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To tackle all forms of disruptions

The democracy system introduced to the Union of Myanmar is still in its infancy. Therefore, it is required of the entire national people to safeguard and build together the newly-introduced democracy system, which has been adopted with the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. In the process, it is mandatory for all national brethren to tackle any forms of disruptions to the new system.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From the message sent on the occasion of 64th Anniversary Union Day)

First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw concludes

Raising and answering queries, discussing proposals, recording messages of felicitations, forming Hluttaw Representatives Vetting Committee done at 14th day session

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continued for 14th 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.

After taking position, the Speaker announced the validity and start of 14th-day first regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw as 432 representatives out of 433 attended the session, accounting for 99.7 per cent of attendance.

Members of union level organization Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt, Minister for Electric Power No (1) U Zaw Min, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin answered queries raised by Pyithu Hluttaw representatives U Maung Nyo of Sittway Constituency on **"drinking water supply project in Sittway"**, U In Phon Hsan (a) U Inhtu Phon Hsan of Machanbaw Constituency on **"regions with less development"** and **"producing hydropower from Htakha creek waterfall"**, U Than Sein of Kyimyindine Constituency on **"uplifting national education standard"** and U Hla Myint of Dawbon Constituency on **"upgrading downtown roads in Yangon"**.

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives held discussions on approved-to-discuss proposal of U Soe Win of Sangyoung Constituency on **"providing financial aid to Small and Medium Enterprises"**. Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun made clarifications and the Pyithu Hluttaw sought approval.

Pyithu Hluttaw speaker announced the messages of felicitations sent from heads of parliaments of foreign countries were recorded after the Hluttaw had approved the recording of messages.

The Speaker discussed matters related to the formation of committees and joint-committees to study legislation, administration, national races, economic, financial, social and foreign affairs and other affairs. He announced the approval of the Hluttaw for formation of committees and joint-committees.

The Speaker submitted the name list of chairman, secretary and members of Hluttaw Representatives Vetting Committee to scrutinize representatives starting at the second session of First Pyithu Hluttaw.

The Speaker announced the committee was assigned duty as the Hluttaw approved the formation.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker briefed the matters related to election, formation, raising queries and submitting proposals at first Pyithu Hluttaw regular session.

Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun answered query on **"Revenue and GDP ratio of Myanmar"** raised by U Maung Toe of Minhla Constituency with the special permission of the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced the first Pyithu Hluttaw regular session was successfully concluded at 3.40 pm.—*MNA*

First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw for 14th 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

Thursday, 24 March, 2011

Beware of fire in open season

The open season has come. In the hot and dry season, fire can break out at any time. Fire preventive measures are to be taken not to lose life and property of people. Officials of respective townships, wards and villages are to join hands with the people in taking fire preventive measures.

In February 2011, fire broke out 107 times in the entire nation. These numbers included 83 times of stove fire and negligence, 15 times of natural fire, five times of electric shock, two times of arson and two times of forest fire. In the incidents, outbreaks of fire destroyed over 500 houses, leaving over 2000 homeless and some death and injured. The outbreak of negligent fire was the largest amount, accounting for 27 per cent.

The Fire Services Department is speeding up fire preventive measures. Officials of the department have given suggestions to respective township authorities and Development Affairs Committees to prevent danger of fire at high-rise buildings. Likewise, educative talks on danger of fire and fire drills were organized in townships, wards and villages.

Fire preventive measures talks are being disseminated to the people through radio, TV and newspapers. Horizons of the people were broadened through educative talks lesson the risk of fire in villages, fire warnings, prevention against forest fire at buildings and placing of firebreaks around villages.

However, many times of fire are broken out for several times due to unsystematic activities such as candle lights of children, electric shocks, automatic fires from waste materials and negligence use of fire on board the gas automobiles.

Fire prevention is everybody's concern. Therefore, all the people are to take heed of equipping townships, wards and villages with light fire engines and water tanks and systematic keeping of fire extinguishers at every house to keep all urban and rural areas free from danger of fire.

Untimely rainfall warning

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March— Department of Meteorology and Hydrology issued a statement today that according to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area (LPA) is likely to form over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay within next five days commencing noon today.

Under its influence, widespread rain or thundershower are likely in Taninthayi Region, Mon and Kayin States, scattered in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Bago Regions and isolated in remaining States and Regions.

Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 mph. — *MNA*

People's Desire

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

Commander of South-West Command attends 82nd Buddha Pujaniya of Atula Buddha Maha Tooth Relic in Wakema Township

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—Chairman of Ayeyawady Region Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Tin Maung Win attended the opening of 82nd Buddha Pujaniya of Kyonmange Atula Buddha Maha Tooth Relic Pagoda in Wakema Township on 16 March.

At the ceremony, the commander cut the ribbon to open it. Ovadasariya Sayadaws and the Commander ushered the tooth relic from Gandakuti chamber to temporary Shwe Monastery.

After that, the commander inspected construction of the alignment of Wakema-Kyonmange road. There, officials reported to the commander on building approach alignment of Lanthamine bridge on Bogale-Mawlamyinegyun-Kyonmange-Wakema-Myaungmya road section.

Afterwards, the commander and party inspected cultivation to grow pre-monsoon jute and kenaf in Bobeanyasu village Wakema Township, Ayeyawady Region.

MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr. Kim Hae-yong as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to the Union of Myanmar in succession to H.E. Mr. Cho Byung-jae.

Mr. Kim Hae-yong was born in 1957 and obtained bachelor degree in Linguistics and Master degree in Public Administration from Seoul National University in 1980 and 1985 respectively. He also obtained Master degree in East Asian Studies from Indiana University. Bloomington, U.S.A in 1988. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT) of the Republic of Korea in 1983. He served as Consul at Korean Consulate General in Seattle, U.S.A; as First Secretary at Korean Embassies in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Belgium, U.S.A, Korean Mission to the European Union and Minister-Counsellor at Korean Permanent Mission to the UN Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Switzerland. He also served as Director at Trade Policy Planning Division and Multilateral Trade Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT), Senior Assistant Secretary at Office of the President and Senior Bilateral Trade Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT). From February 2009 to present, he is serving as Director General of Free Trade Area (FTA) Negotiations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea.

He is married with one son.—*MNA*

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Aye Myint Kyu being welcomed by Pakistani Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Qazi M. Khalilullah at reception to mark Pakistan Day Anniversary held at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon on 23 March.—MNA

Total E & P Myanmar Co rescues 39 fishermen in Myanmar waters

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—Total E & P Myanmar Co rescued 39 fishermen stranded on rafts at sea from 17 to 19 March.

On its inspection of the rigs by MV Seabulk Nilar found and rescued five fishermen stranded on a fishing raft at sea on 17 March.

It gave health care and sent the victims on board its helicopter to Yangon through Yadana Platform the following day. The Ministry of Energy then handed them over to the Rescue and Resettlement Department.

The company continued its rescue operation by its helicopter and rescued 29 more fishermen on 18 March and five more on 19 March.

The company provided health care, medicines, clothes, personal goods and K 20,000 each to the 39 victims. On 19 March, it sent them to Yangon. The Ministry of Energy handed them over the Rescue and Resettlement Department. Total E & P Myanmar Co and the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy are exploring for gas with joint-venture system.—*MNA*

Ruqaya, an Afghan girl plays in the compound of an abandoned building in the outskirts of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 18 March, 2011. Ruqaya and her family have lived in an abandoned building since they returned from Pakistan, where they were refugees for years.
INTERNET

Two police officers killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 March—Two police officers were killed and two others were wounded in attacks by gunmen in Baghdad on Tuesday, an Interior Ministry source said.

Gunmen shot dead Captain Jawad Kadhim who was driving his car in Baghdad's eastern district of Sadr City, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. In a separate incident, Major Ahmad Abdul-Elah, affiliated to the Interior Ministry, was gunned down when armed men attacked his car in Palestine Street in eastern the capital, the source said.

In northeastern Baghdad, gunmen opened fire at a civilian car, wounding two people, the source added. Earlier in the day, the police reported that an Iraqi army officer and a policeman were killed and 13 people wounded in separate bomb attacks in the morning.—*Xinhua*

An Afghan Army soldier searches residents' bodies at a security checkpoint outside the city of Herat, Afghanistan, on 22 March, 2011.
XINHUA

Double suicide bombings wounds nine Afghans as President Karzai announces security transition process

KABUL, 23 March—Two suicide bombings rocked two southern Afghan towns on Tuesday wounding nine civilians, officials said.

The first suicide attack happened in Deh Rawad District of Uruzgan Province, 370 km south of Afghan Capital Kabul, leaving the attacker dead, police said.

"A suicide bomber riding a motorbike blew himself up next to headquarters of Deh Rawad District at 11:00 am local time today killing self," spokesman for provincial administration Ahmad Milad Madasir told *Xinhua*.

There were no casualties except the bomber in the suicide attack as the bomber due to fear of identifying by police detonated his explosive device 100 metres away from the district headquarters, the official further said. He blamed Taleban militants for organizing the attack but the outfit has yet to make comment.

Meanwhile, head of Provincial Council of Uruzgan province Mohammad Aman Hotak claimed that the suicide bomber targeted him but he escaped unhurt.

In the second but similar incident a suicide bomber also on motorbike went off in the neighboring Zabul province injuring nine civilians, police asserted.

"A suicide bomber riding a motorbike blew himself up in Zabul's provincial capital Qalat city at 06:15 pm local time, wounding nine innocent civilians," deputy to provincial police chief Ghulam Jilani Farahi told *Xinhua*.

The only person was killed in the blast was the attacker, Farahi further said.

These two suicide blasts coincided with President Hamid Karzai' s announcement of taking security from NATO-led troops by Afghan forces.—*Xinhua*

Six police injured in bomb attack in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 23 March—At least six policemen were injured Wednesday morning in a remote-control bomb blast in Pakistan's northwest City of Hangu, reported local Urdu TV channel Ajj.

According to the report, the terrorist attack took place at around 8 am (local time) when a remote-control bomb planted by roadside hit a police van patrolling on the street of Hangu City located some 80 km southwest of Peshawar, the largest city in northwest Pakistan.

Xinhua

Afghan president calls on Taleban not to target school

In this photo, an Afghan youth checks burnt books damaged during a bomb blast that killed principal Bahram Khail Salehi and wounded another school employee at a school in Behsud, Nangarhar Province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan.—INTERNET

KABUL, 23 March—Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Wednesday described attack on school as an enmity with the country and called on Taleban militants to halt targeting schools and educational centres.

"Taleban or any other who fights against government should realize that targeting school and torching school buildings is enmity with the nation," Karzai told hundreds of audience gathered in a school to inaugurate new academic year.

Denouncing attack on school as coward act, the President noted that school is public asset where the sons and daughters of this land learn there to serve the nation.

He made this remarks while 450 schools, according to Afghan Minister for Education Farooq Wardak have remained closed due to security reasons, mostly in the southern region where Taleban militants are active.

Xinhua

US and allies kill, injure Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 23 March— There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

Casualties of Iraqi people

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 23 March reached 705306 and the total number of seriously injured people reached 1277188, according to the news on the Internet.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Death toll of Iraqi people	705306
2.	The total number of seriously injured people	1277188

Internet

Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

KABUL, 23 March—The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

Casualties of Afghan people

According to the Internet news, a total of 33730 Afghan people were killed and 41102 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 23 March.

No.	Subject	Number
1.	Number of Afghan people killed	33730
2.	Seriously injured Afghan people	41102

Internet

Hluttaw candidates, election agents declared as persons of distorted qualification

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—*The Union Election Commission issued Notification No. 10/2011 today. The translation of the notification is as follows:-*

The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No.10/2011
4th Waning of Tabaung, 1372 ME
(23 March, 2011)

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

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

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

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

Sr	Hluttaw candidate	Election Agent	Constituency
(a)	U Aung Thein	–	Amyotha Hluttaw Constituency No. 4 Taninthayi Region
(b)	U Aung Thura Lin	–	Launglon Township Constituency No. 1 Region Hluttaw Taninthayi Region
(c)	U Htein Lin	–	Launglon Township Constituency No. 2 Region Hluttaw Taninthayi Region
(d)	U Saw Yi	–	Tangyan Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency Shan State
(e)	U Kya Ha Shel	–	Mongping Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency Shan State
(f)	U Sai Lon	–	Mongphyat Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency Shan State
(g)	U Sai Tint Cho	U Sai Mya Maung	Nawngkhio Township Constituency No. 1 State Hluttaw Shan State
(h)	U Myint Swe	–	Mabein Township Constituency No. 1 State Hluttaw Shan State
(i)	U Sai Tun Yin	–	Mabein Township Constituency No. 2 State Hluttaw Shan State
(j)	U Aye Maung	–	Mongton Township Constituency No. 1 State Hluttaw Shan State
(k)	U Aik Kyauk	–	Mongphyat Township Constituency No. 1 State Hluttaw Shan State Rakhine State
(l)	U Aung Chit	U Soe Tun	Kalaw Township Constituency No. 2 State Hluttaw Shan State
(m)	U Pun	-	Pinlaung Township Constituency No. 1 State Hluttaw Shan State
(n)	U Maung Kyaw Than	–	Pekhon Township Constituency No. 1 State Hluttaw Shan State
(o)	U Khu Paung	–	Pekhon Township Constituency No. 1 State Hluttaw Shan State
(p)	U William Khun Kyi	U Thet Aung Win	Bamar national Constituency State Hluttaw Shan State
(q)	U Khaw Baung	–	Kachin National Constituency State Hlutaw Shan State
(r)	U Zaw Phan (a) U Li Lay	–	Lisu national Constituency State Hluttaw Shan State
(s)	U Daniel Hti	–	Lahu national Constituency State Hluttaw Shan State

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

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

Sd/ Thein Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

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

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—The First Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government's Guarantee, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee meetings continued at their offices of Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

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

They participated in discussions on work programme of the committees.—*MNA*

KMD special sales road show in Yangon and Mandalay on 27 March

YANGON, 23 March—KMD Sales & Service will open the special sales road show in Yangon and Mandalay on 27 March.

Lenovo, Aceer, HP, Dell, Proklink and Apple notebook brand, desktop computer, all in one PC, printer, scanner and UPS will be sold at special prices.

KMD Education Centre will admit trainees at 25 per cent discount of fee and International Diploma Course (IDCS) at K 30,000 discount.

For further information, contact KMD Sales & Service Centre, Tel: 503522 and 385177 in Yangon and 02-60360 and 60239 in Mandalay.

MNA

Home Affairs Minister responds to the question on upgrading of Rezwa sub-township to a township

Minister for Home Affairs U Maung Oo replying queries.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—At today's Amyotha Hluttaw session, Minister for Home Affairs U Maung Oo responded to the query raised by U Paw Lyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No.9.

In his question, U Paw Lyan Lwin said that he learnt that there was a plan to upgrade Rezwa to a township since the former government was in office. Rezwa Sub-Township in Matupi Township of Chin State was upgraded to a sub-township level in April, 2002. Local people thank the government for that. There are 16 villages near the Sub-township. Rezwa Sub-Township is populated with 15000 and it has about 1600 households. Rezwa Sub-Township has governmental offices, basic education high school, station hospital, posts and telegraph office, township police station and 126-KW power station. Urban area with a population of about 2000 has about 400 households. Rezwa lies at the heart of Chin State. It is far 105 miles north from Haka, 100 miles west from Thantlang, 105 miles east from Gangaw, 66 miles south from Matupi and 45 miles west from India border. He would like to know whether or not there is any plan to upgrade it to a township.

Regarding the question, Minister for Home Affairs U Maung Oo explained that he would like to present laws and procedures regarding formation of sub-townships. According to Towns Act and Village Act (1907), formation of sub-townships is carried out. After approving Constitution (1974), the cabinet decided formation of sub-townships in coordination with respective People's Council. After 1988, Ministry of Home Affairs issues announcement and carries out the formation of townships and sub-townships only after getting approval of the State Peace and Development Council, and approval and resolution of the cabinet.

The SPDC is making effort for being a peaceful, modern and developed nation. With the aim of building sound administrative system and effectively carrying out modern administration and economic and social affairs of the people, 82 sub-townships have been formed across the nation with the approval of the cabinet. Of those sub-townships, Kyikha, Reedhorda and Rezwa include.

A sub-township is formed with 192 staff of 15 Departments under 11 Ministries. In sub-townships, Myanmar Police Force forms a police station (A-level) with the strength of 69 like other townships. To meet sub-township characteristics, BEPS, BEMS and BEHS are built. Regarding health sector, health care center (branch) and health care centers are upgraded into station hospitals (16-bed). With respect to transport sector, Department of Progress of Boarder Areas and National Races, Development Affairs Department and Public Works upgrade earth roads to gravel roads and tarred roads step by step. Regarding electricity, Ministry of Electric Power No.2 distributes electricity through KVA power grids. And plans are under way to supply electricity to regions that have yet to get electricity access. Respecting information and communication sector, the sub-township is provided with library, satellite dish, telegraph office, post office, telephone and retransmission station.

With respect to sub-township's administration and judiciary, head of sub-township is vested with executive power. According to Section 13 of Judicial Act (2000), Supreme Court assigns head of sub-township as magistrate in their postings in order to carry out judicial duties. According to Penal Code Article 32 (1) (a), they are also vested with first-class magistrate power.

To have the equal standards in forming the sub-townships, the government undertakes the formation based on present conditions. The Section 54 in Chapter-2 of the 2008 State Constitution states that Where there arises a situation to alter or form the territorial boundary or change the name of a village, village tract, ward, town, township or district of a Region, State, Self-Administrated Division or Self-Administrated Zone concerned, the President shall act, as necessary, upon the recommendation of the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned.

In addition, Section 109 (a) in Chapter 4 of 2008 State Constitution says that not more than 330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives elected prescribing electorate in accord with law on the basis of township as well as population or combining with an appropriate township which is contagious to the newly-formed townships if it is more than 330 townships. So, it is more unlikely to upgrade the sub-townships to the townships. The government forms the sub-townships. Those sub-townships have the same power as other townships. Thus, there is no plan to upgrade Rezwa to township at present.—*MNA*

Construction Minister replies question about repair of motor roads in Gangaw District linking Yangon and Mandalay

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint replying queries.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—At today's Amyotha Hluttaw session, Hluttaw Representative U Hla Swe from Constituency No. 12 of Magway Region said that Gangaw District is a far-flung region in north-western part of Magway Region and lies on Myittha Basin between Pontaung-Ponnya mountain ranges and Chin mountain ranges. Gangaw District has three major roads to connect with Yangon and Mandalay—Gangaw-Pale Road (84 miles), Kyaukhtu-Pauk-Pakokku-Seikpyu Road (142 miles), Saw-Seikpyu Road (69 miles). As the economic mainstay of the district is wood production and heavily-loaded trucks and heavy rainfall have damaged the roads.

Both Gangaw District and Haka of Chin State use Gangaw-Pale Road and Kalay District also use it in monsoon as Monywa-Kalay-Yargyi Road is out of commission in monsoon. In spite of the road being 84 miles is length, it is in poor condition as it is built through Pontaung-Ponnya mountain ranges.

Kyaukhtu-Pauk-Pakokku Road is also used by Mindat District. The road has three bridges on it in Pauk and Seikpyu townships. All the three bridges were destroyed by the storm and flood in October last year. As no new bridge has been constructed so far, the road will be blocked in monsoon, causing inconvenience for residents of Pauk Township in travel.

Saw-Seikpyu Road is also used by Kanpetlet Township. Although the facility is only 69 miles long, vehicles face difficulty in driving on the road due to its poor condition.

He said that the above-mentioned roads are important to Gangaw, Htilin and Saw townships in Gangaw District and Haka Township, Mindat District and Kanpetlet Township in Chin State and are badly in need of repair and asked whether or not the government has plans to repair those facilities and upgrade the roads to tarred facility, and the duration of the repair.

In his response to query of U Hla Swe, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint said that Pale-Gangaw Road is one of the major roads linking Chin State, Magway region and Sagaing Region and also the main gateway into Chin State.

The road is located on Monywa-Pale-Gangaw-Haka Road and has direct link with other towns via Monywa. The road has been 12-ft wide tarred facility since 1974 and superintending engineers of Gangaw District and Monywa District is keeping regular check on the road under close supervision of superintending engineers from Ministry of Construction and Magway and Sagaing regions.

The road was damaged partly because it is spiral with a large number of up and down as it is built through mountainous Pontaung-Ponnya Region and partly because of heavy rainfall. But, over-loaded vehicles are found to be major contributing factor to the damages of road rather than heavy rainfall.

Export products of Gangaw District from the west of Magway region are transported to regions through Pale-Gangaw Road. It is known that export products are transported with over-loaded vehicles only in monsoon while the earth foundation is weak. Those roads are owned by national peoples and can roads and bridges be used up to their full lifespan only local residents do not allow over-loaded vehicles pass the road and road users abide by traffic rules.

Ministry of Construction broadens roads and making uphill roads even yearly. Gangaw District is a major region to travel to Chin State. To be able to carry out more road works in the district, 162 tons of tar was distributed to the region last year and 480 tons of tar, amount the triple of last year, was distributed in current fiscal year. So, the roads in Gangaw District will be in better condition. The ministry has also made researches and designed road layer which can bear 40 tons of loads and will upgrade it phase by phase over years.

Regarding Kyaukhtu-Pauk-Seikpyu Road, it is combination of three networks of roads—Seikpyu-Pauk-Kuakhtu Road (84 miles and three furlongs), Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu Road (79 miles) and Seikpyu-Pakokku Road (59 miles) covering 142 miles.

The road has three bridges on it, all of which were destroyed due to Giri Storm which swept the region in October last year. Ministry of Construction has assigned Special Bridge Construction Groups to reconstruct those bridges as quickly as possible. Reconstruction of No. 1 Pauk Bridge (Ohntaw) has so far been completed by over 25 per cent and is planned to be opened before monsoon whereas No. 2 Pauk Bridge (Yepya) has been completed by 90 per cent and is scheduled to be commissioned on 31 March.

Kandwin (Yaw Creek) Bridge is of broad crest facility and thus takes time to be repaired. So, a temporary bailey bridge was built and put into service on 25 December, 2010. And the transportation between Seikpyu and Pakokku has become normal. To ensure normal transportation in monsoon, a five-mile long new road is being constructed from old Kandwin Bridge to Daungtha (Yaw Creek) rail-cum-bridge to Myitche-Wazi Road with the use of machinery. The road will provide easy access to Pakokku from Myitche and the road on Daungtha Bridge is also being tarred.

(See page 6)

Construction Minister replies question about repair…

(from page 5)

The transportation will become normal as those bridges will be put into service ahead of coming monsoon. Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu Road is 79 miles long and was commissioned as 12-ft wide tarred facility in November, 2003. Seikpyu-Pauk-Kyaukhtu Road is 84 miles and three furlongs long and is all-weather one. The road is made of 47 miles and three furlongs long tarred road and 37 miles long gravel road.

Seikpyu-Pakokku Road is 59 miles long and was commissioned as 12-ft wide tarred facility in April 1999. Seikpyu-Saw Road is made of 10 miles and two furlongs long tarred road and 59 miles long gravel road, totaling 69 miles and two furlongs in length. As creeks big and small, originating from catchment areas of Chin mountain ranges flow through the road into Ayeyawady River, the road has many big and small bridges on it. And vehicles face difficulties in crossing the road due to wooden bridges and flood.

Now, the Ministry of Construction is taking measures to upgrade all the bridges in states and regions to RC type facility. Top priority is given to under-50-ft bridges, bridges between 50-ft and 100-ft in length as second priority, and bridges between 100-ft and 180-ft as the third priority for upgrading. If there is any over-180-ft bridge to be upgraded to RC type facility, the ministry will ask the government to upgrade it.

On 4 January, 2010, Pathein-Monywa Motor Road on the west bank of Ayeyawady River was commissioned as 450 miles and five furlongs long and 12 feet wide tarred facility, providing transportation between Chin State, Magway Region (West), Gangaw District and Yangon and Mandalay as well as town in states and regions in short time.

The State has spent a large sum of cash on construction of roads and bridges every year. The Ministry of Construction has constructed tarred to have 10-year lifespan and broad crest bridges to have 100-year lifespan.

Cargo trucks and timber trucks of private companies passing on those roads and bridges load more than limited amount, and consequently, roads with expected lifespan of 10 years are damaged within two or three years.

He then asked the representative to urge local residents not to drive over-loaded vehicles and ride iron-wheel bullock carts on the road. In conclusion, the minister said that the Ministry of Construction is paving new roads, upgrading and maintaining roads in states and regions covering 21361 miles and two furlongs in length. It is improving Union Highways, inter-region and inter-state roads yearly according to priority ranking as well as roads and bridges in Gangaw District which is the gateway to the west of Magway Region and Chin State.—*MNA*

Education Minister replies to question on national education promotion

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March— At today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw, U Than Sein of Kyimyindine Township constituency asked undertakings of the Ministry of Education for promotion of national education.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein said that the Ministry of Education is giving priority to the following sectors for promotion of national education. He explained accessibility to basic education and higher education for the people of any area. The State opened over 40,900 basic education schools that increased 1.2 times more than that of the past. Three schools are opened in five villages on average for enabling the children to easily pursue education.

In the higher education sector, a total of 161 universities, degree colleges and colleges have been opened throughout the nation, which increased five times more than that of 1988. The Ministry of Education appointed over 12,000 faculty members that rose two times more than that of 1988 and 0.505 million university students are 4.5 times more than of 1988. It can be seen that those wishing to learn higher education have equal opportunity in the higher education sector.

In the basic education sector, students are being nurtured through the international standard curriculum and syllabus. Two Institutes of Education and 20 education colleges are producing qualified teachers. Moreover, teachers were provided with refresher courses and orientation courses for uplifting their proficiency. In addition, MEd and PhD courses were conducted to uplift proficiency of the teachers. A total of 56 doctorate faculty members were appointed as heads of Basic Education Schools. To be able to effectively supervise academic and management of basic education schools, basic education school management refresher courses were opened for township education officers. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and departments, inspection tours are made to the basic education schools, universities and colleges once for every three months.

In higher education sector, the ministry is opening courses for international standard first degree, master's course, MRes course and doctoral course, sending foreign scholarship courses, holding seminars with participation of professors abroad by linking foreign universities, supervising doctoral theses and jointly conducting research works. Moreover, research journals are published at universities and research centres installed with modern research equipment opened. Curricula and syllabuses are reviewed yearly and upgraded for meeting international standard. In addition, the ministry manages to compile project or term paper or thesis at all pre-graduate classes.

In the basic education sector, the ministry cooperates with UNICEF and UNESCO, JICA and KOICA.

In the higher education sector, the ministry joins the ASEAN Universities Network (AUN) and establishes Myanmar-India Economic Efficiency Education Centre in cooperation with India. Joining hands with KOICA, the Asia Research Centre was established for conducting research on languages. By opening the Centre for History Tradition of the SEAMEO, the ministry cooperates with experts from ASEAN countries, sends scholarship students to foreign universities and exchange emeritus professors.

With regard to diversity of selected learning opportunity in the basic and higher education sectors, students are being nurtured with basic vocational course at the middle school level and optional subject at the high school level.

The higher education sector has 215 academic programmes in 2011 compared with 79 in 1988, increasing 2.7 times. MRes and doctoral courses are opened in all subjects. Modern courses on Nano Technology, Bio-technology and Renewable energy are being conducted.

***Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein responding to question.*—MNA**

Moreover, the lessons on flourishing of Union Spirit and nationalistic spirit are being provided to all the students since their childhood. Students' assemblies, talks to mark significant days and the literary and fine arts contests were held at basic education schools and universities.

With a view to improving national education standard and developing human resources, the ministry is systematically creating equal learning opportunity for all students, promoting their efficiency, and forging nationalistic spirit and Union Spirit which are the most important for all the citizens.—*MNA*

Yangon will become international level metropolitan

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March— At today's Pyithu Hluttaw session, U Hla Myint of Dawbon constituency asked the upgrading of roads in downtown areas of Yangon. In his response to question, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin said that hot mixed and hot roll systems are applied in repairing roads. Road repair work can be done in the eight-month open season. Roads are damaged during the four-month rainy season as moisture reduces the quality of tar. The Head of State gave guidance to build concrete roads in Yangon and to erect a cement factory at Pyinyaung in Thazi Township, Mandalay Region. A 500-ton capacity cement factory was commissioned on 29 April 2010. Priority has been given to earth and gravel roads, uptown areas and busy main roads. Cement laying will be carried out simultaneously in one ward each in all townships.

Test construction began in fiscal 2008-2009. Nine roads totaling 1.5 miles in length were built in 2008-2009; 208 totaling 41.13 miles in length in 2009-2010; 1919 up to March 17 in 2010-2011. A total of 797 are under construction. The projected 2716 roads for 2010-2011 include 120 totalling 46.41 miles in Dagon Myothit (South) Township; 90 totalling 19.6 miles in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, 64 totalling 16.87 miles in Dagon Myothit (North) Township; 93 totalling 33.91 miles in Dagon Myothit (East) Township; 206 totalling 27.87 miles in South Okkalapa Township; 115 totalling 17.75 miles in North Okkalapa Township; 115 totalling 22.47 miles in Thingangyun Township; three totalling 0.48 mile in Kyauktada Township; nine totalling 1.44 miles in Pabedan Township; four totalling 0.55 mile in Latha Township; three totalling 0.74 mile in Lanmadaw Township; seven totalling 1.14 miles in Dagon Township; 29 totalling 3.20 miles in Bahan Township; 46 totalling 2.89 miles in Sangyoung Township; five totalling 0.39 mile in Ahlon Township; 138 totalling 13.08 miles in Kyimyindine Township; 47 totalling 6.5 miles in Tamway Township; 48 totalling 5.28 miles in Mingala Taungnyunt Township; 15 totalling 1.39 miles in Pazundaung Township; seven totalling 0.88 mile in Botahtaung Township; 304 totalling 36.83 miles in Thakayta Township; 102 totalling 10.10 miles in Dawbon Township; 59 totalling 6.96 miles in Yankin Township; 25 totalling 7.20 miles in Seikkyi-KanaungtoTownship; 143 totalling 39.07 miles in Dala Township; 26 totalling three miles in Kamayut Township; 47 totalling 5.37 miles in Hline Township; 147 totalling 24.24 miles in Mayangon Township; 108 totalling 25.76 miles in Insein Township; 128 totalling 44.55 miles in Mingaladon Township; 114 totalling 38.92 miles in Hlinethaya Township; 326 totalling 93.28 miles in Shwepyitha Township.

YCDC built over 2700 roads during this fiscal year, up 13 times from 208 in 2009-2010. It built 570.23 more miles. Thanks to six concrete mixers and 33 concrete carriers and 180 hand mixers, such a large number of roads can be built. YCDC laid 850 ft by 36 ft extra concrete layer on Yedashe street in Bahan Township; 4500 ft by 72 ft extra concrete layer on Thameinbayan street in Tamway Township; 2850 ft by 72 ft extra concrete layer on Kyaikkasan street in Tamway Township; 1600 ft by 60 ft extra concrete layer on Okponseik street in Mayangon Township; 6000 ft by 72 ft extra concrete layer on Laydauntkan street in Thingangyun Township; 2800 ft by 42 ft extra concrete layer on Hanthawady street in Kamayut Township; 1200 ft by 48 ft extra concrete layer on Banyadala street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township; 3100 ft by 44 ft extra concrete layer on Khineshwewa street in Kamayut Township; 1700 ft by 72 repaved concrete

(See page 7)

Yangon will become international level…

(from page 6)

layer on Botahtaung Market street in Botahtaung Township; 11800 ft by 48 ft extra concrete layer on Maungmakan Kantha street in Dagon Myothit (South) Township; 1400 ft by 48 ft extra concrete layer on Kamakyi street in Thakayta Township. Roughly YCDC is using 6000 bags of cement for road works and 3000 for other development works. With that amount a road section 6000 ft long 12 ft wide and six inches thick can be built. According to list, there are 4773 earth roads (3435 in six new satellite towns) still left to build.

The benefits of the project are: emergence of all-weather roads for all kinds of vehicles, facilitation of transport for Yangonites, ambulance cars, fire engines and health care activities. Other related benefits are total eradication of dengue hemorrhagic fever in many townships, durability of roads, social development and security and public health and fitness as concrete roads are suitable for walking or jogging.

In addition to its greening, sanitation, health and public security measures, YCDC has been building durable cement roads for long-term benefit. The project will help improve social standard and develop the city into an international level metropolitan.

MNA

***Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin responding to question.*—MNA**

PBANRDA Minister replies to question on less developed regions

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—At today's session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, U N Phon Hsan (a) U N Htu Phon Hsan of Machanbaw Constituency asked whether assistance will be provided to the regions of national races that lag behind in development and whether the State will send an observation team to less developed national races or regions for giving priority to development of the national races or regions.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt replied that border areas of the Union of Myanmar had lagged behind in development due to internal insurrection and poor transport before 1988. The Central Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development was formed on 25 May 1989 under the order No. 23/89 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council for gaining development momentum in border areas of national races. On 27 October 2004, the central committee was reformed with the participation of 16 members chaired by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services as chairman under the notification No. 74/2004 to supervise progress of border areas of national races. To be able to implement the instructions of the central committee, the Work Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races was formed with 17 members on 31 May 1989 under the notification No. 24/89 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. According to the notification No. 32/2006 of the State Peace and Development Council on 14 July 2006, the work committee was reformed with 23 members headed by the Prime Minister which is effectively carrying out progress of border areas and national races. As the government has been placing emphasis on national reconsolidation since 1989, a total of 17 major armed groups and over 20 small groups have returned to the legal fold.

In consequence, the regions could restore peace and stability and undertake development tasks with momentum. Deputy Ministers of relevant ministries are taking chairmen at 18 subcommittees for Progress of Border Areas and National Races with participation of departmental heads. These subcommittees were:

(a) road/bridge subcommittee
(b) transport subcommittee
(c) health subcommittee
(d) education subcommittee
(e) agriculture subcommittee
(f) forest subcommittee
(g) livestock breeding subcommittee
(h) trade subcommittee
(i) energy subcommittee
(j) public relations subcommittee
(k) mining subcommittee
(l) communications subcommittee
(m) house construction subcommittee
(n) management and finance subcommittee
(o) statistic inspection subcommittee
(p) religious affairs subcommittee
(q) home affairs subcommittee
(r) social welfare and cooperative subcommittee.

To be able to closely supervise tasks in border areas, 11 regional work committees were chaired by commanders of respective military commands and chairmen of State PDCs on 13 June 1989. They were;

(a) Kachin State Regional Work Committee
(b) Shan State (North) Regional Work Committee
(c) Shan State (East) Regional Work Committee
(d) Shan State Regional Work Committee
(e) Kayah State Regional Work Committee
(f) Kayin State Regional Work Committee
(g) Mon State Regional Work Committee
(h) Taninthayi Region Regional Work Committee
(i) Sagaing Region Regional Work Committee
(j) Chin State Regional Work Committee
(k) Rakhine State Regional Work Committee.

The government formed the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs on 24 September 1992 under Announcement No. 54/92 with a view to supervising progress of border areas and national races.

The Central and Work Committees for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs implemented the development tasks on priority submitted by township, district and regional work committees.

From 1989-1990 to 2010-2011 financial years, the State has spent K 130,040 million through the border areas funds and K 214,233.97 million through the funds of relevant ministries, totaling K 344,273.97 million on development of border areas and national races across the nation.

These undertakings were:

(a) A total of 4397 miles long earthen roads, 3133 miles long gravel roads, 473 miles long asphalt roads were constructed and 3587 miles long roads maintained. Likewise, Public Works built 119 large bridges, 1462 small bridges and 63 suspension bridges.
(b) A total of 888 primary schools, 92 middle schools and 94 high schools were opened in the education sector.
(c) A total of 100 hospitals, 96 dispensaries, 94 rural health centres and 202 rural health branches were opened in the health sector.
(d) A total of 31 agricultural office and 118 agricultural camps were built in the agricultural sector, and 17 measured dams, five canals and 11 tractors constructed.
(e) A total of 20 breeding farms and 41 veterinary offices were opened and 73 cows and 38 donkeys distributed in the livestock breeding sector.
(f) A total of 11 forest reserves, 14 planned forest reserves, four sawmills and 14 forest nurseries were established in the forest sector.
(g) A total of 113 TV re-transmission stations were built in the public relations sector.
(h) A total of 54 post offices, 47 telegraphic offices and 86 telephone works were established in the communication sector.
(i) A total of 276 generators and 51 hydropower plants were constructed in the energy sector.

In the area of Kachin State Regional Work Committee, one excavator, 12 bulldozers, six road rollers and eight dump tippers are being operated.

In implementing the plans for progress of border areas and national races, the subcommittees gave equal term of opportunity to Kachin State. In do doing, a total of 725 miles long earthen roads, 309 miles long gravel roads and two miles long asphalt roads were constructed and 272 miles long roads maintained. In addition, a total of 12 large bridges, 319 small bridges and 24 suspension bridges were built in the state by spending K 2780.59 million through the border area development fund.

In the education sector, a total of 173 primary schools, 13 middle schools and 10 high schools were opened in Kachin State. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the 3-Rs course has been jointly conducted for adult illiterates and over-age national children in cooperation with the Ministry of Education since 1996. In consequence, a total of 4228 people—439 people in 2002, 835 in 2005, 286 in 2006, 855 in 2007, 728 in 2008, 278 in 2009 and 807 in 2010—became literates in respective townships.

In the health sector, border areas of Kachin State has been facilitated with 12 hospitals, 30 dispensaries, 17 rural health centres and 27 rural health branches.

In the agriculture sector, the state has two dams, two agricultural farms and eight agricultural offices.

In the livestock breeding sector, four livestock breeding offices were opened and one breeding farm built.

With regard to the public relations sector, Kachin State has provided with 15 TV re-transmission stations.

In raising communication tasks in Kachin State, three post offices, five telegraphic offices and six telephone exchange were opened.

In the energy sector, a total of 22 generators are supplying electricity to 17 towns and villages. And, one hydropower plant is under construction.

The minister explained progress of human resources development for national race youths who faced lack of learning opportunity as the border areas could not restore peace and stability in the pas. In undertaking development of border areas, it is necessary to ensure local food sufficiency of national races residing in the border areas for the first phase. After that, it is necessary to build social-economic infrastructure for the local people. And then, it is necessary to place emphasis on human resources development for achieving sustainable development.

Arrangements have been mad to create learning opportunity for the children from border areas who lost the learning opportunity in successive eras. In so doing, a total of 29 border areas national races development schools were opened along the border areas for the national race youths. Of them, one training school is opened in Putao, two in Myitkyina and one in Bhamo.

The trainees who are qualified for the prescribed regulations of the training schools are admitted at the boarding to attend the high schools.

From 1999-2000 to 2010-2011 academic years, a total of 561 students of 612 who passed the matriculation examination attended the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges in Yangon and Mandalay, 24 students at University for Development of National Races, eight at nursing courses, 10 at midwifery course and nine at education college.

(See page 8)

PBANRDA Minister replies to question…

(from page 7)

In 2000, Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges were established in Yangon and Mandalay. To be able to turn out technicians, the Department of Education and Training was formed under the permission of Government Meeting 21/99 on 17 June 1999. At present, two Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges (Yangon and Mandalay), 29 border areas and national race youth development training schools, four border areas and national race youth technical schools and 39 vocational training schools for the women are being kept open for the national races.

The national race youths from border areas who passed matriculation examination were scrutinized to attend the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges (Yangon and Mandalay) for learning arts, science and engineering courses. In addition, the outstanding students are admitted to attend master's courses, BE and ME courses.

From 2003-2004 to 2010-2011 academic years, 380 students got BA degrees, 688 BSc degrees and 445 AGTI diplomas. Arrangements were made for outstanding students to pursue master's courses, MRes course, Prelim course, PhD course, BTech, BE and ME courses. Up to 2010-2011 academic year, a total of 44 MA and 67 MSc graduates, eight ME, 117 BE and 182 BTech graduates have been turned out. A total of 1068 BA/BSc graduates and 445 diploma holders have been appointed at ministries.

Of 39 vocational training schools for the women, four training schools were opened in Putao, Bhamo, Dunban Village of Phakant Township and Dawphonyan in Kachin State. The schools open training basic domestic training schools, advanced tailoring course, knitting course, weaving course, mosaic course, wickerwork (rattan/bamboo) course, embroidery course and cookery course to the trainees.

From 1992 to date, the training schools produced 38489 trainees. In Kachin State, 2410 trainees attended four schools.

In reviewing the clarifications, undertakings of the State can be seen for progress of the less developed regions of national races.

The minister said that as the Central Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development has formed the work committee, respective regional committees and the township work committees, everybody can know progress of border areas and national races through step by step presentations.

Therefore, task for progress of border areas and national races will be carried out with momentum.

MNA

PBANRDA Minister replies to question on drinking water supply project in Sittway

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March— At today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw, U Maung Nyo of Sittway Constituency said that the people of Sittway, the city of Rakhine State, are facing problem of drinking water. He asked whether there is a water supply plan to solve the difficulty of drinking water in Sittway or not, and he would like to know when the plan will be implemented if it is true.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Thein Nyunt replied that the Development Committees Law promulgated as Law No. 5/93 by the State Law and Order Restoration Council was issued on 1 April 1993 so that the Development Affairs Department is to carry out beautifying of urban areas and developing of rural areas. Section 9 of the law is mentioned to undertake 31 points and supervise them.

Therefore, the department levies revenue and tax in the respective townships as income according to the law and spend the income on the beautifying of urban areas and developing of rural areas under permission of the ministry. Due to lack of income through tax and revenue, cash assistance is yearly provided by the State to Sittway Township for carrying out urban water supply tasks.

A total of 2.55 million gallons of water is being supplied to Sittway through 410 million gallon capacity Kandawgyi Lake, 14 rainy water tanks, 12 wells of Development Affairs Committee and 10 wells of other departments, and 992 private-owned artesian wells.

On his inspection tours of Sittway on 24-1-2099, 16-1-200 and 17-5-2010, the Prime Minister gave instructions to provide assistance for supply of water to Sittway as the Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council presented a report that Sittway was facing difficulty of drinking water.

Under the instructions of the Prime Minister, the Ministry undertook three plans of water supply.

The first plan is to clean the water pipelines of urban water supply system. Cast Iron pipes of Sittway were decayed and blocked due to long-term use. Some parts of pipelines were damaged. In 2009-2000, the pipelines were cleaned and 8500 feet long new pipelines were laid for the areas where water was not supplied. Three water pumping stations and one water collecting tank were built for smooth supply of water. In so doing, the State spent K 69.62 million on maintenance of water pipeline, installation of new pipelines and building of water pumps to supply residences of Sittway through 2760 water taps and 120 public water tanks.

As the second plan, the local authorities in cooperation with the local people have been supplying 1.2 million gallons of water daily from Aungdaing Fresh Water Tank to Kandawgyi Lake through two 50-HP water pumps since 1995. In so doing, the work was contributed with K 161.23 million by the people and K 204.47 million by the State. Moreover, K 79 million was spent on rebuilding the 4700 feet long embankment of Kangawgyi Lake to store 40 more million gallons of water. As such, about 3 million gallons of water is being supplied to Sittway daily.

As the third plan, 6400 feet long and 15 feet high earthen dam is being built by damming Kanpaing Creek, 4200 feet north from Sittway. The facility will store 130 million gallons of water to supply 400,000 more gallons of water to seven wards of northern Sittway. The construction will cost K 195.22 million. On completion, Sittway can consume 3.4 million gallons of water daily.

***PBANRDA Minister U Thein Nyunt making clarification.*—MNA**

On his inspection tour of Kandawgyi Lake on 16-3-2010 and 17-5-2010, the Prime Minister heard reports presented by the minister and the chairman of Rakhine State PDC. So, it is known to all the State has managed supply of water for people from Sittway.

According to Section 254 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Chief Minister of State is allowed to spend tax and revenues of the Township DACs under the State Budget Law in line with the Development Committees Law. Therefore, Chief Prime of the State will continue tasks of water sufficiency spending the funds of the State and carry out supply of water for Sittway step by step, he replied.

MNA

EP-1 Minister replies to question on generating of hydropower from Htakhachaung Waterfall

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March— At today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw, U N Phon Hsan (a) U N Htu Phon Hsan of Machanbaw Constituency of Kachin State said he has learnt that the authorities concerned have conducted feasibility studies for many times to generate hydropower from Htakhachaung Waterfall in Machanbaw Township of Kachin State. He asked whether a project has been set to generate hydropower from Htakhachaung Waterfall and he would like to know when the project would commence.

In his response, Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min explained that hydropower projects are to be submitted at first to the Special Projects Implementation Committee for approval. Then, feasibility studies on annual rainfall, year-wise inflow water, geological condition, possibilities of the project at upstream and downstream of the creek are to be conducted for the project. Generally, it is necessary to take 18 months for the studies.

Based on the report of studies, the detailed observation is to be conducted. Sometimes, feasibility studies are to be conducted at three or four places. Of them, the best place is to be chosen and then the detailed observation is to be carried out. Later, the detailed design for the project is to be created by taking 12 months. As such, it is necessary to take 30 months for conducting feasibility studies and creating the design. Depending on the size of the project, construction tasks take three years to 10 years.

The nation has 34 small-scale hydropower projects and plants and 16 medium- and heavy-scale hydropower projects and plants. Since 2001, the 30-year electric power long-term plan has being implemented in the nation through the ministry, national entrepreneurs' companies and foreign investment. At present, there are 68 implementing projects and studying projects that can generate 45,000 megawatts.

The Htakhachaung Hydropower Project raised by U N Htu Phon Hsan has sought approval from the Special Projects Implementation Committee. The project is under observation and it will be a small-scale project to be implemented by one national entrepreneur company.

With regard to the electric power sector, Paragraph (4) (a) on Page 189 in the schedule two, Section 188 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar states "Medium and small scale electric power production and distribution that have the right to be managed by the Region or State not having any link with national power grid, except large scale electric power production and distribution having the right to be managed by the Union". Therefore, private entrepreneurs and cooperative societies have the opportunity to invest in regional small-scale hydropower projects under the supervision of the State government.—*MNA*

***Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min answering query.*—MNA**

Proposal to assist farmers in getting reasonable price of paddy discussed

Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein making clarifications.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March – Four Hluttaw representatives discussed the proposal approved to be discussed **to assist farmers in getting reasonable price of paddy**, submitted by Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency-7, at today's Amyotha Hluttaw session.

First, Wunna Kyaw Htin U Win Myint of Sagaing Region Constituency-3 discussed that he is the chairman of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Regarding the first point, he explained that in the nations practising market-oriented economic system, governments do not interfere directly in the price rates of crops and commodities. Both government and private sector cannot control market prices that change according to the nature of supply and demand. But, if there are cases of monopolization and sudden fluctuation of prices in the market, government organizations concerned and merchants associations usually take control of them in line with the administrative means and laws. In neighbouring nations, buffer stock system is adopted for important goods. If there is price hike, part of the buffer stock is sold and if sudden decrease happens, crops of farmers are purchased at reasonable price to cover the production cost. There is another system as well, in which the minimum price is fixed for farmers so that they cannot experience any losses. However, ways and means have to be sought to be in conformity with the conditions of own nation.

When it comes to prices of foodstuff including rice, global demand and prices have increased after 2007-2008. As a result, Myanmar has been able to extend exports of rice and beans and pulses year by year. Increased price in the global market is an attraction for farmers to try to boost cultivation. Yet, coordinated measures have to be taken sometimes as unprecedented increase in prices can affect the public consumers. Extended exportation of rice and beans and pulses at present is due to the efforts made in the form of public private partnership.

Progress of today's global nations have achieved is thanks to the adoption of export led economic growth model. If there is more public private partnership, exportation can be boosted and farmers will get benefits.

The second point of the proposal states that government's assistance is necessary for products of farmers to be able to get good price in the global market. For the penetration into the global market, the government is creating opportunities for merchants by making coordination with Myanmar embassies in foreign countries, foreign embassies in the country, international organizations and merchants associations and holding trade fairs and meetings. Farmers, brokers from other towns and merchants on their part are to work hard for boosting crop cultivation. Now, assistance is being rendered to farmers under the programme of public private partnership to increase the quality of two major agricultural products – rice and beans and pulses.

Dr Banya Aung Moe said it is no longer necessary to make any other proposal as efforts are being made under the public private partnership programme.

U Tun Zaw (a) Ko Pauk of Bago Region Constituency-12 in his discussion said concerning the matter of getting good price in international market, in the market economy system, prices are fixed by the market. Crops produced from own country can get good price only if they can seek market in competition with those of other nations in the global market. Nowadays, modern machines and equipment are being used to produce quality rice. For paddy, a raw material, quality paddy strains are bought. Hence, it is necessary for farmers to grow quality strains in order to get good price. By milling quality paddy, quality rice will be produced and it can be competitively sold in the global market.

As to the second point, he said according to Article 23 (b) of the 2008 Constitution, it is prescribed that the State shall assist farmers in getting reasonable prices of their crops. So, it is not necessary to discuss this point separately.

U Naing Tun Ohn of Mon State Constituency-5 said boosting agricultural production calls for good cultivation methods, modern equipment, cultivable land, enough capital and manpower. Agricultural production will decrease when farmers change their profession if they do not earn enough from their crop production. It is necessary for farmers to enjoy food security, boost production and improve income. So, he said he second the proposal.

U Kyaw Thein of Mon State Constituency-4 said if farmers increase their income, their capital will increase, thereby contributing to national income. If there is increase in exports, more foreign exchange will be earned. As the majority of the people are farmers, their improved income will contribute to development of other economic sectors. Therefore, he seconded the proposal, he said.

In his discussion, Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein said as to the proposal, it will be complete only when the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation responsible for boosting agricultural produce and the Ministry of Commerce responsible for trading make clarifications. So, he himself would made clarifications of the two ministries, added the minister.

The aim of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is to boost agricultural production. With the boosting of agricultural produce, income of farmers will improve. The aim is being realized in two ways – extension of cultivation acreage and per acre high yield. In the time of the ruling government, more 19.88 million acres of land have been reclaimed. For per-acre high yield, research has been done and the research department and Myanma Agriculture Service are distributing new quality strains. To extend irrigated acreage, dam and river-water pumping projects and underground tapping water tasks have been and are being implemented. Cultivation capacity has increased from 120 % to 172 % contributing to improved income of farmers. Research on new strains has led to high yield. For example, the first cotton strain produced 350 viss. But Ngwechi-6 cotton can produce more than 1600 viss. However, there were reports that a viss of cotton formerly sold for K 1000 could get only K 500. In order to keep up the spirits of farmers, A&I Ministry bought a viss of cotton for K 1000. So did the Ministry of Industry-1. Now, the price of cotton per viss is around K 1200.

The Commerce Ministry would discuss the proposal from the viewpoint of trade. Regarding the first point, in the market economy system, prices of all types of goods including agricultural products are decided by market and they vary depending on supply and demand. In the nations practising market-oriented economic system, governments do not usually control price rates of crops and commodities. Before 1988 when Myanmar was practising socialist economic system, there were cases of fixing commodity prices. After 1988 when the nation adopted market economy system, farmers and merchants alike have been trading openly for 20 years. According to Article 35 of the 2008 Constitution, the State will continue to practice market economy system. Some organizations and companies are buying products of farmers at unreduced price in the harvesting time. So, at a time when growers and entrepreneurs are trading crop products openly in the market, the proposal to interfere in price rates by the government is not appropriate to be approved.

As regards to the second point, the government and private sector should make cooperative efforts for producing quality products to be able to compete with other nations in the global market, growing globally marketable crops according to demand and having direct links with end user countries for crop sales of farmers under the arrangement of entrepreneurs.

In other way, production needs to increase both in quality and quantity. In the marketing sector, market penetration, regular market shares and good price are necessary. Therefore, the State built a cluster of irrigation facilities within 20 years for long-term development of agricultural sector. Exports of agricultural produce amounted $ 121.22 m in 2007-2008, $ 1403.17 m in 2008-2009 and $ 1657.58 m in 2009-2010. This is because of having good price and boosting agricultural production. The increase in import of agricultural produce is paralleled by the rise in income of farmers.

With crop output growth, the government made necessary arrangements for establishment of rice companies and beans and pulses companies to carry out "Supply Chain Management" which is required for dealing with **"procedures for having a share of the international market and a good price starting from 2009."**

The companies are producing and distributing quality strains which are in demand, fertilizers at reasonable price and providing farmers with farm equipment and machines for value added products and dealing with local and foreign markets. So government's encouragement for formation of companies for agricultural development in accord with the market economy is the basic assistance like the proposal submitted by U Banya Aung Moe.

Some pointed to domestic support, export subsidy, minimum support price and pledging programme which are being practiced in some other countries. The first point is that a few nations out of 194 world nations practice these ways and most of countries cannot practice them due to various reasons

(See page 10)

F & R Minister clarifies tax revenue situation in reply to question of U Maung Toe of Minhla Constituency

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—With the special permission of the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, U Maung Toe of Minhla Constituency asked Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun to clarify the situation of the tax revenue during the today's Pyithu Hluttaw regular session.

U Maung Toe said Myanmar's Taxand GDP ratio is at 3.2 percent and the country's tax revenue is the lowest among nations including ASEAN countries. He asked the Finance and Revenue Minister to review and clarify the situation.

In reply to the question, the minister said that the Tax GDP ratio has come down reaching at3.2 percent due to five factors — a tax exemption and a tax relief, tax payer's weakness to comply with tax regulations, weak support from local authorities to take measures under tax regulations, audits' weakness in auditing in accordance with rules and regulations concerned and need for amendments for the tax rules and regulations.— *MNA*

Proposal to assist farmers in getting reasonable…

(from page 9)

such as wealth, storage capacity and management. The second point is that the high purchase price for crops of farmers is banned under Agreement on Subsidies Countervailing Measure of WTO. Since 2001, there have been continuous claims on revocation of such practice made by some developed nations in WTO meeting. The third point is that although a system in which Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading made deposits on the crops like Minimum Support Price was introduced in Myanmar from 1999-2000 to 2003, it did not work, leaving bad debt of K 3800 million. The fourth point is that assistances which are allowed to be rendered under agricultural agreement of WTO are construction of agro-based infrastructures, research work, pest control and food security. So already-implemented works and ongoing works for agricultural development and better socio-economic status of famers are comfortable to the situations in the world and they can help develop systematically.

Permission to import agricultural items and farm equipment with zero tariff and striving for more fertilizer production of the government are services to assist farmers in reduction of production cost without affecting their incomes.

There are many services given by the State for agricultural development and better socio-economic status of farmers. These services are assistances rendered by the government to get a good price for crop. He said he would like to give an account of some ongoing tasks for getting a good price. The first point is that farmers do not get reasonable profits and consumers face rising price due to six stages in rice trading. Now getting a good price is in prospect after companies were set up and direct links with farmers established.

The second point is that exportation of rice mixed with various kinds of rice by some companies is a cause of not getting a good price. Plans are underway to address this problem in cooperation with companies that are willing to make investment in rice production field. The third point is that value added is a cause required for getting a good price. For example, a tone of FAQ mungbean gets US$ 900 (Yangon FOB) and a tone of SQ mungbean can get US$ 1000 (Yangon FOB). As a valued added product, it can get US$ 1300. If color sorter and polisher are used for the product, we can get more price. Milling quality has advanced considerably within two or three years.

The fourth point is that Domestic Market Development is a basic point for ensuring a share of international market and a good price. Public Private Partnership Programme is being realized for organizing workshops for development of brokerages with the aim of ensuring Domestic Market Development.

Measures are being taken for facilitating trading by brokerages in States and Regions. The government is legally handling inappropriate matters and matter of playing market. Besides, assistances are being rendered to conduct market research, to exchange market information, to hold seminars and meetings, to take part in international expos and business meets. Myanmar embassies are also making necessary arrangements in carrying out market penetration.

Dissemination of information about global and domestic commodity price rates is being carried out and the rural people have widened their scope of knowledge in the age of information technology. **Merchants are to try to seek market and production companies and farmers are to make cooperative effort to produce quality crops so as to get good price.**

The third point of the proposal says that the state is to help in exporting agricultural products to industrialized nations with few taxes or without taxes. At present, Myanmar's export processes are being carried out with GSP (Generalized System of Preference) adopted for developing and least-developed countries by developed countries, the reduced rates adopted between regional countries with open trade, the rates adopted for LDCs by WTO member countries and the reduced rates adopted in accord with ASEAN open trade agreement. Besides, Myanmar is enjoying DFTP (Duty free tariff preference) adopted by India. The ministerial meeting of LDCs including held in Tanzania in 2009 made a resolution to join the market with duty free and quota free. At the 7th ministerial meeting of WTO held in December 2009, Myanmar sought permission to enter the market with duty free and quota free. So, the point U Banya Aung Moe made has been carried out by the State and measures are being taken to continue to implement it.

Overall, it is not necessary to review the proposal as the points included in it have been already prescribed by the State.

Then, Dr Banya Aung Moe thanked the minister and participants for clarifications saying he is glad to learn that the government is trying its utmost for the wellbeing of farmers. Later, the speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced the resource person had withdrawn his proposal by himself.

MNA

F&R Minister and seven representatives discuss proposal of U Soe Win

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—At today's Pyithu Hluttaw session, seven hluttaw representatives discussed the proposal of U Soe Win from Sangyoung Constituency **"to provide financial assistance to small and medium enterprises."**

U Win Myint from Myingyan Constituency said that industrial production is important economic sector in Myanmar's realizing economic objective—development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sector of the economy as well. So, it needs to develop small and medium enterprises. So, the government has established 18 industrial zones and 28 sub-industrial zones across the nation.

After the government had established Central Committee for Development of Myanma Industries, the number of SMEs has reached to over 40,000, accounting for 74.31 per cent covering foodstuff, textile, consumer goods, household appliances, printing industry, construction materials, farming equipment, and electrical appliances industry.

Three groups can be divided according to production capacity. The first group applies high technology and possesses modern equipment and is located in industrial zones in Yangon and Mandalay. The second is agro-based industries which apply relatively modern technology and spread over the nation. The third group is manual labor-based industry which applies traditional methods. It is import-substitute industry which generates foreign currency through import of processed fish and prawn, finished woods and value-added various kinds of fruits.

The national goal has been set to build modern and developed nation with industrial power and the new government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has set up Ministry of Myanma Industrial Development for further development in industrial sector of the nation.

The government has issued "Private Industries Law" and Investment Laws for Myanmar Nationals". Industrialists are permitted to ask governmental departments and organizations concerned to provide them with land, water, energy, communication and transportation, reduction of tariffs, loans for fixed capital and revolving fund, local and foreign raw materials for their businesses, machines and machine parts, and domestic and foreign technologies to boost the production and quality of the products they produce.

Myanmar Industrial Development Bank has been set up to provide loans to industrialists and the bank so far has lent over K 43 billion to industrialists.

Nowadays, industrialists, businessmen and those wishing to expand their own business have the right to borrow loans from State-owned Myanma Economic Banks, and private banks in accord with prescribed rules and regulations of the bank. It is learnt that the State wants to lend more loans to industrialists depending on its budget for industrial development.

So, proposal of U Soe Win is the work the State is performing and will be performing and thus he assumed that it needs to make proposal no more.

Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) Constituency said that development of manufacturing sector is pivotal in economic growth of a nation. Nations with large portion of manufacturing sector in gross domestic production of national economy are found to be developed countries. Developing countries are to try to transform from ordinary farming business to production business for their economic development.

Myanmar is principally an agro-based nation and thus efforts are to be made for shift from agriculture business to production business gradually.

Investment in SMEs in Myanmar is relatively low in comparison with other CLMV countries. SMEs in Myanmar are run with limited family-owned capital and the chances to acquire financial assistance in industrial section are low if compared with other CLMV countries.

For example, industrialists can borrow short-term and long-term loans in Cambodia and Laos. And loans can be borrowed in Vietnam and Laos without pawn-articles in addition to factoring. In Laos, not only immoveable assets but also inventories can be pawned to borrow loans.

In Myanmar, there are no such cases and only short-loans can be borrowed. And one can only borrow the 30% of market price of the property he pawned and there are even restrictions on borrowing a small loan.

Short-term loan means is for working capital and long-term investment is needed for expanding the business. According to statistics in 2004, SMEs in Myanmar were 43435 with 78 % of which is small enterprises with workforce of under 50, and accounted 61% of employment rate, 41 % of production rate, and 45% of investment rate of the nation and thus can be seen that SMEs play an important role in economic growth of the nation and the State should provide short-term and long-term loans and draw financial programmes for investment in development, he said in support of the proposal.

F & R Minister U Hla Tun responding to question.—MNA

U Hla Maung (a) U Naing Hla Maung from Chaungsone Constituency said that production industry which provides basic needs of people is important to the nation.

Productivity of SMEs depends on the financial capacity of owners. These industries sometimes face financial shortages. There must a programme to disburse necessary loans to them. The most important seven Ms in industries are men, money, material, method, machine, management and market. They are all related to capital. Providing loans to SMEs will facilitate production and help control commodity prices. Hence, he supported U Soe Win's proposal.

U Kyi Myint of Latha constituency said small and medium enterprises are flexible. They can grab the opportunities left behind by big businesses, hence generating new job. Tax exemption or reduction and financial assistance can be followed by opportunities. So, the formation of supervisory bodies may require. In market economy, the source of public budget comes from tax-payers. Hence, the idea of providing interest-free loans is not appropriate.

(See page 11)

F&R Minister and seven representatives…

(from page 10)

U Khin Maung Yi (a) Khine Maung Yi of Ahlon constituency said normally nations are implementing economic patterns suitable to them. Basically, economy has three parts – manufacturing, non-manufacturing and services. These three are run by small, medium or big business depending on their volume. Tax burden, access to financing, impact of technology, modernization, technological developments and fair opportunities should be taken into account to promote small businesses. Myanmar now has business organizations and various financial aid programmes. He supported the proposal of U Soe Win.

U Sai Aung Hla of Namtu constituency said five years from now, Myanmar will be a member of Asean Free Trade Area (AFTA). So, the country has a five-year preparation time. The nation will have greater competitiveness if her small and medium enterprises meet the set standard. These enterprises will also have to compete with foreign companies that will make investments in accordance with the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Law. As these foreign companies are running in SEZ, they can enjoy some tax exemptions. So, State-owned and private banks should provide SMEs with interest-free or soft loans to manufacture quality goods. The government should also provide technological assistance. He supported the proposal.

U Lwin Oo of Thanlyin constituency said there should be a harmonious progress between heavy industries and small and medium industries. The basic method is to provide loans to the latter. Twenty percent of industrial loans are for SMEs at present. The government is providing financial assistance to the banks for industrial development. Banks charge interest rates that are lower than the loans for other business to SMEs in line with the instructions of the Central Bank. Banks have to file lawsuits against businesses that give priority to financial access rather than to development. The government's provision of loans to small and medium businesses on broader scale will contribute to industrial development of nation, import-substitute good production, saving foreign exchange, earning FE through exports, creating job opportunities. Myanmar Industrial Development Central Committee and Myanmar Industrial Development Committee are providing assistance to these businesses. U Soe Win's proposal concerns with accomplished and on-going projects. So, it is further discussion on this topic are not necessary.

Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun gave a reply saying, Myanmar is a member of ASEAN SMEWG. It has 18 industrial zones and 28 sub-zones housing 43504 registered businesses – 4186 heavy industries (9.62%), 6992 medium industries (16.07%) and 32326 small industries (74.31%) -- up to the end of February this fiscal year. State-owned, investment and commercial banks are providing loans for industries at 17% interest rate on normal terms. But for special projects, the interest rate is 15%. Myanmar Industrial Development Bank of the 19 private banks and Industrial Loan division under the State-run Myanma Economic Bank are disbursing 55% of their loans to the various industries. After 2003, loans are provided only to the insured industries to cover risk. Especially loans are for insured immovable property. In some cases set rules are lessened in providing loans to contribute to industrial development. MEC, Myanma Investment and Commercial Bank and MIDB provided K 125.4 billion during the period between 2005-2006 and 2009-2010. Steel mills each has a 1000-ton annual capacity were set up in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi industrial zones to contribute to development of small and medium enterprises. Machine tools worth over $ 5 million were bought for the three zones with financial assistance from the government in 2006. Loan disbursement at present depends on the loanable fund. The representatives should review the proposal. The state is helping small and medium industries and they are now producing import-substitute goods and exports. Thanks to the assistance provided in accord with the law, the nation has witnessed industrial development. Myanma Industrial Development Ministry will be included in the new government. Hence, further discussions on the proposal are not required.

The speaker said the discussion and replies are comprehensive and interesting and positive. The production sector including the SMEs is the key for GDP growth. The government is providing financial assistance to SMEs. As the respective Union level organization members do not need to discuss this matter the proposal should be reviewed. U Soe Win asked the Hluttaw to record it for use when and if necessary. According to approval of Hluttaw the proposal was put on record. — *MNA*

Undertakings of Hluttaw concerning questions and proposals of Hluttaw representatives explained

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March— The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw today explained undertakings of the Hluttaw concerning questions raised and proposals submitted by the Hluttaw representatives at the Amyotha Hluttaw.

In his clarification, the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw said that Amyotha Hluttaw raised 33 questions and members of respective Union level organizations responded to them at the first regular session of the Amyotha Hluttaw.

In classifying the queries, eight questions were raised by Kachin State, 11 questions by Chin State, one question by Magway Region, two questions by Mon State, four questions by Rakhine State, six questions by Yangon Region and one question by Shan State, totalling 33.

U Zung Hlei Thang of Chin State Constituency-2 made six questions, Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency-4 six questions and U Paul Thang Thaing of Chin State Constituency-3 three questions. Two questions each were raised by U Khet Htein Nan of Kachin State Constituency-1, U Za Khun Ting Ring of Kachin State Constituency-4, U San Tun of Kachin State Constituency-11, U Maung Aye Tun of Rakhine State Constituency-9 and U Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency-7. One question each was raised by U Mya Ohn of Kachin State Constituency-8, U Sai Mya Maung of Kachin State Constituency-10, U Steven Thabeik of Chin State Constituency-4, U Paw Hlyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency-9, U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency-12, U Khin Maung Latt of Rakhine State Constituency-6, U Maung Tha Khin of Rakhine State Constituency-8 and U Tun Kyaw of Shan State Constituency-10.

Priority is to be given to representatives of Regions and States who have not carry out any discussion, raise question and submit proposal at the sessions of forthcoming Amyotha Hluttaws. In line with the tradition of the Hluttaw, the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw will create the opportunity in equal term for all. Chin State submitted 15 proposals and Mon State, one, totalling 16. U Paw Hlyan Lwin of Chin State submitted nine proposals, U Kyun Kham of Chin State Constituency-1 four proposals, U Steven Thabeik of Chin State Constituency-4 two proposals and U Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency-7 one proposal.

Respective committees read the proposals and questions in detail and will put records on guarantees, pledge and undertakings vetting of the government. At a time when the Hluttaw sessions are not held, questions, proposals and bills may be sent to the Director-General of the Office of the National Hluttaw Speaker in person or through postal service. After making necessary preparations, the above-mentioned matters will be carried out at the forthcoming sessions of the Hluttaw. If it is the most important matter to be undertaken immediately, the Union level organizations will hold coordination among them to respond to the matter without holding the Hluttaw session.

In his greetings, the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw urged the Hluttaw representatives to carry out four points. First and foremost, the representatives are to uplift their proficiency daily to serve the greater interest of the people. For the second, the Sub-section (A) of Section-11 of the Constitution states the three branches of sovereign power namely, legislative power, executive power and judicial power are separated, to the extent possible, and exert reciprocal control, check and balance among themselves. The Hluttaw is a legislative body. So, the representatives are to make studies to reciprocally control the matters related to executive power and judicial power so as to smoothly carry out the matters in the forthcoming sessions of the Hluttaw. For the third point, the Hluttaw representatives are the representatives of the people. So, they are to observe the life of the people. For the fourth point, all the representatives are to extend their study range to be able to give best suggestions for ensuring perpetual existence of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and for ensuring peaceful, modern and developed nation. They all are to always focus on the above-mentioned four points, he concluded.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker give brief account of election, formation, raising queries and discussing proposals

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — At today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker gave brief account of election, formation, raising queries and discussing proposals done at first Pyithu Hluttaw regular session.

The first-day of first Pyithu Hluttaw regular session started on 31 January 2011 and concluded on the 14th day today. Group meetings of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives-elect were held on 1 and 3 February, 2011, he said.

Election of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and Deputy Speaker was done once and election of Vice-President once. Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee were formed with 15 members each and are discharging duties. Duties, privileges and powers of four committees had been approved by the Hluttaw.

Forty six queries raised by Hluttaw representatives had been answered in the from sixth-day session on 9 March to 14th-day session on 23 March. A total of 17 proposals submitted by the representatives were discussed and four out of them were approved. Tasks to be carried out regarding proposals and queries will be supervised by respective Hluttaw committees.

Queries, proposals and bills can be submitted in the time even when the Hluttaw is not convened. Next sessions of Pyithu Hluttaw will be more systematically held in accord with Pyithu Hluttaw Law and Rules. Pyithu Hluttaw representatives should work in interest of people and the State in their own regions in accord with the State Constitution, he urged.—*MNA*

Approval sought for formation of committees and joint-committees

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — At today's regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw sought approval for formation of committees and joint-committees to study legislative, executive, national races, economic, financial, social, foreign affairs and other affairs.

The Pyithu Hluttaw speaker said that the committees can be formed with a term if the Hluttaw need to study legislation, administration, national races, economic, financial, social, foreign affairs and other affairs.

Pyithu Hluttaw Rules 76 states that joint-committees can be formed if the Hluttaw to negotiate with Amyotha Hluttaw. A joint-committee can be formed with equal number of representatives with the negotiation of the Hluttaw Speaker and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker if both Hluttaws have to study an affair except the affairs to be dealt with by four Hluttaw committees. The term of joint-committees is till the report is submitted to Hluttaw.

Approval was sought for assigning Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker a duty of forming joint-committees under Pyithu Hluttaw Rules 76 and committees to study legislation, administration, national races, economic, financial, social, foreign affairs and other affairs under Pyithu Hluttaw Rules 76 with appropriate representatives of four Hluttaw committees and other appropriate representatives.

The proposal of the speaker was then approved by the Hluttaw.

MNA

Approval sought for formation of committees and joint-committees

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—At today's Amyotha Hluttaw session, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker sought approval for formation of committees and joint-committees to study legislature, administration, national brethren affairs, economy, finance, social and foreign affairs and other issues and submit them to the hluttaw.

First, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker said that in compliance with Hluttaw Rules 79, hluttaw committees can be formed with hluttaw representatives over a fixed period if Amyotha Hluttaw wants to have legislature, administration, national brethren affairs, economy, finance, social and foreign affairs and other issues submitted to it.

Amyotha Hluttaw Rule 76 stated that joint-committees can be formed should Amyotha Hluttaw has cases to coordinate with Pyithu Hluttaw. If the both hluttaws has to study a particular subject except the works of the four hluttaw committees and defence and security committee, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker may coordinate and form joint-committee with same number of representatives from both hluttaws. And the term of the joint-committees will end after the study report has been submitted to respective hluttaws.

Considering that there may be functions committees have to perform when the hluttaw is not in session, it needs to allow suitable representatives who are included in the four hluttaw committees to perform the functions of appropriately. The hluttaw approved to form committees and joint-committees when it needs to have legislature, administration, national brethren affairs, economy, finance, social and foreign affairs and other issues submitted to it.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives Vetting Committee formed

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives vetting Committee was organized at today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw regular meeting here.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw announced the list of nominations for members, chairman and secretary for the committee to form the committee with suitable Pyithu Hluttaw representatives in accordance with the section 37(c) of the Pyithu Hluttaw Law in order to scrutinize the representatives as from the 2nd meeting the first Pyithu Hluttaw.

As there was no objection for the nomination, the Speaker announced the confirmation of organizing the committee with following 14 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

(1) U Maung Oo, Takon Constituency, (Chairman)
(2) U Hla Myint (a) U Maung Hla, Pulaw Constituency
(3) U Than Nwe, Butalin Constituency
(4) Dr. Soe Thura, Kyonpyaw Constituency
(5) U Kyin Thein, Bago Constituency
(6) U Ko Ko Tun, Aunglan Constituency
(7) U Tun Myint Oo, Mongpan Constituency
(8) U Aung Kyaw Zan, Pauktaw Constituency
(9) U Kyaw Soe Lay, Monyin Constituency
(10) U Than Oo, Myawady Constituency
(11) U Ye Htut Tin, Hpasaung Constituency
(12) U Pom Khant In, Tiddin Constituency
(13) U Mya Thein, Mudon Constituency
(14) U Aye Myint, Insein Constituency (Secretary)

MNA

Nominees for posts of chairman, secretary and members of Hluttaw Representatives Vetting Committee submitted to Amyotha Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—At today's session of Amyotha Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw speaker submitted the list of nominees for the positions of chairman, secretary and members of Hluttaw Representatives Vetting Committee to Amyotha Hluttaw for formation of the committee.

The speaker submitted the list of nominees for the positions of chairman, secretary and members of Hluttaw Representatives Vetting Committee to Amyotha Hluttaw which is to be formed according to Article 37 (c) of Amyotha Hluttaw Law.

The committee will be formed with eight members, as follows:-

(a) U Aung Tun	Magway Region Constituency (11)
(b) U San Pyae	Kachin State Constituency (7)
(c) U P Maung Soe	Kayah State Constituency (1)
(d) U Saw Taw Kalei	Kayin State Constituency (7)
(e) U Paul Thang Thaing	Chin State Constituency (3)
(f) Dr Soe Win	Mon State Constituency (2)
(g) U Kyaw Tun Aung	Rakhine State Constituency (5)
(h) U Sai Kyaw Zaw Than	Shan State Constituency (2)

The Speaker reported that U Aung Tun from Magway Region Constituency (11) will be appointed as Chairman; and U San Pyae of Kachin State constituency (7), as Secretary.

The huttaw approved and declared the formation of the committee.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw records messages of felicitations sent to Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—Pyithu Hluttaw recorded messages of felicitations received by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker at today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw.

The messages, sent by heads of parliaments of foreign countries for being elected as Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, were submitted at the Hluttaw. These messages were:-

(a) Message from Mr. Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) of the People's Republic of China, dated 1 February, 2011.
(b) Message from Mr. Cho Tae Bok, Speaker of Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, dated 8 February, 2011.
(c) Message from Mr. Nguyen Phu Trong, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, dated 1 February, 2011.
(d) Message from Mr. Boris Gryzlov, Speaker of State Duma (Lower House) of the Russian Federation, dated 7 February, 2011.
(e) Message from Mr. Abdullah Tarmugi, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Singapore, dated 7 February, 2011.
(f) Message from Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, dated 23 February, 2011.
(g) Message from Samdech Akka Moha Thomma Pothisal Chea Sim, President of Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia, dated 1 March, 2011.
(h) Message from Mr. Antonio V Cuenco, Secretary-General of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), dated 9 February, 2011.
(i) Message from Mrs. Pany Yathotu, President of National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, dated 28 February, 2011.
(j) Message from Mr. Jassem Al-Kharafi, Chairman of National Assembly of Kuwait, dated 3 February, 2011.
(k) Message from Dr. Fehmida Mirza, Speaker of National Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, dated 17 February, 2011.
(l) Message from General Chen Bingde, Chief of General Staff of People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China, dated 1 February, 2011.

The Speaker announced that the messages of felicitations were recorded as the Hluttaw approved the recording of messages.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw records messages of felicitations sent to Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Amyotha Hluttaw recorded messages of felicitations received by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker at today's session of Amyotha Hluttaw.

The messages, sent by heads of parliaments of foreign countries for being selected as Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, were submitted at the Hluttaw. These messages were:-

(a) Message from Mr. Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) of the People's Republic of China, dated 1 February, 2011.
(b) Message from Mr. Nguyen Phu Trong, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, dated 1 February, 2011.
(c) Message from Mr. Jassem Al-Kharafi, Chairman of National Assembly of Kuwait, dated 3 February, 2011.
(d) Message from Mr. Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of the Parliament) of the Republic of India, dated 7 February, 2011.
(e) Message from Mr. Abdullah Tarmugi, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Singapore, dated 7 February, 2011.
(f) Message from Mr. Cho Tae Bok, Speaker of Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, dated 8 February, 2011.
(g) Message from Mr. Antonio V Cuenco, Secretary-General of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, dated 8 February, 2011.
(h) Message from Mrs. Pany Yathotu, President of National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, dated 28 February, 2011.
(i) Message from Samdech Akka Moha Thomma Pothisal Chea Sim, President of Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia, dated 1 March, 2011.
(j) Message from Mr. Sergei Mironov, Speaker of Russian Federation Council, dated 5 March, 2011.

The speaker announced that the messages of felicitations were recorded as the Hluttaw approved the recording of messages.

MNA

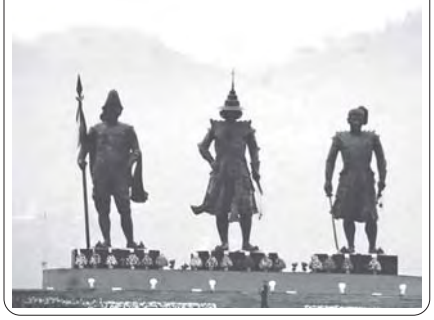
CONDOLENCE BOOK SIGNED: ***Director-General Daw Yin Yin Myint of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 23 March evening signed Condolence Book at Embassy of Japan at No (100) Natmauk Road, Yangon for the loss of lives and property caused by the recent earthquake and Tsunami in Japan.*** **— MNA**

HAILING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

Tatmadaw introducing democracy to the nation

Myint Maung (Phil Q)

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



Now, the Tatmadaw government and the people are working together to shape the future of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Since born, the Myanmar Tatmadaw has been safeguarding the interests of the Union of the people. It has preserved a fine tradition of discharging nation-building tasks with vision. The Tatmadaw government is laying sound foundations and exerting visionary leadership to build a modern and developed nation with the participation of patriotic people.

As a result of the efforts the Tatmadaw government has made with great tenacity, the nation has seen executive, legislative and judicial bodies that will rule the Union democratically. In other words, the State Peace and Development Council or the Tatmadaw government or Tatmadaw members are dedicating themselves to democratization. In that case, they are implementing the tasks with farsightedness step by step for genuine and discipline-flourishing democracy system, not for nominal democracy.

If one studies with objective assessment, whatever point of view, the leadership role the Tatmadaw has played constantly in national politics from 1941 to date, and the earnest efforts the Tatmadaw has made to safeguard and serve national interests for a prosperous future of the Union and national brethren, one will come to know that the Tatmadaw is a national force with a strong sense of bounden duty.

Since its birth, the Tatmadaw had been fighting militarily and politically British colonialists, who had colonized the nation for years, and Japanese Fascists, who treated the people unfairly and harshly, to enable the nation to regain independence.

Adhering to the concept "the Tatmadaw is just for the country", the Tatmadaw launched many operations at the risk of life to tackle the multicoloured armed insurrection that surfaced in the post-independence period at the instigation of the colonialists and the intrusion of alien troops aided and abetted by certain countries including a western power. To hoist the Union Flag atop the pole again claimed lives of a large number of Tatmadaw members.

Since the regaining of independence and sovereignty, the Tatmadaw has been safeguarding independence, playing the leadership role in the demanding tasks for non-disintegration of the Union and non-disintegration of national solidarity. During the time of armed insurrection from April 1949 to September 1950, the-then Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services concurrently served as the deputy prime minister. Under the request of the ruling government, the Tatmadaw served as the Caretaker Government from 1958 to 1960 and held a free and fair election apart from public welfare services.

When the Union was standing on the edge of collapse into pieces due to the defects of the-then constitution, the Tatmadaw unavoidably took State duties in 1962.

In 1988, the nation encountered mass protests broke out at the instigation of anti-government groups and those who haboured great animosity and grudge against the government. Due to the unrest sparked by anti-government groups and organizations, the government's administrative machinery came to a halt, followed by the looting of State-owned and public-owned property and violent massacre of people. Taking full advantage of the uprising, armed insurgent groups speeded up military operations against the nation, and a power posed a threat to the sovereignty of the Union. So, the Tatmadaw took up State duties in perseverance of its fine tradition of safeguarding the interest of the Union and the people to protect the lives and property of the people from harm.

After its assumption of State duties in September 1988, the Tatmadaw has been serving the primary national interest or Our Three Main National Causes, namely Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of sovereignty and implementing the political, economic and social objectives for development of the Union, prosperity of national brethren and building a new nation with consolidated unity. In particular, the Tatmadaw laid sound foundations for formulating an enduring constitution necessary for building a modern and developed nation. In addition, it has been implementing the State's seven-step Road Map with the participation of the people.

Now, the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has come into force. A multiparty democracy general election has been held in line with the constitution. Hluttaws are in session with people's representatives to form Union level and Region/State level legislative, executive and judicial bodies and self-administered areas. After being formed, the bodies will implement the process of building a modern and developed democratic nation. The government has been building facilities across the Union to improve the infrastructures in order that the Union government and Region/State governments, which will take over democratization, can pay careful attention to nation-building tasks.

The Myanmar Tatmadaw born with noble aims remains loyal to the country and the people in shouldering political, military, economic and social duties in the course of its history. It puts national interests at the forefront of its mind. That is the reason why the Tatmadaw has stood firm by the people with three capabilities and 12 fine traditions.

According to the worldwide changes, many countries have turned to the market economy and democracy. To satisfy the wishes of the people, the Tatmadaw is introducing the market economy and democracy to the nation for a brighter future.

With high calibre and visionary leadership, the Tatmadaw is in pursuance of democratization, thus showing benevolent attitude towards the people. Today, many countries are very loud in democracy, but disregard the rules and regulations. So, they are seeing violence and backwardness, instead of stability and progress.

Rights and freedom are at the front of today's democracy. When it comes to democracy, rights and freedom have first priority. But, laws, rules and regulations, which are the theme of democracy, are on the sidelines. Only with the observance of rules and regulations, can we enjoy rights. **Any rights outside the framework of rules and regulations are not fair. If one wants to enjoy rights and freedom, one has to abide by related rules and regulations so as to avoid harms to others. Practice of rights and freedom outside the framework of law can harm the theme of democracy and stability and peace which is the most fundamental requirement.**

Such acts are not acceptable not only to the Tatmadaw but also to the majority of the people. What the people want is stability and peace, and development resulting from stability and peace. The constitution stipulates that the State practises genuine and discipline-flourishing multiparty democracy system, and that the State's economy is the market economy. The Tatmadaw hand in hand with the people is implementing democratization step by step. Making good use of the sound foundations, Union level organizations will take up the democratization processes.

The Myanmar Tatmadaw is formed with noble aims with members born to the people. Many of the issues the Tatmadaw has handled in the course of its history are very formidable and onerous. Due to those invaluable experiences and knowledge, the Tatmadaw has high calibres and fine traditions. As a gesture of honouring the Tatmadaw for its fine traditions and characters, the 27th of March is designated as one of the days of great significance and is celebrated on a grand scale every year.

Soon, the Tatmadaw will play the leadership role in national politics with the mandate given according to the constitution by the people. Therefore, defence service personnel representatives are attending the sessions of Union Hluttaw and Region/State hluttaws. Defence service personnel representatives who make up 25 per cent of the total representatives, on behalf of the Tatmadaw knowledgeable about political, military, economic and social affairs, will take charge of their duties faithfully and unremittingly for prosperity of the Union and the people. As a gesture of honouring the Armed Forces Day and the Tatmadaw, I write this article to reveal that collaborative efforts of defence service personnel representatives and people's representatives to transform the Union into a peaceful, modern and developed nation are a sign of the brighter future of the people.

Translation: MS

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Nihon Seimitsu Sokki Kabushiki Kaisha, also trading as **JAPAN PRECISION INSTRUMENTS, INC.,** of 2508-13, Nakago, Shibukawa-shi, Gunma, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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in respect of "**Int'l Class 10:** Sphygmomanometers; heart rate monitors; pulse monitors; pulse oximeters; electrocardiographs; sphygmomanometer cuffs; manometers for sphygmomanometer; sensors for pulse oximeter measuring amount of oxygen; massage apparatus; body-fat monitors; clinical thermometers; surveillance cameras for medical use; medical apparatus and instruments".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **Nihon Seimitsu Sokki Kabushiki Kaisha**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 24 March 2011

Jing Qiuhong, successor of Xuzhou Fragrant Sachets makes a frangant sachet during the First National Intangible Cultural Heritages Expo in Guandu Township, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 22 March, 2011. A total of 26 cultural heritages are exhibited here. Xuzhou Fragrant Sachet is featured by contrasting colors and realistic designs, which lend them great aesthetic value.
XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RATU VOY NO (425)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RATU VOY NO (425) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 23.3.2011 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AN TAO JIANG VOY NO (482)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN TAO JIANG VOY NO (482) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2011 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: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO, LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Shaolin Temple sets up soccer school to bring Kungfu in training

ZHENGZHOU, 23 March — Shaolin Temple, famous for Kungfu in the world, has built a soccer school to groom junior talents with hopes of bringing Shaolin Kungfu in training, the chief coach of Shaolin warrior-monks said Wednesday.

The school named Shaolin Youth Soccer Academy was built in a warrior- monks training base which belonged to Shaolin Temple last October. About 2,000 children under ten years old are learning Shaolin Kungfu here, and about 40 of them started to learn playing football now.

"It's just the beginning, more children will start to play football after some professional football fields are built, and we believe that some of them will become international superstars some day," Shi Yanlu, the chief coach of Shaolin warrior-monks, told *Xinhua* on Wednes-day.

The school has hired a coach named Tchami from Cameroon, who was once a member of the Cameroon national team.

"Shaolin Kungfu makes them strong and skillful, so it's good to learn playing football," Tchami said. "Now, the Chinese football is not very good, and needs to bring in new elements. Shaolin Kungfu and football are similar in some aspects, especially the brave and diligent spirit of Kungfu, which I think will help promote the level of Chinese football," said Shi Yanlu.—*Xinhua*

The new BlackBerry PlayBook on display in 2010 in San Francisco. Blackberry maker Research In Motion (RIM) announced Tuesday that its iPad rival, the PlayBook, would go on sale next month at a price identical to that of the hot-selling Apple tablet computer.—INTERNET

Invitation to Tender(Kyats)

Sr No	Description	Qty	Issuing Date	Closing Date
(a)	Complete Set of Hydraulic Lifting Table	1 Set	25.3.2011	26.4.2011
(b)	Sieve Roller (without Sieve) Compatible	2 Nos	25.3.2011	26.4.2011
(c)	Hydraulic Motor	1 No	25.3.2011	26.4.2011
(d)	Electrical Appliance	1 Lot	25.3.2011	26.4.2011
(e)	Reducer	1 Lot	25.3.2011	26.4.2011

Tender forms are available at the Planning Department, Myanma Ceramic Industries, Ministry of Industry (1), Building No. 41, Nay Pyi Taw. (067-408160, 408386)

Tender only which purchased officially will be accepted.

Myanma Ceramic Industries

Salazar opens 750m tons of Wyoming coal to mining

CHEYENNE, 23 March— Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced plans on Tuesday to auction off vast coal reserves in Wyoming over the next five months, unleashing a significant but controversial power source amid uncertainty about clean and safe energy development.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar answers a question during a news conference on 22 March.—INTERNET

The four coal leases next to existing strip mines in the Powder River Basin — the largest coal-producing region in the United States — total 758 million tons and will take between 10 and 20 years to mine.

Last year's Gulf of Mexico oil spill raised questions about offshore oil drilling and the current Japanese nuclear power plant crisis has renewed concern about nuclear energy, but coal has its own baggage — especially when it comes to climate change.

Internet

New York nuke plant seismic review gets top priority

ALBANY, 23 March— US regulators have promised to make the Indian Point nuclear power plant near New York City their top priority in a review of seismic risk at US nuclear plants, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said on Tuesday.

The plant 25 miles of New York City, already a source of safety concern among state officials, has faced renewed scrutiny since the 11 March earthquake and tsunami that crippled Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power complex.

Cuomo, a Democrat who has worked to prevent the federal relicensing of the Indian Point facility, said the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission has pledged to make the plant its "top priority" as it reviews earthquake risk at 27 nuclear facilities throughout the country.

Internet

The Indian Point nuclear power plant in Buchanan, New York, is seen from across the Hudson River.—INTERNET

Research says Australia bowel cancer to jump 50%

SYDNEY, 23 March— Australia faces a huge rise in bowel cancer cases, with new research on Tuesday saying incidence of the disease will jump by 50 percent over the next decade.

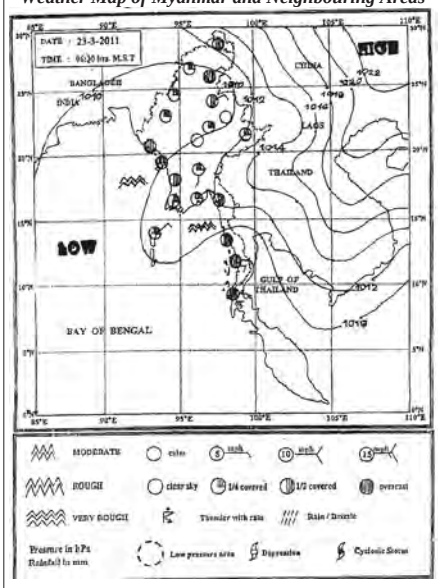
Cancer Council Australia data said there would be 21,000 cases annually, putting pressure on health services. Chief executive Professor Ian Olver said the numbers underscored the urgency of introducing a full screening programme to catch the disease before it develops.

Australia's national screening programme currently targets people turning 50, 55 and 65, despite expert recommendations that everyone over 50 should be screened.

"Our analysis also shows that almost one in five bowel cancers in Australia are being diagnosed at stage four — the most advanced stage — when the cancer has spread and is much more difficult to treat," he said.—*Internet*

Australia faces a huge rise in bowel cancer cases, with new research on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 23rd March, 2011

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

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Taninthayi Region, isolated Kachin State and weather has been partly cloudy over Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above March average temperature in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan and Chin States, (5°C) above March average temperature in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State, (3°C) below March average temperatures in Bago and Yangon Regions and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Chauk (42°C), Kalewa, Shwebo, Monywa, Mandalay, Myingyan, Nyaugoo, Minbu, Magway, Aunglan and Pakokku (40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (0.59) inch, Myeik (0.28) inch and Putao (0.08) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 22-3-2011 was 102°F. Minimum temperature on 23-3-2011 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 23-3-2011 was (54%). Rainfall on 23-3-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 22-3-2011 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 23-3-2011 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 23-3-2011 was (69%). Total sunshine hours on 22-3-2011 was (8.8) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 23-3-2011 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 (4) mph from Northwest at (10:30) hours MST on 22-3-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 24th March 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kachin and Rakhine States, fairly widespread to widespread in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy over the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy fall in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35)mph. Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 24-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 24-3-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 24-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Film legend Elizabeth Taylor dies at 79 in LA

LOS ANGELES, 23 March—Elizabeth Taylor, an English-American actress and former child star, has died at the age of 79, *ABC* news reported.

She died at Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles on Wednesday, after having been hospitalised six weeks ago with congestive heart failure, a condition with which she had struggled for some years, and had recently suffered complications, a statement from her publicist Sally Morrison said.

"She was surrounded by her children—Michael Wilding, Christopher Wilding, Liza Todd, and Maria Burton," it said, noting that she was also survived by 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

"My mother was an extraordinary woman who lived life to the fullest, with great passion, humour, and love.

Though her loss is devastating to those of us who held her so close and so dear, we will always be inspired by her enduring contribution to our world," her son Michael said in a statement.

"Her remarkable body of work in film, her ongoing success as a businesswoman, and her brave and relentless advocacy in the fight against HIV/AIDS, all make us all incredibly proud of what she accomplished.

"We know, quite simply, that the world is a better place for Mom having lived in it.

Her legacy will never fade, her spirit will always be with us, and her love will live forever in our hearts," he said.

Internet

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
Programme Schedule
(24-3-2011) (Thursday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	- (24-3-11 09:30 am ~ 25-3-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

* Opening
* News
* Marching towards A Democratic New Nation (Health & Education)
* News
* Let's Visit Flower City by Coach
* News
* Songs for you
* News
* Gift of Longevity to the Old (Episode-IV)

Oversea Transmission

* Opening
* News
* Marching towards A Democratic New Nation (Health & Education)
* News
* Let's Visit Flower City by Coach
* News
* Songs for you
* News
* Gift of Longevity to the Old (Episode-IV)
* News
* Myanmar Movies Impact ''Schedule for Tomorrow''
* News
* Current Affairs ''Surprising Myanmar (Thanakha)''
* Music Gallery
* News
* MI People's Celebrities ''A Kyi Taw''
* Today's Youths and Dancer Training Courses
* News
* The Gok hteik Viaduct
* Myanmar Movie "My Teacher"

Myanmar TV

Thursday,
24 March
View on today

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning News

7:40 am
4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:00 am
6. Health Programme

8:05 am
7. Song Of National Races

8:10 am
8. Dance Variety

8:15 am
9. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

8:20 am
10. Teleplay (Health)

8:30 am
11. Songs in honour of 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

8:40 am
12. International News

8:45 am
13. Musical Programme

3:30 pm
1. AFC Challenge 2012 group (A) (Delay) (Philippines Vs Palestine)

5:00 pm
2. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:15 pm
3. Songs in honour of 66th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

5:30 pm
4. Programme

6:00 pm
5. Evening News

6:15 pm
6. Weather Report

6:20 pm
7. Myanmar Series

6:35 pm
8. Approaching Science Discovery World

7:00 pm
9. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
10. News
11. International News
12. Weather Report
13. Teleplay

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

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

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

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

First regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw concludes

Queries raised and replied, proposals discussed, approval sought, undertakings of Hluttaw explained at Amyotha Hluttaw session

First regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw for 14th day in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—The First regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw was held for 14th-day 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 14th-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 Home Affairs U Maung Oo and Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint responded to the questions regarding **"to upgrade Rezwa Sub-township in China State to a township"** submitted by U Paul Hlyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No.9 and **"to build and repair motor roads that connect Yangon and Mandalay via Gangaw District"** submitted by U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No.12.

To present messages of felicitation sent by Hluttaw speakers from foreign countries to the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw and to put them on record were submitted to the Hluttaw. The Hluttaw sought the approval and announced that Hluttaw agreed to put it on record.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker sought the approval for formation of committee and joint committee in order to present legislative, administrative and national races affairs, economy, finance, social, foreign affairs and other affairs.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker submitted nominees for posts of chairman, secretary and members that shall include in Hluttaw representatives Vetting Committee starting from second regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw to the Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw announced that the vetting committee was formed and duties assigned with the approval of Amyotha Hluttaw.

Four Amyotha Hluttaw representatives discussed the approved proposal **"the government to assist farmers to get fair prices for crops"** made by Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency No.7.

Members of union level organization Minister for Commerce U Tin Naing Thein discussed the proposal. Amyotha Hluttaw sought the approvals.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker gave account of undertakings of Hluttaw regarding queries and proposals. The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced the end of the 14th-day first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw and the 14th-day first regular session was concluded.

The session came to an end at 12:40 pm.

MNA

SPECIAL FEATURES TO HAIL 66TH ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY

Tatmadaw introducing democracy to the nation

PAGE 13 MYINT MAUNG (PHIL Q)