, approximately 240 km (149 miles) away from Havana, on 19 March, 2011. Breeding pigeons and training them to return home is a popular activity extended throughout Cuba.

INTERNET

Australian Bollywood actress Tania Zaetta arrested

SYDNEY, 21 March—Australian Bollywood actress Tania Zaetta was arrested Monday for obstructing police and public nuisance over an alleged disturbance at a Queensland nightclub.

Zaetta, who recently moved back to Australia after several years based overseas, was detained in Surfers Paradise early Monday, the *Gold Coast Bulletin* said.

"It seems a 41-year-old woman from New South Wales was arrested for obstructing police and also public nuisance," a spokesman for Queensland police told AFP, without naming the woman.—Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (184)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (184) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO, LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ORIENTAL CROWN VOYNO(010)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORIENTAL CROWN VOY NO (010) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: SONG WON PCS CO LTD
KOREA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION

MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO SEALED TENDERS

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

Tender No	Description	Quantity
15(T)14/MR(E)	Raw Materials for Concrete	7-Items
2010-2011	Sleeper Production	

Closing date/time - 29.4.2011 (Friday) (12:00) hr
- 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, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 95-1-291994.

Nissan to restart more auto, parts plants in Japan

TOKYO, 21 March—Nissan Motor Co plans to resume auto and parts production at more Japanese factories next week, but it may be several months before inventories and other elements of the country's auto industry return to normal.

Nissan said it will resume production of parts at five plants Monday. It then plans to resume vehicle production Thursday as long as supplies last.

Most of Japan's auto industry shut down after a powerful earthquake and tsunami devastated the country earlier this month. Nissan and other carmakers have started resuming some production, but the industry still faces rolling blackouts and infrastructure problems.

Supply levels probably won't return to normal until mid to late summer, said Michael Robinet, director of global production forecasting for IHS Automotive.

"They certainly wouldn't start up if they didn't have all the components," he said. "How long they can stay producing is anybody's guess."

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CTP EAGLE VOY NO (104)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CTP EAGLE VOY NO (104) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



A man looks at a locomotive found 30 metres away from the railway after last week's earthquake and tsunami in Minamisanriku town, Miyagi Prefecture in northern Japan on 20 March, 2011.—INTERNET

Dutchman gets 16 months in jail for making bomb threat on plane

SINGAPORE, 21 March—A Dutch seaman was sentenced to 16 months in jail on Monday for making a bomb threat while he was allegedly drunk on a Singapore Airlines plane last September.

Eduard Gerard Jacobus, 37, said he was terrorist and threatened to blow up the aircraft he was on last September, the local court heard.

Xinhua



Cavalie star Sylvia Zerbini works on her liberty act with her Arabian horses, some of the 49 horses starring in Cavalie which arrive by horse semi-trailers to the Olympic Village in Vancouver, British Columbia, on 17 March, 2011. Cavalie the creation of Normand Latourelle, co-founder of Cirque du Soleil makes its Vancouver premiere on 22nd March. — INTERNET

Internet



The loping, confident stride was there but former 800m world champion Wilson Kipketer, pictured here in 2005, admitted that a 4km charity race on Saturday had been too far for him.

Kipketer sees off Coe for charity

The loping, confident stride was there but former 800m world champion Wilson Kipketer admitted that a 4km charity race on Saturday had been too far for him.

"The race was really good. But they ran really fast — I used to run fast!" said the Kenyan-born Dane, who won three world 800m titles and was the long-time world record holder over the distance until Kenya's David Rudisha came to prominence.

"Anything more than 800m is very tough for me!"

Kipketer, who timed a gentle 14min 49sec to finish 12th out of a 100-strong field featuring athletes, footballers, singers and overweight sponsors, at least had the pleasure of beating home Sebastian Coe.

The 54-year-old Coe, a two-time Olympic 1500m gold medallist and now heading up the 2012 London Games team, completed the course which will be used for Sunday's World Cross-country Championships at a very leisurely pace.

His running partner for the day was Rosa Mota, the 52-year-old Portuguese world and Olympic marathon champion, and the duo came over the finish line with arms around each other's shoulders.

Urine-drinker banned from public johns

An Ohio man's drinking problem has landed him in jail, but not for alcohol abuse, officials said.

Alan David Patton, 59, allegedly has a fetish for drinking urine and he has been ordered to spend 30 days in jail and five years under house arrest for a recent bathroom-related crime, *The Columbus Dispatch* reported.

"I'm not certain jail time is going to do the trick for him," said Columbus Assistant City Prosecutor Joseph E Schmanky. "It seems like what Mr Patton really wants to do is just do the jail time and then get out and do it again."

Last month, Patton was acquitted of collecting urine from a public bathroom, but Delaware Municipal Court Judge David P Sunderman found him guilty of criminal mischief.

Restaurant owner bummed over closed sign

Papa Foti Pizza owner Kenny Hawk says a mistake by the health department in Fairfield County, Ohio, wasn't as funny as it might have seemed.

In fact, it could have cost him hundreds of dollars, *The Columbus Dispatch* reported.

Someone from the Fairfield Department of

Health mistakenly posted a "closed" sign on his pizza parlor in Millersport and his usual weekend business of up to \$2,000 dropped to just \$700.

"We have apologized profusely," said acting health department administrator Larry Hanna.

Hanna said he has developed a policy to prevent the mistake from

reoccurring.

The mix up happened 11 March when health department workers were posting "closed" signs on 13 restaurants whose owners were delinquent in paying their license fee.

News Album

Inventor too young to attend toy fair

The inventor of colourful, reusable static-cling decals for Lego-type bricks was too young to attend a toy show in New York, officials said.

Greyson MacLean, inventor of the reusable BrickStix decals, is 11-years-old, and Toy Fair 2011 in New York City required attendees to be 18 or over, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* reported.

Greyson's decals are now in more than 50 stores in 20 states and his father, Matt MacLean, said retailers in other countries have shown an interest in the decals since last month's toy fair in New York.

The stickers let young builders customize their creations with signs, lettering and artwork and because they adhere to smooth surfaces through static electricity, they are removable and reusable.



Children and adults play with LEGOs at an exhibition "LEGO Architecture: Towering Ambition" at the Building Museum in Washington on 4 September, 2010.

The family fulfills Web site orders from a curtained-off area in their basement. The stickers come in three themes, metro, space and transport, and sell for \$5.99 per set of 84 stickers.

"I can't even describe the feeling," Greyson said of his sticker invention. "You feel excited when you hear someone just ordered 15 of your product."

Justin Bieber passes Michael Jackson at box office

LOS ANGELES, 21 March—The Biebs hasn't disappointed on the big screen.

Paramount's "Justin Bieber: Never Say Never" has now surpassed Michael Jackson This Is It to become the most successful concert-themed movie at the domestic box office.

Through Sunday, Justin Bieber had earned \$72.2 million at the domestic box office. Sony's "This Is It" grossed \$72.1 million domestically.

However, This Is It still holds the worldwide record, having grossed \$189.1 million overseas for a global total of \$261.2 million. Usually, concert films don't travel well.

Canadian singer Justin Bieber gives a thumbs-up during the German TV game show "Wetten Dass..." (Let's make a bet) in Augsburg, southern Germany on 19 March, 2011.

INTERNET



"Never Say Never" has grossed \$10.8 million at the international box office, a solid number, considering that the Jonas Brothers' concert film grossed only \$4 million internationally, while "Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert Tour" earned \$5 million. "Hannah Montana" grossed \$65 million domestically.—*Internet*

Next Batman film has mobster villain

HOLLYWOOD, 21 March—The next Batman movie will star Joseph Gordon-Levitt in the role of villain Alberto Falcone, also known as The Holiday Killer, sources told Variety. No formal announcement has been made, but Variety said Sunday that director Chris Nolan had decided to forgo the standard comic book super villain and go with something more realistic for "The Dark Knight Rises."

The Holiday Killer gets his name by whacking mob rivals on holidays as part of a power struggle over the rackets in always corrupt Gotham City.

Alberto Falcone is, by the way, the son of godfather Cammine Falcone, who was played by Tom Wilkinson in the "Batman Begins" chapter of the Batman saga.—*Internet*

Cameras finally roll on 'The Hobbit'



After years of wrangling and delays, Oscar-winning director Peter Jackson (pictured in 2009) finally called "action" on his latest Tolkien epic "The Hobbit".—INTERNET

WELLINGTON, 21 March—After years of wrangling and delays, Oscar-winning director Peter Jackson finally called "action" on his latest Tolkien epic "The Hobbit".

The \$500 million

project, a two-part prequel to "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy, began filming in New Zealand Monday, Hollywood studio Warner Bros said.

"Production has commenced in Wellington," Warner Bros said in a

statement.

"The Hobbit" has been dogged by problems, prompting British actor Martin Freeman, who plays the title character Bilbo Baggins, to acknowledge last month that he had heard rumours it was jinxed.

Freeman, best known for his work in "The Office", will join "Cold Feet" actor James Nesbitt on the set, with Cate Blanchett (Galadriel), Ian McKellan (Gandalf) and Elijah Wood (Frodo) reprising their "Lord of the Rings" roles.—*Internet*

'Limitless' reaches heights of N America box office

LOS ANGELES, 21 March—Mystery thriller "Limitless," starring Bradley Cooper as an author who taps his full brain potential after sampling a revolutionary new drug, topped the North American weekend box office, preliminary data showed Sunday.

The darkly comic film benefited from a charismatic lead actor in Cooper, of 2009 smash hit "The Hangover," to make \$19 million in its debut

weekend, according to industry tracker Exhibitor Relations.

In second place was Paramount's eccentric animated film "Rango," with the voice talent of Johnny Depp in a tale about a chameleon who becomes sheriff to clean up the town of Dirt, had \$15.3million in ticket sales.

Slipping from the top spot to third was "Battle: Los Angeles," which tells the story of a unit of US Marines fighting invading



Actor Bradley Cooper arrives at the special screening of "Limitless" presented by Relativity Media held at ArcLight Cinemas on 3 March, in Hollywood, California.

INTERNET

aliens. The film took in \$14.6 million across North America.—*Internet*

Bayern-target Heynckes set to reveal future

BERLIN, 21 March — Veteran Bayer Leverkusen coach Jupp Heynckes will discuss his future with the German club's bosses on Monday as the press here make him favourite to take over at Bayern Munich.

"I'll talk with the bosses on Monday after training and I hope to make public my decision soon after," said Heynckes on Sunday after his side's 2-0 win at Schalke 04.

The 65-year-old's Leverkusen contract expires



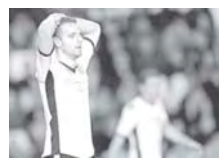
Veteran Bayer Leverkusen coach Jupp Heynckes

pires at the end of the season and he has been tipped to succeed Bayern trainer Louis van Gaal, who has been told his contract will be terminated at the end of the season.—Internet

Sevilla hand Valencia third straight loss in Spanish league

MADRID, 21 March — Valencia fell to their third successive defeat with a 1-0 home loss to Sevilla on Sunday dealing a blow to their Champions League hopes.

Croatian midfielder



Valencia's forward Roberto Soldado reacts during the Spanish league football match Valencia CF vs Sevilla at the Mestalla stadium in Valencia. Valencia fell to their third successive defeat with a 1-0 home loss to Sevilla on Sunday dealing a blow to their Champions League hopes.—INTERNET

Ivan Rakitic scored the decisive goal on 70 minutes to leave Valencia, who hit the woodwork twice, empty-handed as Sevilla did their European hopes the power of goal.

Valencia surrender third place to Villarreal, who won 1-0 at Athletic Bilbao on Sunday, while Sevilla move level on points with sixth-placed Bilbao.

Internet

Ballack-inspired Leverkusen cut Dortmund's lead

BERLIN, 21 March — A Michael Ballack-inspired Bayer Leverkusen beat Schalke 04 2-0 on Sunday to cut Borussia Dortmund's lead at the top of the Bundesliga to seven points.

Dortmund were held to a draw at home by Mainz

on Saturday, tightening things at the top of the table with seven matches to go, but Borussia remain on course for their first German title since 2002.

First-half goals by Schalke's Germany defender Christoph Metzelder, who headed into his own net after 27 minutes, and Leverkusen's Eren Derdiyok sealed the win which keeps Bayer second.—Internet



Leverkusen's midfielder Michael Ballack (L) celebrates Schalke's defender Christoph Metzelder's own goal during the German first division Bundesliga football match Bayer Leverkusen vs FC Schalke 04 in the western German city of Leverkusen.—INTERNET



Wolves winger Matt Jarvis

SPORTS

Jarvis gets surprise England call-up

LONDON, 21 March — Wolves winger Matt Jarvis has been handed his first England call-up after being named in Fabio Capello's 26-man squad for the Euro 2012 qualifier with Wales and the friendly against Ghana.

Jarvis, 24, had figured in two of Capello's provisional squads this season but this will be his first taste of international action after he failed to make the final cut on those occasions.

With Arsenal winger

Theo Walcott ruled out through injury, Capello has handed Jarvis his chance to compete for the wide berths with Aaron Lennon and Ashley Young after an impressive season with Mick McCarthy's team.

Internet

Results

Italy - Serie A

Fiorentina	2 - 2	AS Roma
Bari	1 - 2	Chievo
Bologna	1 - 1	Genoa
Inter Milan	1 - 0	Lecce
Juventus	2 - 1	Brescia
Sampdoria	0 - 1	Parma
Udinese	2 - 0	Catania
Napoli	2 - 1	Cagliari

Spain - Primera Division

Deportivo La Coruna	0 - 1	Levante
Hercules	0 - 4	Osasuna
Malaga	2 - 0	Espanyol
Racing Santander	2 - 1	Real Sociedad
Sporting Gijon	1 - 0	Almeria
Athletic Bilbao	0 - 1	Villarreal
Valencia	0 - 1	Sevilla

Germany - Bundesliga I

Bayer Leverkusen	2 - 0	Schalke
Stuttgart	1 - 1	Wolfsburg

Marseille move into position with victory over PSG

PARIS, 21 March — Defending champions Marseille moved into second place in the French top flight after edging arch-rivals Paris Saint-Germain 2-1 at Stade Velodrome on Sunday.

All the goals came in the



Olympique Marseille's midfielder Mathieu Valbuena

first half, with the excellent Andre Ayew giving Marseille victory after Clement Chantome had cancelled out Gabriel Heinze's free-kick opener for the hosts.

Victory avenged Marseille's 2-1 defeat in November's reverse fixture and takes Didier Deschamps's side to within four points of league leaders Lille with 10 matches remaining.—Internet

Djokovic wins Indian Wells crown

INDIAN WELLS, 21 March — Australian Open champion Novak Djokovic won the ATP Indian Wells title, rallying to beat world No. 1 Rafael Nadal 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 and improve his record this season to 18-0.

Djokovic, who took over the No. 2 world ranking by beating Roger Federer in the semi-finals, on Sunday avenged a loss to Nadal in the 2007 Indian Wells final.—Internet



Novak Djokovic of Serbia poses with his trophy after defeating Rafael Nadal of Spain during the final of the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, California.—INTERNET

Platini spurred by love of game, not power



Michel Platini

ognise me, not because I am the UEFA president but because I was a footballer and I moved them in some way.

"The weight of responsibility is protecting the game. For me, football is only a game.—Internet

PARIS, 21 March — Michel Platini, who on Tuesday will be re-elected unopposed as president of UEFA for a second term, says that he is motivated by a desire to protect the game and not by a thirst for power.

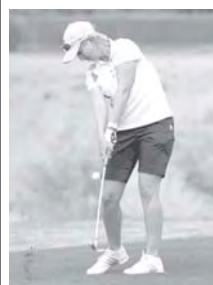
The Frenchman, 55, was first elected in 2007 and his reforms have included the democratisation of the flagship Champions League tournament and new 'financial fair play' rules obliging European clubs to break even.

"Power has no glamour at all," Platini told AFP on Sunday.

"The only bit of glamour is when people rec-

Karrie Webb wins LPGA Founders Cup

PHOENIX, 21 March — Karrie Webb rallied to win the LPGA Founders



Karrie Webb hits her second shot on the 7th hole during the final round of the LPGA Founders Cup golf tournament.—INTERNET

Cup for her second straight victory, shooting a 6-under 66 on Sunday to beat Brittany Lincicome and Paula Creamer by a stroke.

Webb won when Lincicome bogeyed the final hole, missing a 10-foot par putt.

The 36-year-old Hall of Famer, the winner three weeks ago in Singapore, earned \$200,000 for the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation and Japan relief efforts in the charity event at Wildfire Golf Club.—Internet

137°E 135°E 133°E 131°E 129°E
 DATE : 21-3-2011
 TIME : 0630 hrs M.S.T
 18°N 17°N 16°N 15°N 14°N 13°N 12°N 11°N 10°N 9°N 8°N 7°N 6°N 5°N 4°N 3°N 2°N 1°N 0°N
 BANGLADESH INDIA CHINA LAOS THAILAND VIETNAM
 1000 1008 1012 1016 1020 1024 1028 1032 1036 1040 1044 1048 1052 1056 1060 1064 1068 1072 1076 1080 1084 1088 1092 1096 1100 1104 1108 1112 1116 1120
 BAY OF BENGAL
 84°E 90°E 96°E 102°E 108°E 114°E 120°E 126°E 132°E 138°E 144°E 150°E 156°E 162°E 168°E 174°E 180°E
 MODERATE ○ calm 3 mild 10 fresh 15 gale
 ROUGH ○ clear sky 1/4 covered 1/2 covered 3/4 covered 100% overcast
 VERY ROUGH ☼ Thunder-storms ☂ Rain / Drizzle
 Pressure in hPa
 Rainfall in mm
 Low pressure area Deprecation Cyclonic flow in

Monday, 21st March, 2011

Nay Pyi Taw

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 20-3-2011 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 21-3-2011 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 21-3-2011 was (73%).

Rainfall on 21-3-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (5.79) inches at Mingaladon, (6.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (7.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from South at (16:30) hours MST on 20-3-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 22nd March 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Shan and Kayin States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 22-3-2011: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-3-2011: Generally fair weather.

LONDON, 21 March—Chelsea skipper John Terry revealed on Monday he had never given up hope that he would one day be restored as England captain.

Terry was stripped of the armband 13 months ago following revelations that he had an alleged affair with a former girlfriend of England teammate Wayne Bridge.

But the defender was at the weekend confirmed as captain of his country for a third time and is set to lead the team against Wales on Saturday.

"I've always done whatever the manager needs of me to make sure we win," Terry told *The Sun* newspaper. "I moved on very quickly from the decision about losing the captaincy and I've never fallen out with the manager."

"But I've never given up hope that I will captain England again."

Terry revealed boss Fabio Capello has been impressed with his reaction to being axed as skipper, and insists he has always maintained respect for the Italian.

“When the manager told me in that meeting at Wembley that I was losing the job I accepted and respected his decision—even though I did not necessarily agree with it—shook his hand and his assistant Franco Baldini’s hand and told them I’d always give 100 percent,” Terry added.

"The manager said he really appreciated that and hoped that would be the case."—*Internet*



Chelsea skipper John Terry has revealed he had never given up hope that he would one day be restored as England captain.

<u>Transmissions</u>	<u>Times</u>
Local	- (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	- (22-3-11 09:30 am ~ 23-3-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Marching towards A Democratic New Nation
- “Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock & Fisheries”
- * News
- * A Journey to the Lashio
- * News
- * Songs for you
- * News
- * Gift of Longevity to the Old (Episode-II)

Overseas Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Marching towards A Democratic New Nation
“Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock & Fisheries”
- * News
- * A Journey to the Lashio
- * News
- * Songs for you
- * News
- * Gift of Longevity to the Old (Episode-II)
- * News
- * Today’s Nay Pyi Taw
(The Capital City of Myanmar)
- * The Reh Lake
(The greatest Attraction in Chin State)
- * News
- * Brilliant Youngsters(I)
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * 100% Myanmar
- * Yoke Sone Monastery of Lae Kai Ancient City
- * News
- * Monastery Bagayar Kyaung
- * Myanmar Movie “Longing For Mother”

	7:40 am 4. Dhamma Puja Song 7:50 am 5. Nice & Sweet Song 8:00 am 6. Health Programme 8:10 am 7. Songs Of Yester Years 8:20 am 8. Song Of National Races 8:25 am 9. Songs in honour of 66 th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 8:40 am 10. International News 8:45 am 11. Musical Programme	3:30 pm 1. AFC Challenge 2012 Group (A) (Palestine Vs Bangladesh) 5:00 pm 2. Songs in honour of 66 th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 5:10 pm 3. University Of Distance Education (TV Lecuters) -Fourth Year (Law) 5:25 pm 4. Songs For Upholding National Spirit	5:30 pm 5. Sweet Melody 5:45 pm 6. Songs in honour of 66 th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 6:00 pm 7. Evening News 6:15 pm 8. Weather Report 6:20 pm 9. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than 6:35 pm 10. TV Drama Series 7:00 pm 11. Documentary 8:00 pm 12. News 13. International News 14. Weather Report 15. Just for Laughs 16. TV Drama Series
Tuesday, 22 March View on today ----- 7:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta 7:25 am 2. To Be Healthy Exercise 7:30 am 3. Morning News			

- ★ 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

12th-day First regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw continues Queries raised and replied, proposals submitted and discussed, approval sought at Amyotha Hluttaw session



12th day first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 March—The 12th day First regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw continued 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 12th 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 Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min, Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Myint and Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun responded to the questions regarding “hydropower projects in Ayeyawady’s confluence and along Maykha-Malikha basin” made by U Za Khun Ting Ring of Kachin State Constituency No.4; “national power grid that links townships of Chin State so as to build factories and workshops” by U Zung Hlei Thang of Chin State Constituency No.2; and “taxes imposed on import and export industry” made by Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No.4.

After that, U Paw Lyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No.9 submitted a proposal “to build heavy hydropower station in Bontala waterfall”. Amyotha Hluttaw sought approval to discuss the submitted proposal.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced the end of the regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw and the 13th-day session will be held at 10 am on 22 March (Tuesday).

The session came to an end at 11:45 am.—MNA

**SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL 66TH
ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY**

**The people thank the Tatmadaw
for national development**

MAUNG WUN THA NU

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