

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIX, Number 114

14th Waxing of Wagaung 1373 ME

Saturday, 13 August, 2011

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * Strengthening of national solidarity
- * Building and strengthening of discipline-flourishing democracy system
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Building of modern industrialized nation through the agricultural development, and all-round development of other sectors of the economy
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investment 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
- * Flourishing of Union Spirit, the true patriotism
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Government already acceded to peace proposals of KIO to most possible degree KIO needs to analyze itself to ascertain whether it wants genuine peace or not

KIO/KIA exploits honest and sincere local people as refugees launching propaganda campaigns internationally through help of media and trying to ask financial assistance and rations

Government showing much tolerance in striving utmost to restore peace in Kachin State

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—The following is the translation of the clarification of Leader of the Spokespersons and Information Team Union Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan on government's endeavours to enable ethnic armed groups to undergo transformation in accord with the Constitution (1/2011).



Leader of the Spokespersons and Information Team Union Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan clarifies at Press Conference (1/2011). —MNA

Deputy Ministers, departmental heads, local and foreign journalists, chief editors of domestic periodicals and executives,

"Mingalaba" and health and happiness to you all!

Well, this is the first news conference of our new government. Now, I will explain the actual situation and events concerning the recent skirmishes between Myanmar Tatmadaw and KIO/KIA in Kachin State. At the same time, I will elucidate political, economic and social issues of the Union including government endeavors enabling ethnic armed groups to undergo transformation and exist in accordance with the Constitution.

Endeavors of the Tatmadaw government for stability and tranquility (peace) in the country

The Tatmadaw government that assumed the State duties in 1988 understood well that stability and tranquility (peace) or in other words, national unity was the main requirement for national development. Accordingly, it resolutely built national unity amidst a lot of difficulties. The message sent by the past successive governments to ethnic insurgents was, "Lay down your arms and come back to the legal fold first if you want to make peace. The State on its part will take care of your rehabilitation". Unlike those governments, the Tatmadaw government exercised the goodwill-based flexible strategy, which was, "Come back to the legal fold first; there will be a ceasefire in force; you will be permitted to hold arms, while the government will take the responsibility of regional development; take part in developing your own region. And let's build mutual understanding through coherence."

(See page 6)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 13 August, 2011

Conserve natural environment on a cooperative basis

In the world today, about 800 million people are undernourished; about 1300 million get no access to pure drinking water; and about 1400 million face danger of air pollution. Clean air, clean water and hygienic food are vitally important for all human beings.

With the world facing more natural disasters, all nations are taking environmental conservation measures to resolve climate change, deforestation, water pollution and air pollution.

Trees and forests are crucial for people in all aspects. They contribute mainly to environmental conservation, temperate climate, rich biodiversity and food security.

Myanmar attaches great importance to maintaining trees and forests for environmental conservation. Moreover, all-round measures are being taken to reduce air and water pollution, to systematically dispose industrial wastes and to protect wildlife. Environmental conservation committee has been formed.

In addition to maintaining the existing natural forests and forest reserves, the nation is extending establishment of natural habitats, sanctuaries, teak plantations, commercial plantations as well as reforestation in tropical and coastal areas. A 30-year national forest project has been drawn and 0.5 million hectares of forest plantations have been set up nationwide.

Thirty six environmental conservation regions have been established and plans are under way to grow 79 million plants of different kinds this year. All the people therefore are urged to grow more and more trees and plants every year.

#OppressBasta

- * 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

Press Conference (1/2011) on government's efforts to transform national race armed groups in accordance with State Constitution held

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—Press Conference (1/2011) on government's efforts to transform national race armed groups in accordance with State Constitution took place at

Leader of the Spokespersons and Information Team Union Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan, deputy ministers, members of the teams, heads of

accepted and has to follow, the list of cash assistance, foodstuff, vehicles and utensils provided for peace groups by the government, the list of the projects the

(1/3004/100/SaRaNa) in response to KIO's proposal, minutes of the peace talks held between Kachin State Peace and Stability Coordination Committee and KIO and



the assembly hall of the Ministry of Information here this morning.

Spokespersons and Information Team holds Press Conference (1/2011).—MNA

It was attended by

department, correspondents from foreign news agencies, chief editors of local journals, officials in charge, and guests.

The team leader made clarification to the efforts the government has been making to transform the national race armed groups in accordance with the State Constitution.

Officials concerned replied to the questions asked by attendees. The press conference ended at 1 pm.

The journalists and guests viewed related displays covering the lists of 17 large national race armed groups and 23 small groups, the eight principles every national race peace group has

government has implemented across the nation for regional development, talks held with KIO and KIA before and during their transformation into peace groups, the list of atrocities KIO and KIA committed such as gunfire, armed attacks, bomb blasts, detentions and murders of innocent civilians committed by KIO and KIA under the pretext of battles between them and the Tatmadaw, forwarding letters delivered reciprocally between Kachin State Peace and Stability Coordination Committee and U Thein Zaw and KIO and KIA including Northern Command Headquarters' forwarding letter No

KIA, conditions of the 13 camps opened by Kachin State Government for families who fled their home regions following attacks in Kachin State, situations of the international relations in the time of the new government, economic statistics such as foreign investments, investments made by nationals, foreign trade and inflation rates, documents related to UPR meeting, anti-human trafficking campaigns, anti-narcotics campaigns documentary photos of terrorist attacks committed by KNU, KIA and SSA (Ywet Sit) group, and documentary photos of casualties of innocent people due to attacks of armed insurgents.

MNA

Union Foreign Minister receives Russian Ambassador



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin receives Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mikhail Mgeladze.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mikhail

Mgeladze at his office here this noon.

The two discussed promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation.

MNA



Wreckage of a Chinook helicopter shot down last week is seen at the site of crash at Tangi Valley in Wardak Province some 60 miles (97 kilometres) southwest of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 11 Aug, 2011.—INTERNET

Afghan witnesses: Chinook ablaze when it crashed

KABUL, 12 Aug—Afghan children retrieved souvenir-sized pieces of a helicopter shot down by the Taliban in eastern Afghanistan where witnesses on Thursday described seeing the chopper burst into flames and break apart before falling from the sky, killing 30 US troops and eight Afghans.

Coalition forces finished recovering the victims' remains and big sections of the wreckage. Yet small, twisted pieces of the Chinook CH-47 remain scattered on both sides of a slow-flowing river in Wardak Province where it crashed before dawn Saturday.

Farhad, a local resident, told *Associated Press Television News* that the helicopter was shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade fired from a nearby

knoll as it was preparing to land.

"As soon as it was hit, it started burning," he said, standing in a field still littered with small pieces of the chopper, including a part of a scorched rifle stamped "Made in Germany" and a piece of charred paper with typewritten first aid instructions.

"After it started burning, it crashed. It came down in three pieces," he added. "We could see it burning from our homes."

Many of the victims' bodies were badly mangled and burned, said Farhad, who like many Afghans uses only one name. The crash about 60 miles (97 kilometres) southwest of Kabul was the deadliest single loss for US forces in the nearly 10-year Afghan war.—*Internet*

Three policemen killed by gunmen in Peshawar, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 12 Aug—At least three policemen were killed and several others injured Friday morning when they were attacked by two unknown gunmen on their way back escorting prisoners for medical check in Peshawar, northwest Pakistan, reported local Urdu TV channel Duniya.

According to the local media reports, the incident took place at about 11:00 am local time Friday near a hospital at the University Road of the city when two unidentified gunmen opened fire at a group of police on their way back escorting two or three prisoners from medical check.

Some local media reports said two policemen were killed and three others injured in the incident.

The gunmen fled the scene with the prisoners following the attack, said police sources, adding that the prisoners were charged with murder and other serious crimes.—*Xinhua*



People comfort a boy who mourns the death of his family member after a suicide bombing in Peshawar, Pakistan on 11 Aug, 2011.

INTERNET

A policeman inspects the wreckage of a police van following a bomb explosion in Peshawar on 11 August.

INTERNET



Back-to-back bombs kill four, wound 24 near mosque in central Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 Aug—Four people were killed and 24 others wounded when two roadside bombs exploded near a mosque in Iraq's northern City of Ramadi, a local police source said. The twin bombs went off near Harun al-Rashid Mosque located in the centre of Ramadi as worshippers were leaving the mosque after evening prayer, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity. The blasts killed four

worshippers and wounded 24 others, among whom several suffered serious injury, the source said. He also added that the wounded were taken to the city hospital for treatment and the blast scene was sealed off by Iraqi security forces.

Ramadi, some 100 km west of Baghdad, is the capital city of Anbar Province. Militant attacks are still common in the once volatile Sunni Arab area that stretches through Anbar Province to Iraq's western borders with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Xinhua

A Lebanese Red Cross volunteer, removes bloody debris in a parking lot where a bomb went off, in the north suburb of Beirut, Lebanon, on 11 Aug, 2011.

INTERNET

Six militants killed in Russia's North Caucasus

Moscow, 12 Aug—Six militants were killed in a Thursday counter-

terrorism operation in Makhachkala, the capital of Dagestan republic in Russia's North Caucasus, officials said Friday.

The National Antiterrorism Committee (NAC) said the militants, including one woman, were members of a gang active in Makhachkala and its suburbs.

One of the militants was suspected of involvement in a series of major terrorist attacks in

the region since 2010, the NAC said.

Russia has been plagued by terror attacks for years, many of which originate from the Caucasus region. Violence is common in the North Caucasus republics of Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia with militants frequently mounting attacks against police officers and authorities.

Xinhua

Bomb explodes north of Beirut; two killed

BEIRUT, 12 Aug—A bomb went off in a north Beirut suburb Thursday, killing two people and damaging several cars, including one belonging to a judge, security officials said. It was not immediately clear if the bomb in the busy suburb of Antelias went off by mistake or whether it had a timer, the security officials said. They spoke on condition of anonymity, in line with regulations. The explosion in a parking lot damaged at least four cars, including one with judicial license plates, the officials said.

The officials said they do not believe the judge was the target since his car has been recently used by his son, an engineer. One of the two men reportedly handling the bomb died almost immediately, while another was seriously wounded and died later in hospital, security officials said.

The man who was seriously wounded appeared to have been laying on the ground when the bomb exploded, tearing off his right arm and left leg, the officials said. It was not clear if he was placing the bomb under the car or trying to throw it away, the officials said.—*Internet*



Seven troops die in day's clashes in Afghanistan

KABUL, 12 Aug—The US-led coalition is reporting that two more NATO service members have been killed in Afghanistan. The deaths raise Thursday's toll to seven international troops killed in the country.

The coalition said on Friday that one service member died in a roadside bomb explosion in eastern Afghanistan and another was killed in an militant attack in the south. There were no further details and the nationalities of the two were not disclosed.

Earlier, US military officials said five American troops died in a roadside bombing Thursday in the south.

So far this year, 376 American and other NATO service members have died in the war in Afghanistan.—*Internet*

Questions & answers at Press Conference (1/2011) on clarification of government's endeavours to enable ethnic armed groups to undergo transformation and exit in accord with constitution



Leader of Spokespersons and Information Team Union Minister for Information U Kyaw Hsan replies to queries.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug— The following is the translation of the questions and answers at Press Conference (1/2011) held by Spokespersons and Information Team today.

Q: U Aung Hla Tun (Reuters)

We are very grateful for being invited to attend the press conference. We welcome the formation of Spokespersons and Information Team. On behalf of all media persons, if it is possible, I would like to request you to have a contact person in each department so that there can be better and swifter contacts among the media. Then, we will be able to contact by phone in emergency cases.

We have learned that plans are under way to make currency reforms and that contact is being made with IMF. So what is the scenario of FEC? How do you withdraw from it?

Another thing is that it is heartening to see that the journalism policy has been relaxed. But this is for scrutiny after publication and publication after scrutiny. So we would also like blogs and websites to be relaxed.

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Ministry of Information)

We thank you all, too. Our team, in other words, the government, and the media persons, the fourth pillar, cannot be separable. We are the ones who have to work in the interest of the nation and the people. I would like to say that we are grateful to all media persons for their harmonious cooperation. For ensuring swift flow of contacts among the media, I will coordinate matters to have a contact person each in the ministries, including our ministry.

A: U Than Nyein (Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar)

As exchange rate is an important tool in the State monetary policy, we will pay serious attention to this issue. We will cooperate with IMF ensuring that there

is no negative impact on the interests of the nation and the people as well as on daily socio-economic life. If there is exchange rate unification, the withdrawal of FEC will be included automatically. If FEC is withdrawn, the citizens with FECs in hand will get back US dollars or kyats equivalent to those FECs at prevailing exchange rate. Measures will be taken in order that they have no loss at all.

Q: Dr Zaw Than (Sankei Shimbun News Agency)

I would like to know to what extent Daw Aung San Suu Kyi can get involved and cooperate in the government's efforts for national reconsolidation, and political, social and economic sectors.

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Ministry of Information)

As you all know, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi disclosed on 28 July that she is ready to participate as much earnestly as in peace processes. The government is doing its best to achieve peace in accord with the constitution. For ceasefire of armed clashes between the Tatmadaw and KIO/KIA, the state government has been assigned duties to have direct contacts and negotiate. Moreover, the people from Kachin State who want peace, eminent persons and NGOs are working together to express their desires and for peace. It can be said that all the people are willing to cooperate in the ceasefire and peace issues. As for economic, social and education affairs, the President himself has said that the State always welcomes cooperation in agreeable issues and all measures taken within constitutional framework. So anyone can participate in economic and social affairs.

Q: U Tin Maung Aye (Asahi Shimbun News Agency)

I would like the State to take measures for swifter flow of news and information. As to the issue of KIO/KIA, to what extent can the State act patiently in that

regard?

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Ministry of Information)

Regarding the first point, we will take measures. This is why the President has asked us to form Spokespersons and Information Team. We will release news and information as quickly as possible.

Regarding the second question, the government is against war and bloodshed, and is in favour of peace. We do not accept any situations that can break up the stability and peace and national unity. Therefore, as I have explained, we are showing great patience in that case. However, we have to make all necessary measures for security of the public, transport, and projects for national development. We will continue to handle with such cases with great care.

Q: U Kyaw Swa Min (Flower News Journal)

We are glad to know that pension rates have been increased. I would like to know how much expenditure the government has to spend to increase pension rates, and from which budget the government will spend this expenditure.

And there was good news in the speech Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann delivered at the hluttaw session yesterday. That is: local and foreign media will be granted permission to cover news. I would like to know from which media you will invite to the sessions.

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Information Ministry)

We will make arrangements to make sure that representatives from both foreign news agencies and local journals and magazines can cover the news at the forthcoming hluttaw sessions.

A: Deputy Minister U Win Than (Finance and Revenue)

The government needs to spend 226.393 more billion kyats to increase pension rates of retired State service personnel. In that regard, expenditures of Union ministries and Union level bodies in Table (2)/(4) of 2011 State Budget Law are spent with the permission of the Union government.

(See page 5)



Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than answers questions.—MNA

Questions & answers at Press...

(from page 4)

Q: U Myat Khaing (Snapshot Journal and Monitor Journal)

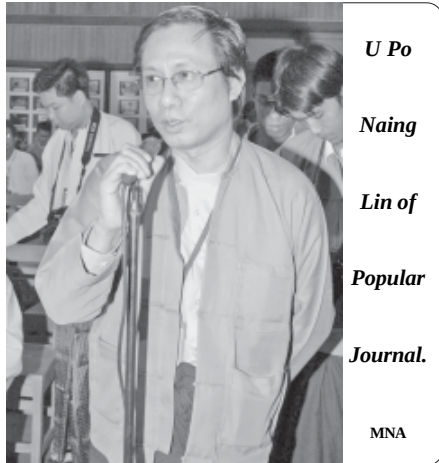
I would like to know if Daw Aung San Suu Kyi represented the National League for Democracy at her meeting with U Aung Kyi today. Another question is: we have heard that members of the Union government sacrifice some parts of their salaries. I would like to know if there is any plan to enact a law in that regard.

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Information Ministry)

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi demanded several times to meet the Union Minister for Home Affairs. In response to her demands, we are arranging meetings between her and U Aung Kyi in compliance with the guideline of the President that we should set aside the cases on which we have different views, and we should work together in the cases on which we have same views in the interest of the nation.

A: Deputy Minister U Win Than (Finance and Revenue Ministry)

The service personnel in the Union level bodies are still enjoying the salary rates and privileges prescribed in the time of Tatmadaw government, instead of the salary rates and privileges prescribed in accordance with the Law of Salaries, Allowances and Insignias for Union Level Officials. Section 30 of this law says Union government shall have power to enact ordinances



U Po

Naing

Lin of

Popular

Journal.

MNA

and directives as necessary regarding the salaries, allowances and insignias therein. Therefore, we adjusted the salary rates of Union level officials, Region and State level officials, chairmen of Self-administered Division and Zones and members of executive committees, and the chairman and members of Nay Pyi Taw Council in accordance with Section 30 of this law. So, we do not need to enact separate laws in that case.

Q: U Thant Kyaw Zin (Yangon Times Journal)

I am very happy with this national level press conference. Yangon Region government is holding press conferences in Yangon. I would like to know if there is any plan to hold press conferences in other States and Regions.

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Information Ministry)

Maybe, other Region and State governments will hold press conferences on their own to let the media know what they should know about the Regions and States.

Q: U Po Naing Lin (Popular Journal)

Now, many places such as Okkan and Thonze are flooded, and the disaster destroyed some farmlands. What sorts of assistance will the government provide in

that regard?

A: Deputy Minister U Ohn Than (Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation)

Regarding floods, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation will store paddy seeds in advance and will provide any assistance necessary including paddy seeds to farmers so that they can grow paddy again when the water falls. Likewise, Irrigation Department, in accord with the guidance of the President, will measure the flooded fields and take such necessary measures as construction of drains and sluice gates when the monsoon ends to prevent the floods coming years. The Vice-President has done so on his tour of Kayin State.

Q: U Lin Ko (Myanmar Post Global)

Regarding armed conflicts in Kachin State, they said they fight because of Myitsone Dam Project. And also, there have been criticisms that the project is harmful to Ayeyawady River and its environs. So, I'd like to know if there is any research like environment impact assessment on it.

A: Director-General U Kyee Soe (Hydropower Planning Department)

As to your question, correct and complete reports have been described in articles in newspapers issued on 9 and 10 August, 2011. And concerning EIA and SIA, we have researched into its impact on upper Ayeyawady and we are researching down to the Delta Region in lower Ayeyawady.

Q: U Myo Aung (Current Affairs Magazine)

Export tax has been decreased from ten percent to seven percent. But, there have been street news that there won't be export tax sooner. So would you mind explaining about it? Secondly, I'd like to know whether there would be pay rise for governmental staff as pensions rates have been increased for pensioners.

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Ministry of Information)

Because of a consecutive decline in value of US dollar, the President and heads have decided to decrease the tax on trade from original eight percent to five percent for fearing that it may affect production industries of the nation.

There is a situation that the State President himself will make assessment to carry out further necessary requirements. As far as a matter to increase payment for present government employees is concerned, the governments are parents of its all citizens in every country. Parents are obliged to provide well-being of their children. If possible, we want to raise the payment for everyone. Now, pension rates have been increased to cover over 800,000 pensioners. But, the State has to make plans to some extent to do so. The State has to spend a large amount of money yearly.

Moreover, as to agricultural loan, although K 20,000 was disbursed per acre in the past, it is now doubled to K 40,000 per acre. The State increased agricultural loan for total sown acreage of 20 million by K 20,000 each. The sum of money can be calculated. So, perhaps it will be difficult to fulfill all wants at the same time.

Q: Zeya Myat Khaing (Monitor News Journal)

KIA said current situation occurs because of Myitsone dam. It is heard that ceasefire is still under negotiation. So, I would like to know whether the State will continue construction of Myitsone dam or not. Next, the State is disbursing small loans to alleviate poverty. I would like to know further plans on poverty alleviation.

A: Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan (Ministry of

Information)

By taking account of national interest, it is needed to pay serious attention to continuation of Myitsone dam project or not. We must not believe one-sided words lopsidedly in thinking and working. KIO and other groups are now saying this and that about the project. There are many views and opinions. The government will never get its people into trouble and never spoil the Ayeyawady River. I would like you to think about the situations reasonably. In the interest of the country, the government with goodwill will take approach to matters deliberately.

For rural development and poverty alleviation, micro-finance tasks are now on the go. All are in need to cooperate with each other. Only if all work in concert, will the country develop.

There are six areas which would be carried out by the rural socio-economic development sub-committee that I have to lead. We have already drawn the Action Plan to carry out the six areas extensively and nation-wide. We have set the realistic action plan. We will implement the action plan in cooperation with 10 forces, including the State, local people, well-wishers, foundations, organizations, INGOs, UN agencies, etc. Therefore, all should do assist in implementing the plan. To achieve success, the only State can do it. All the people are to help the implementing the plan on their own responsibility. Therefore, I'd like to urge the people, persons from the literary world and



U Thant

Kyaw Zin

of

Yangon

Times

Journal.

MNA

media personnel to help implementing the plan.

Q : Dr. Tin Aung Shwe (The Kanaung Journal)

When NGOs apply for registration, they mention that they want to found the organizations for working for religion, social affairs, economy, education, etc. So, please let me know the registration policy for founding NGOs.

A : Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint

The Ministry of Home Affairs has taken responsibilities for founding NGOs. There are 221 NGOs which registered at the ministry. The central committee for scrutinizing and supervising organizations have been set up to scrutinize the NGOs. The Union Minister for Home Affairs is the chairman of the central committee. Chairman or secretary of an organization is to apply for founding his organization at respective township General Administration Department. The department is to report the application to district level GAD. The district-level GAD is to report the application to the respective State or Region GAD. With the recommendation of the respective regional government, the application is to be sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs. Then, the central committee of the ministry scrutinizes the application.—MNA



Attendees at Press Conference (1/2011). —MNA

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 1)

Consequently, 17 major ethnic armed groups and 23 minor groups returned to the fold. Well, the Tatmadaw government had successfully solved the internal insurgency problem on national scale. Actually, it was a success no government of the past successive eras before the Tatmadaw government had ever achieved. You can find the list of groups that returned to the legal fold on the board.

- (1) Not to extend troops.
- (2) Discontinue all illegal activities including extortion.

- (3) Carry out activities only within the fixed area and any movement outside the fixed area is prohibited.
- (4) Free to travel in the designated area. But traveling to other places needs official permission and carrying arms is not allowed.
- (5) Not to make any interference in administration, management and judicial affairs of the government.
- (6) Not to make any contacts with organizations or political parties opposing the government.
- (7) Concerning the issue of holding arms, the said groups must observe the future Constitution.

- (8) To relinquish armed struggle line as soon as the Constitution is approved by a referendum. Only then will they (armed groups) be able to stand for the election.

Moreover, the Section 338 of the 2008 Constitution states that all the armed forces in the Union shall be under the command of the Defence Services (Tatmadaw). So, the ethnic peace groups will have to legally exist under the command of the Tatmadaw according to the Constitution. Or they will have to abandon their arms to pursue a civilian life. Accordingly, the government has made arrangements for their transformation process.

During the course of negotiations, ethnic leaders said that their subordinates would face a lot of difficulties in trying to adapt themselves to ordinary civilian life, asking permission to hold arms and also jobs and food, clothing and shelter. Consequently, the government taking into account laws, rules and agreements has transformed ethnic groups into border guard forces-BGF or people's militia forces-PMF so that members could enjoy jobs and life security and serve the nation with dignity. As these forces become units under Tatmadaw's command, matters concerning their monthly salaries, rations, uniforms, and arms and ammunition have to be carried out according to rules and regulations and proper

bookkeeping system. Normally, a BGF unit has three officers and 27 from other ranks of the Tatmadaw to help run its organizational functions smoothly and correctly. You see a small number of servicemen have to be included in the organizational set up of every BGF. This shows the Tatmadaw

NDA (Mongla) group, NMSP (Mon) group, and KNU (U Htay Maung) group have not accepted the transformation. However, the government did not take any action against them and even permitted them to retain their position. The government's goodwill behind this act is to maintain the

worth K 145.329 million to it. As for the development of Kachin State, K 5475.45 million was channeled through border development funds and K 52521.30 million through budgets of ministries totaling K 57996.75 million. Of the total funds of over K 433 billion for regional devel-



Journalists and guests studying documentary photos at Press Conference (1/2011). —MNA



Facts and figures and documentary photos displayed at the press conference. —MNA

and servicemen's willingness to serve national interest under any circumstance. Truly, the Tatmadaw has difficulties in the command-and-control of these forces, in training them and in discipline enforcement. But the Tatmadaw has done so for the sake of national peace, stability and unity.

Of the 17 major groups and 23 minor groups totaling 40, 15 have already handed over their arms to the State. And of the remaining 25 groups, five became border guard forces and another 15 people's militia forces. However, KIA (Kachin) group, UWSA (Wa) group,

restored peace, stability and unity and to prevent public sufferings for it is against war and bloodshed. And the government's goal is to make them understand and accept its goodwill endeavors gradually.

Violation of peace agreement by KIO/KIA group

Right now, we go on to the skirmishes with KIO/KIA group. KIO/KIA is one of the 17 major groups and it returned to the fold in 1994 under bilateral agreement reached through negotiations.

When KIO/KIA group returned to the fold, the government as formally agreed provided rations, vehicles and cash

opment in the whole country, the government spent about K 58 billion for Kachin State development. Besides, businesses were permitted for KIO/KIA funds.

The government on its part honored its pledges. However, KIO/KIA was not fully observing the bilateral agreement. It was violating the agreement in various ways collecting extortion money from locals, recruiting new members, and building up its manpower and firepower.

You know, the government showed magnanimity and tolerance in urging the group to honor (See page 7)

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 6)

the original agreement and in trying to caution it against collecting extortion, recruiting new members, and increasing the number of troops through constructive talks. In this way, the government tried to control the situation. KIO/KIA however is covertly or openly violating the bilateral agreement. And every time it breaches the agreement, it would say, "The central has no knowledge of the matter" or "There must be some misunderstandings at the lower levels" as an excuse.

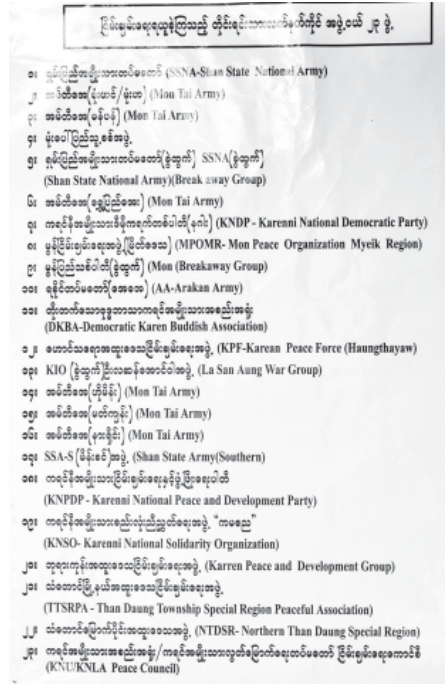
As you know, the agreement includes points, saying, "Concerning the issue of holding arms, the said groups must observe the future Constitution" and "To relinquish armed struggle line as soon as the Constitution is approved by a referendum. Only then will they (armed groups) be able to stand for the election". Accordingly, the government held talks with the group to dissolve KIO

political arm and Kachin Independent Army (KIA) its military arm, and the permission to form a party by KIO Vice-Chairman (2) Dr Tu Ja and some members who would quit KIO.

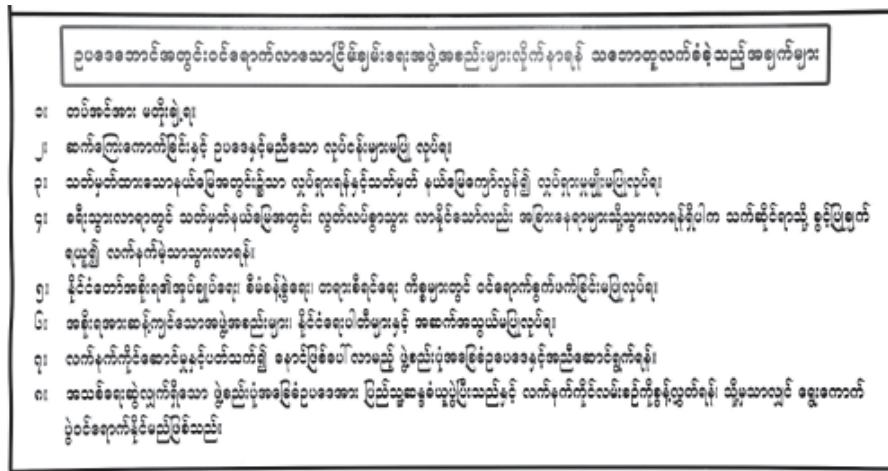
The government on its part could not accept the concept of setting up a political party by KIO members without dismantling the organization. At the talks, the government told KIO/KIA members to form party only after dissolving KIO saying that other armed groups that returned to the fold followed this process. The government also told them that if they did not wish to dissolve the KIA armed troops, they would be permitted to form a border guard force-BGF under Tatmadaw's command.

There were four meetings with KIO/KIA before the transformation and five during the transformation process totaling nine. KIO/KIA demanded the following main points:

- (1) KIO's direct involvement in the three organs of power of Kachin State government. For the KIA to maintain its position under the new name KRGF. When Kachin State government comes



Facts and figures displayed at the press conference.—MNA



Documents displayed at the press conference.—MNA

and form a party to stand for the election and to disband KIA troops. But the KIO/KIA demanded the continued existence of Kachin Independent Organization (KIO) its

- (2) into force, KRGF must be put under its command. To maintain the positions of its efficient staff in the existing departments and organizations including, education department, health department, regional development department, forest conservation and agriculture and livestock breeding department, general administration department, literature and culture department, economic department, finance department, judicial department, foreign relations department, and women affairs department.

The result was no transformation process could be carried out. The Tatmadaw government did not take any action against the KIO/KIA even through it failed to accept the transformation process. It permitted KIO/KIA to maintain its position with the noble aim of solving the problem through gradual understanding. The present elected government also exercises the policy of organizing the KIO/KIA to understand and accept the transformation process in the future while tolerating its present status.

The outbreak of skirmishes

While the government was taking soft measures to maintain peace and stability, KIO/KIA began to break the peace agreement. It made intimidation to terminate quarries in the east bank of Malikha river on 16 April. KIO/KIA members on 5 May came to Lasa hydropower project on east bank of Malikha river terrorizing Chinese staff of the project to move to west bank within two days and to withdraw the extended camp on the east bank. Moreover, KIA arrested a

police constable of the security post and a civilian at a microwave station near Kaikhtaik village in Mansi Township on 8 June. KIA did not release them when police forces demanded to free them through talks. It released the two only when a Tatmadaw column made negotiations with it on 12 June.

KIA abducted a soldier on security at Tapain hydropower project to its Donbon camp on 8 June. It confiscated his knapsack containing bullets. Two Tatmadaw officers visited the camp to solve the matter. But the KIA even took them prisoner too.

KIA opened fire on a tactical commander-led military column on its way from Bhamo to Tapain hydropower project from Hsankha camp and Htonbo camp on a hill at the entrance to Tapain hydropower project. The Tatmadaw column had no choice but to attack the KIA and rescued its two officers on 9 June. The Tatmadaw columns informed the KIA to withdraw its temporary camp (Htonbo) near Tapain project on 11 June the latest. As KIA ignored the message, Tatmadaw column had to attack and seize the camp at night on 12 June. Actually, KIA set up its camp at Htonbo which was not included in the agreed areas of KIA camp settlement.

You know, Tapain hydropower project is a joint-venture of the Ministry of Electric Power-1 and Datang (Yunnan) United Hydropower Developing Co Ltd-DUHD of China. It is an important project and its capital is large. We have heard that the Chinese company secretly paid Yuan 15 million to KIO to implement the project smoothly without obstacles. However, KIO/KIA disturbed, threatened and blackmailed Chinese technicians and staff working at the project in June. It also launched heavy weapon attack from its Donbon camp, tried to cause menace to the transport link of the project and blew up towers from the project to Bhamo.

Because of KIO/KIA disturbances and menace 215 Chinese citizens of the company working at the project left for home from 9 June to 14 June. Because of their departure, the project had to stop operations of its four 60-MHz turbines on 14 June.

(See page 8)

တပ်မတော်နှင့်တိုက်ပွဲများဖြစ်ပွားမှုကို အကြောင်းပြု၍ KIO/KIA အဖွဲ့မှ ပစ်ခတ်၊ တိုက်ခိုက်၊ ဖမ်းဆီး၊ သတ်ဖြတ်၊ ဖျက်ဆီးမှုများစာရင်းချုပ်

စဉ်	ကာလ	ပစ်ခတ်ခတ်	တိုက်ခိုက်ခတ်	ဖမ်းဆီးခတ်	သတ်ဖြတ်ခတ်	ဖျက်ဆီးမှုများ	အခြား
၁	၈-၆-၂၀၁၁ မှ ၁၈-၆-၂၀၁၁	၆	၉	၃	၆	၉	၁၇၃
၂	၁၉-၆-၂၀၁၁ မှ ၃၀-၆-၂၀၁၁	၁၃	၆	၂	၃	၁၅	၂၆၇
၃	၁-၇-၂၀၁၁ မှ ၂-၈-၂၀၁၁	၄၇	၃၆	၁၂	၂၀	၃၁	၂၇၃
စုစုပေါင်း		၆၆	၅၁	၁၇	၂၉	၅၅	၁၁၀၀

Facts and figures displayed at the press conference.—MNA

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 7)

Moreover, Momeik-Tapain road on which the project lies is not in the designated area of KIA. And the matter had already been explained to the KIO for many times. The Tatmadaw had formally informed the KIA to withdraw its troops taking positions along the road. But the KIA did not remove its troops. And it was even making threats and launching military attacks. Hence, the Tatmadaw had to seize Htonbo and Hsankha camps as they are not included in the areas

pressure on KIO/KIA. The government's stance on this issue was already stated in the news reports on 18 June. The commander of Northern Command replied that the Tatmadaw would respond to KIO's ceasefire-favoured overtures through continued negotiations. He ordered all the troops under his command to make a cease fire with effect from 6 pm on 18 June except in KIO-started attacks. He also informed KIO about the order.

KIO/KIA committed 49 bomb attacks from 9 to

on 19 June. The Secretary of KIO Central Committee sent a reply to U Thein Zaw in reference to the matter. Points of the letter are as follows:

- (1) For the officials of KIO and the officials of Northern Command to sign a document stating that instructions have already been given to troops of the two sides to stop all movements or activities.
- (2) To agree to the process of submitting the documents signed by KIA and the officials of Northern Command to the KIO Central Committee by

ment to the above points is conveyed to it.

The Tatmadaw ordered its troops to cease fire. On the other hand, KIO never ordered its troops to cease fire. So, KIO's troops continued armed and mine attacks. From 19 to 30 June, KIO/KIA launched 37 more mine attacks, blowing up six Bailey bridges, three reinforced concrete bridges, 11 concrete bridges, three wooden bridges, and two pedestrian suspension bridges totaling 25. Seven of the bridges could not be used by cars anymore. KIO/KIA also launched six engagements with our security troops, fired at our security forces for 16 times, and launched one blast-mine attack and two landmine attacks. In consequence, there were casualties on our security forces.

Moreover, two innocent civilians were wounded and other 38 were arrested by KIO/KIA. During the period, KIO/KIA members arrested U Myint Soe, a 100-household head of Maubin village, Phakant Township, and beat him to death with clubs at a place about one mile from Thirawmani bridge. They captured Myint Naing Oo, a cassette and radio mechanic of Kahtanyan village. And when Myint Naing Oo refused their order to prepare a bomb to blow up a bridge at the hub of the village, they beat and stabbed him to death. In this way KIO/KIA members were brutally murdering innocent people.

Kachin State govern-



Documentary photos displayed at the press conference.—MNA

ment formed the Kachin State Peace and Stability Coordination Committee on 27 June to restore the situation. Beginning 30 June, the Committee started to hold negotiations with KIO/KIA in Lajayan.

At the negotiations, the KIO expressed wish to reach a durable eternal peace agreement through the ceasefire agreement and also presented the following two wishes:

- (1) To sign a temporary ceasefire agreement between the government and KIO
- (2) To hold further discussions after the agreement has been reached between the two sides.

KIO sent the above mentioned two points together with the draft temporary ceasefire agreement on 8 July. The draft stipulates the following points:

- (1) Tatmadaw troops engaging KIA troops shall return to their barracks after the temporary ceasefire agree-

ment has been signed.

- (2) Troops of the two sides shall cease all military campaigns.
- (3) To start a political dialogue for a genuine eternal peace agreement through nationwide ceasefire agreement that will be realized within six months after temporary ceasefire agreement has been reached.
- (4) To review the temporary ceasefire agreement after a six-month period.

KIO/KIA on 17 July sent the draft ceasefire agreement again saying that the agreement should be signed on behalf of the government and not as the Coordination Committee. It also presented a demand saying that personnel from China should act as witnesses to guarantee long-term mutual interest and to represent both sides. Concerning the demands, the government is holding dialogue with KIO.

(See page 9)



Documentary photos displayed at the press conference.—MNA

KIA can deploy troops under bilateral agreement. Actually, the Tatmadaw launched only limited attacks to seize the camps located in the position to control the project. The Tatmadaw had already informed KIO/KIA that it had no intention to attack or seize other places.

Efforts to reach a ceasefire agreement

The government does not want war or bloodshed. What it wants is peace and stability. As I have already said above it exercised magnanimity and tolerance in making gradual compromises. It had to fight back the KIA just for the security of the public property, the people, the project, its members and policemen. And in so doing, it launched only limited attacks and not military offensives. Besides, it had no aggressive attitude or intention to put

18 June, blowing up 12 Bailey bridges, 11 steel reinforced bridges, 13 concrete bridges and two wooden bridges, totaling 38, which were vital for regional transport. Of the bridges, 15 became almost unusable. KIO/KIA launched seven engagements with our security troops, fired at our security forces for seven times, and launched three blast-mine attacks and four landmine attacks. In consequence, our security forces faced deaths and injuries. In addition, two innocent civilians were killed and other five were arrested by KIO/KIA.

U Thein Zaw, Pyithu Hluttaw representative of Myitkyina Township constituency, conveyed the ceasefire directive issued by the Tatmadaw on 18 June to Chairman of KIO Central Committee U Zaung Hara

the KIA to hold further discussion for eternal peace.

- (3) KIO is in favor of eternal peace. But KIO will instruct its KIA troops to cease fire only if the agree-



Documentary photos displayed at the press conference.—MNA



Documentary photos displayed at the press conference.—MNA

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 8)

But KIO continues its mine and armed attacks, saying that a specific agreement has not reached with the government yet, and using it as a justification to its attacks.

KIO/KIA seized a sergeant of the Tatmadaw and a police corporal at Nanthan village in Mansi Township on 1 July; destroyed Nanthan forest security post and took away two vehicles on 10 July; captured U Myint Zaw Oo, a technician grade-3 of Kaikhteik microwave station on Kaikhteik-Mansi road on 14 July; stormed the surrounding areas of Khaya/Madeeyan village in Dawphonyan on 17 and 18 July and took soldiers of the Tatmadaw including officers and civilians as prisoners to Laiza; and attacked a Tatmadaw column on its way to Bhamo at Sikhamgyi region on 19 July.

Kachin State Peace and Stability Coordination Committee on 21 July sent a letter to KIO/KIA asking it to preserve its dignity and to totally stay away from committing any acts that would harm future programs and to free all captured military personnel, departmental personnel and innocent civilians.

On 22 July, the Coordination Committee sent its draft temporary ceasefire agreement to KIO in response to KIO's proposed draft on temporary ceasefire agreement. It contains 11 points including the following ones:

- (1) To temporarily cease all attacks to establish eternal peace.
- (2) To continue bilateral discussion to establish eternal peace from temporary ceasefire.
- (3) The agreement shall come into force soon after the two sides have signed it. Both sides shall immediately (within 24 hours) order their troops to observe the agreement.
- (4) Troops of the two sides shall cease all hostilities including mine and terrorist attacks. Action shall be taken against those who commit such attacks after identification. There shall be mutual cooperation to take action against culprits behind those attacks.
- (5) Both sides shall stop all military activities. Both sides shall re-designate the positions of their troops through negotiations. The draft can be seen on the board.

Even though peace negotiations are in process, KIO/KIA does not change its behavior. It attacked the temporary building of special group 14 of Public Works at Inkhawma village on Sumprabum-Putao road on 23 July killing two staff and injuring another three. Moreover, it blew up government-owned road rollers, excavators and dumpers. Hence, the

Coordination Committee sent a letter to KIO/KIA on 23 July demanding KIA to terminate all its acts that were against peace.

In response to the proposal put forward by the Coordination Committee on 22 July, KIO on 25 July sent its draft ceasefire agreement that stipulates nine points including the following to be observed by both sides:

- (1) To temporarily terminate all hostilities in Kachin State and adjoining areas to establish durable peace (eternal peace).
- (2) To continue political dialogue to develop the temporary ceasefire agreement into durable peace (eternal peace).
- (3) To establish genuine eternal peace, after ceasefire agreement has been reached in the whole country.
- (4) The agreement shall come into force soon after the two sides have signed it. Both sides shall immediately (within 48 hours) order their troops to observe the agreement.
- (5) To terminate all hostilities between the troops of the two sides.
- (6) Both sides shall stop all military operations and troop movements.

Well, you can study it on the board.

Kachin State Peace and Stability Coordination Committee-KSPSCC gave response to the abovementioned

proposal of KIO Coordination Group-KCG on 25 July. KSPSCC said it agreed to the points (1), (2), (4) and (5) of the proposal, but would like to adjust the point (3) as "To establish genuine eternal peace after terminating all hostilities in the country through this agreement" and the point (6) as "Both sides shall terminate all troop movements in connection with military operations".

KIO Coordination Group-KCG gave response to the said KSPSCC proposal the next day. The Group expressed wish to change the title of the agreement from "Ceasefire agreement" to "Mutual ceasefire agreement"; and amend the point (3) as "To establish genuine eternal peace after terminating all hostilities in the country" and the point (6) as "Both sides shall terminate all military operations and troop movements. Troop travels for other purposes if necessary shall be carried out after making mutual coordination in advance".

The KSPSCC gave reply the same day. It expressed wish to adjust the point (6) as "Both sides shall terminate all military operations. Troop travels for other purposes if necessary shall be carried out after making mutual coordination in advance". This adjusted point is the same as the KIO proposed point except leaving out the words (and troop movements)".

The KSPSCC with the aim of restoring peace as desired by the people of Kachin State agreed all the points except making a proposal just to omit the words "and troop movements" without having any effect on the original meaning. KSPSCC sent a list of persons of national races affairs ministers, religious associations, Kachin national consultative group, ethnic-wise literature and culture committees and local elders totaling 59 in addition to KSPSCC to attend the ceremony to sign the mutual ceasefire agreement. The spread of the information had made elders and people of Kachin State happy with the hope of restoring peace.

KIO Coordination Group on 28 July gave response to the KSPSCC proposal. In the reply letter, KIO expressed consent to all the points of the proposal, saying, if the mutual ceasefire agreement was signed, both parties should also sign the definition of the said agreement. The definition of the mutual ceasefire agreement was attached to the letter, it said. The definition has the following four points:

- (1) The said mutual ceasefire agreement is to stop armed clashes between Myanmar Tatmadaw and KIA that started on 9 June 2011.

(See page 10)



Documentary photos displayed at the press conference.—MNA

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 9)

- (2) Ceasefire shall not be defined as peace. A durable peace needs to guarantee fundamental rights and privileges of all the nationalities.
- (3) All units of Myanmar Tatmadaw engaging KIA in Northern Command and North-East Command areas shall be given the order to observe the agreement within 48 hours after it has been signed.
- (4) The government needs to announce the programme of political dialogue to restore peace within 15 days after the termination of all hostilities in the country.

In fact, KIO made new proposals and demands only at the stage of signing the agreement reached through many discussions and proposals. Evidently, Kachin State Peace and Stability Coordination Committee (the Union) has made gradual concessions showing a great deal of tolerance and benevolence as it favours peace. Even though KIO was exploiting the peace-oriented concessions of the government through insincere means, bilateral negotiations could be held for another time on 2 August.

gust.

At the meeting, both sides reached consent to continue negotiations on the paragraph (4) of the definition only after mutual ceasefire has been reached.

However, the KIO Coordination Group on 3 August sent a letter to KSPSCC saying that it would submit a comprehensive report on the latest developments in the discussions, questions and answers, and documents to KIO Central Committee; and that it would make a reply after the Central Committee had reviewed the report.

Normally, the relevant organization has to give mandate to its representative team at a mutual negotiation. The team also has to submit the latest developments to its organization leaders to take directives for future work programmes. It is a common international practice. On the government side, the President is being informed of the latest developments in the peace and stability endeavours of Kachin State government in time and he is giving necessary guidance. KIA team is also holding negotiations under the assignment of KIO Central Committee. So, the KIO Central Committee should already have

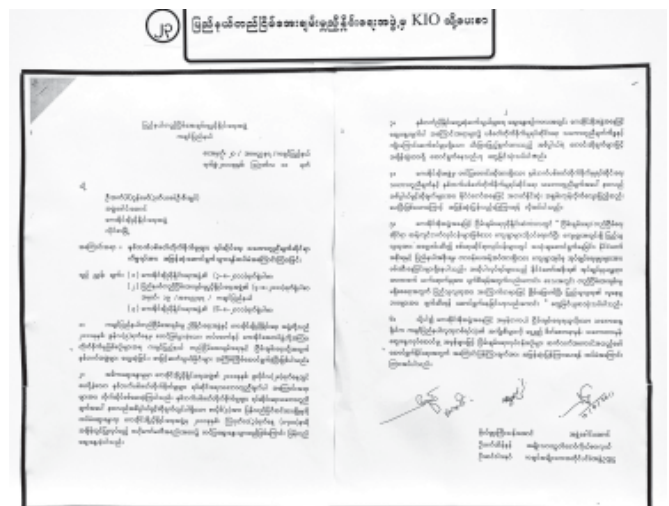
information about the negotiations.

As you know, new demands were made only at the final stage, and KIA also said that it would submit the matter to KIO Central Committee which would make further discussions. So, KIO's desire for peace has become questionable. And on 2 August KIA troops fired on a car returning from Tapain hydropower project killing one staff and six people and injuring another one.

KSPSCC on 4 August sent a letter which said: Myanmar Tatmadaw has already ordered its battalions, columns and companies to cease fire with effect from 18 June. KIA taking the unilateral ceasefire of the Tatmadaw as advantage has been committing terrorist attacks including mine and armed attacks, extortions, plundering, and killings, which in reality are inappropriate. The letter also condemns the act of killing innocent civilians on their way home from Tapain hydropower project during the time of negotiations.

It also stated: with much magnanimity and tolerance, the government has tried to restore peace in Kachin State. The government has already acceded to the peace proposals of KIO to the most possible degree. So, KIO needs to analyze itself to ascertain whether it wants a genuine peace or not.

During the process of negotiations from 1 July to 8 August, KIO/KIA committed bomb attacks for 28 times blowing up four baily bridges, three reinforced concrete bridges, seven concrete bridges, nine wooden bridges, three pedestrian suspension bridges and one railroad bridge totaling 27. Of them 15 were damaged badly and they could not be used for vehicle transport anymore. It also destroyed a railroad and a transformer. Besides, KIO/KIA launched 35 engagements with our security troops, fired at our security forces for 49 times, and launched seven blast-mine attacks and 30 landmine attacks. In consequence, 14 innocent civilians were



Documents displayed at the press conference.—MNA

killed and other 22 wounded. A total of 120 persons were arrested by KIO/KIA.

Political propaganda attacks of KIO/KIA

During the time, KIO/KIA held a mass rally in Laiza on 12 and 13 July, launching false propagandas and asking help from foreign countries. We have found on Internet a letter of request to UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki-moon asking the UN to stop Myanmar military offensives in Kachin State. The letter was signed by KIO General Secretary Dr La Ja on 17 July. The letter includes the following:

- (1) Myanmar Tatmadaw is launching military offensives in the region where Kachin people are living, violating human rights and committing crimes against humanity;
- (2) The 2010 election fails to bring democratic reforms, national reconciliation, and internal peace and stability in Myanmar, and solve the fundamental problems of ethnic equality and human rights. It is not to ensure or protect the ethnic rights, but just to prolong the rule of military junta, actually, posing as a terrible threat to the ethnic minorities;
- (3) After the election, the Tatmadaw violated the ceasefire agreement with peace groups in Kayin State; it is also trying to reignite the civil war through

battles it has been generating after breaching the ceasefire agreement in Kachin State;

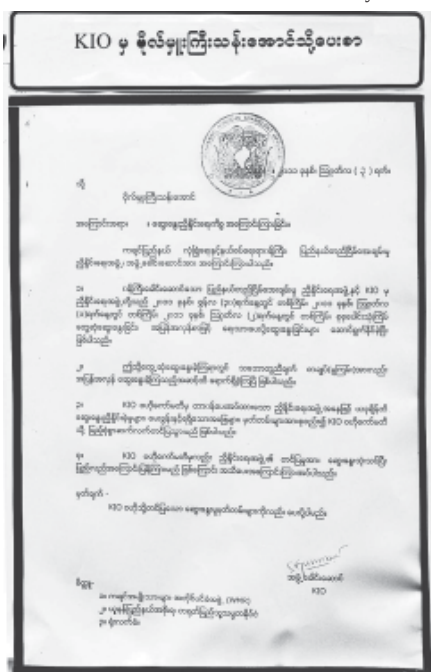
- (4) It is reinforcing its troops in ethnic regions resulting in more battles that further worsen the horrible conflicts, human rights violations and human sufferings;
- (5) Battles have forced rural people of Kachin State leave their homes as refugees, and as these Kachin ethnic refugees were denied access to help and accommodation, they become helpless;
- (6) Over 10,000 civilians are suffering from abject miseries, due to food, health and accommodation problems of the war;
- (7) Those civilians are facing forced labor, plunder, intimidations, destruction of homes, villages and crops, force relocations, indiscriminate killings, sufferings of mothers and children, and systematic sexual assaults on Kachin women;
- (8) There is no sign that Myanmar government will hold something like a political dialogue to solve the problems;
- (9) UN Secretary-General using his empowered rights and powers and with the cooperation of the respective governments of global countries should bring national reconciliation and democratization back to Myanmar

through a meaningful dialogue after reaching ceasefire agreement on national scale that will ensure security in Myanmar.

However, KIO leaders in Laiza said that Thair-border-based Dr La Ja group sent the letter without consulting them. Anyhow, it actually is a trumped-up story created by KIO/KIA just to conceal its own so-noticeable misdeeds and faults. In fact, from the time skirmishes broke out and till 8 this August, 84 bridges including four rail bridges built by the government were blown up or torched by KIO/KIA. The government repaired them soonest to prevent transport difficulties. The KIO/KIA members also blew up three vehicles and took away another three. Their mine and armed attacks killed 17 innocent people and wounded another 26. They also detained 166 persons. The destructive acts of KIO/KIA seriously harm national and regional interest, gravely hurt peace and stability and caused huge losses in the transport sector. Papers and documents showing a detailed list can be studied on the board.

KIO/KIA's exploitation of local people to use them as war refugees for propaganda purpose

Because of the terrible situation created by KIO/KIA itself, local people had to flee countryside for towns. Administrative staff of Kachin State government opened 13 centres (See page 11)



Documents displayed at the press conference.

MNA

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 10)

for the fleeing families in Myitkyina, Waingmaw, Momauk and Phakant townships, accommodating and caring 1803 persons of 466 households. Kachin State government, Relief and Resettlement Department, social organizations, well-wishers and political parties are providing food, clothing, and consumer goods for them.

But, KIO/KIA exploited honest and sincere local people as refugees launching propaganda campaigns internationally through the help of media and trying to ask financial assistance and rations. KIO/KIA also opened a refugee camp at Laiza, where its headquarters is located with the intention of using locals as human shield. In fact, there are about 4000 people in Laiza and 70 percent of them are families of KIO/KIA troops and members of local KIA people's militia. The remaining 30 percent are displaced persons from Lajayan, Tonhonyan, Madeeyan, and Uhtanyan villages in Dortponyan Township, Nanhshanyan, Tabatyan, Kazu, Kantawyan, Garayan, Sanpaing, Maliyan and Kinepan villages in Waingmaw Township. In truth they were forced to migrate to Laiza through armed intimidation.

Right now, I am going to present the situation of local people. After living in peace and tranquility for a long time, they totally disfavor instability and lack of peace that causes public fear and anxiety. They have totally understood the taste of peace and stability and the essence of development. They are deeply apprehensive about the possible recurrence of the after-1988 situation. So, Kachin Traditional Culture Central Committee, Myanmar Naing-Ngan Lihsu Literature and Culture Central Committee, representatives of ethnic Shan races and Bamar races in Kachin State, and Myitkyina Christian Council of Churches delivered letters to the President wishing and calling for eternal peace in Kachin State. Accordingly, the government has been showing much tolerance in striving utmost to restore peace in Kachin State through a ceasefire. Likewise, we all firmly believe that the ceasefire and peace would be made with KIO/KIA.

All in all, we will have to say that peace-building endeavours in Kachin State have not yet achieved cent per cent success. Beginning last June, Kachin State Peace and Stability Coordination Committee-KSPSCC and KIO Coordination Group held talks for three times. But till now, KSPSCC is waiting for KIO response to its latest letter. KIO on one hand is holding peace talks with Kachin State government and on the other has connections with Committee for Emergence of Federal Union (CEFU) formed with KNU, KNPP, NMSP, CNF, NUPA, KIA and SSA (Wanhing) and United Nationalities Federal Council (UNFC) formed with members from KIA, CNF, KNO, KNU, KNPP, LDU, NUPA, NMSP, PSLE, PNLO, SSA (Wanhing) and UWSA. Moreover, KIA Chairman In Banla is taking the chair of CEFU. In our assumption, KIO/KIA is not able to ignore the stance of CEFU/UNFC.

CEFU and UNFC include insurgent groups constantly launching armed opposition against the government and peace groups that cannot accept the Constitution and the border-guard-force transformation process. We have information on the supply of financial, technical and military aids to the said groups by certain supporting foreign organizations. In our assumption, it is the cause behind KIO/KIA's hesitation in making a positive response towards ceasefire and peace.

The 2010 election that has firm foundations for national reconsolidation

Our 2010 election has firm foundations for and real meaning of democracy and national reconsolidation. Moreover, it is in accord with the norms of ethnic equality and human rights of the Union. In reality, the election is the beginning of democratic reforms. Every citizen was free to legally vote, stand for the election, form political parties and canvass for votes. From there we will have to make our democracy more comprehensive and mature.

Thirty-seven political parties including 19 ethnic parties took part in the 2010 election. Of them candidates

of 22 parties were elected. And of the representatives-elect, former NDAK member U Za Khon Ting Ring was elected to the Amyotha Hluttaw, former member of Pa-O group U Nay Win Tun to Amyotha Hluttaw, former member of Palaung group U Aik Mone to Shan State Pyithu Hluttaw and former member of Kokang group U Pel Sauk Chein to Shan State Pyithu Hluttaw. They are now effectively serving national, regional and public interest through the respective Hluttaws and regional administration.

The representatives-elect of the respective parties including ethnic parties are now working hand in hand at the Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, various committees, Region/State governments, and Region/State Hluttaw committees. Although it is not a constitutional stipulation, the President appointed their own ethnic races as chief ministers of most of the States and paved the way for ethnic representatives and the representatives of the respective parties to take part in the State governments. Evidently, the constitutional election, and the formation of Hluttaws at all levels and the new government ensure comprehensive ethnic rights and equality and are heading toward peace, stability and national reconsolidation.

Political reforms and developments

Well, I will go on to political, economic and social reforms and developments after the emergence of the new government. Obviously, the President's addresses to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Union level government officials articulate the new government's resolve to implement a discipline-flourishing democracy system. Hopefully, all the journalists here have already read the addresses.

The President also explained the new government's action plans for good governance, clean governance, flourishing of democracy practices, fundamental rights of citizens, rule of law, transparency, accountability, anticorruption, narrowing rich-poor gap, emergence of a harmonized community, economic reforms and environmental conservation. He also expounded the points to be observed by the ministries and the State service personnel in implementing the said action plans.

Concerning the national reconsolidation, the President acknowledged the existence of individuals and organizations still doubtful about the new government and still seeing the Constitution as unacceptable, saying, the government needed to show its sincere goodwill to convince them to clear their doubts and to join hands in serving the national interest. He advised every one who loves to serve interest of the nation and people to work within the constitutional framework, adding, government welcomed such acts. The President urged individuals and organizations inside and outside the nation and unlawful organizations that did not wish to accept the Constitution to take part in the election to acquire rights and powers legally so that they could amend the Constitution according to procedures of the Chapter XII.

Expressing government's magnanimity and aspiration for national reconsolidation, the President said that the Union still opened peace door to the ethnic groups pursuing their armed struggle line against the government and other ethnic groups committing armed and mine attacks in violation of the bilaterally-reached peace agreement. Actually, the approach and actions towards national reconsolidation are marked progress in

the political sphere.

The legislative sector has witnessed Hluttaws at the Union, Region/State and self-administered division/zone levels. The people's representatives of all the legislative Hluttaws are discussing, submitting and proposing topics in the national interest and matters reflecting public aspirations. The coming out of law-making bodies at different levels in reality is a great progress in the course of Myanmar politics. These bodies are now in the process of conducting analysis and studies to make amendments, additions and cancellations to the existing laws and enacting new laws if and when necessary.

Concerning the foreign affairs, the President reconfirmed Myanmar's commitment to independent and active non-aligned foreign policy, expressing wish to cooperate with international community in nation-building tasks. Accordingly, the UN and international organizations are holding discussions in Myanmar, and even countries like the US and EU that had less senior official level contacts in the past are now holding talks with Myanmar. Leaders and officials of Myanmar and its close friends China, India and ASEAN member states are exchanging visits.

ICRC has resumed its prison visit and aid programs on 1 July. And right now, I will inform you that Human rights envoy Mr. Tomas Ojea Quintana is going to visit Myanmar soon.

General amnesty was granted for 14758 prisoners serving jail terms for breaking the existing laws so that they can have the opportunity to take part in building a new nation. In addition, 657 prisoners sentenced to death were commuted to life imprisonment and 41767 prisoners were granted remission of another one year in addition to normal remission.

In view of the national reconsolidation, the government even delicately and carefully handles the issue of NLD that has no legal right to exist offering it opportunities to serve national interest in cohesion. If NLD wants to get involved in politics it should set up a legal party through formal procedures.

Anyhow, the government is doing its best to invite NLD to its national reconsolidation process. As you know, Minister U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met on 25 July and issued a mutually-agreed press release. Hopefully, there will be further meetings producing promising results in the public interest and towards more cooperation in implementing democracy according to the Constitution.

Economic reforms and developments

Well, I am going to deal with the nation's economic sector. Right now, the new government is making necessary adjustments in the public interest after reviewing financial, monetary, trade and investment policies to reform and develop the whole economic infrastructure. It is now rewriting the Investment Law to be adaptable to the advancing era and drafting a competition policy suitable to market economy.

From the time of the enactment of Investment Law till 31-7-2011, 31 countries have invested 36,071.288 million US dollars in 454 enterprises. According to Myanmar Citizens Investment Law 1414 billion kyats including 2197.65 million US dollars were invested in 807 enterprises from 1-4-1999 to 31-3-2011.

(See page 12)

Expressing government's magnanimity and aspiration for national reconsolidation, the President said that the Union still opened peace door to the ethnic groups pursuing their armed struggle line against the government and other ethnic groups committing armed and mine attacks in violation of the bilaterally-reached peace agreement. Actually, the approach and actions towards national reconsolidation are marked progress in the political sphere.

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 11)

In addition, export and import licences are issued within two days. From April 2011 to the fourth week of July, foreign trade volume reached 5427.27 million US dollars, showing a 26.62% increase if compared with the same period last year. Previously, we collected 2% income tax on exports and 8% commercial tax, totaling 10% tax. Since 1 July, commercial tax has reduced by 3% as part of the drive for boosting exports. So, total tax on exports now is only 7%.

Besides, we have formed the Union Commodity Prices Stability Committee to speed up the drive. Inflation rate decreased to 8.27% in April, to 8.15% in May and to 7.82% in June.

Regarding the financial sector, the Internal Revenue Department is taking measures for making amendments, additions and cancellations to such laws covering income tax, commercial tax and stamp act and revenue act. Moreover, it is gearing up for enacting Microfinance Institutions Law in connection with rural development and poverty alleviation. Steps are also being taken for issuing necessary directives for trial run of microfinance institutions before enacting the law. Retired service personnel have been allowed to draw new pension rates as from July 2011 that are the same as the rates service personnel in service will draw when they retire. The number of the retired service personnel who enjoy new pension rates is 815,633 including servicemen. So, the lowest pension rate of 750 kyats is increased to 20,000 kyats; and the medium pension rate of 1375 kyats is increased to 32,000 kyats. A retired high-ranking official who gets the pension rate of 2500 kyats is allowed to draw a pension of 110,000 kyats.

Regarding poverty, according to the comprehensive surveys jointly carried out by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and the United Nations Development Programme, Myanmar's poverty rate fell from 32% to 26%. Under the Millennium Development Goals, Myanmar's poverty rate will be reduced to 16% by 2014-2015. Therefore, National Workshop on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation was held in previous May. The term of the Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Project is from July 2011 to 31 December 2015. The work committees and supporting groups are now carrying out the eight tasks effectively. They are:—

- (a) development of agricultural productivity
- (b) development of rural productivity
- (c) development of cottage industries
- (d) development of microfinance institutions
- (e) development of rural cooperatives
- (f) development of rural socio-economy
- (g) development of rural energy
- (h) environmental conservation

Social developments

I would like to explain fresh issues such as human rights violation and forced labour. As you know, the 10th Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the UN Human Rights Council was held from 24 January to 4 February this year. Myanmar delegation attended it. At the conference, 70 countries presented 190 suggestions about human rights in Myanmar. The Myanmar delegation said that it was already implementing 10 points; that it accepted 64 points and would review 46 points, and did not accept 70 points, and replied to the queries. So, 57 countries including ASEAN countries, China, Russia, Cuba, India and Sudan said that they welcomed Myanmar's efforts to improve human rights and called for lifting unfair sanctions against Myanmar.

Then, UN Human Rights Council held the 17th conference on 30 May and a conference on 8 June 2011 to adopt UPR Outcome Report of Myanmar. The Myanmar delegation led by the Union attorney-general attended the conference. It said that Myanmar had already informed the accepted ones of the 46 points, then it accepted another four points; and that Myanmar

accepted 104 of the 190 points. Eleven participating countries said that they encouraged and supported Myanmar's efforts to improve human rights. Moreover, many countries recognized Myanmar's commitment, which was also welcomed by the chairman. And Myanmar's achievements for improving human rights were documented.

In addition, today, if a citizen in Myanmar has a grievance he has the right to complain to related departments including State leaders. Section 347 of the constitution says "The Union shall guarantee any person to enjoy equal rights before the law and shall equally provide legal protection". Myanmar already has grievance procedures in accordance with that provision.

Even before the constitution was approved, we made investigations into cases and looked into the grievances aired by citizens. From April 2011, a total of 585 cases on various public complaints on grievances were presented to the President Office. Of them 79 cases had been solved and 506 are under necessary investigation.

A human right group was formed on 26-4-2000. The group has to look into the public complaints on grievances. There are 503 cases submitted to State leaders and related ministries. Of them, 199 were found true, and actions were taken against the offenders, and 203 cases are still under investigation by the Ministry of Home Affairs. And 101 cases were found untrue, so they were dismissed.

Regarding forced labour, a 13-member committee led by the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs was formed on 2 December 2002 to implement ILO Convention No. 29. And a five-member committee for ILO functions led by the Deputy Minister for Labour was formed on 14 February 2010. Myanmar is determined to eliminate forced labour. The Ministry of Home Affairs issued Order No (1/99) on 14 May 1999 to ban forced labour across the country. And it issued an order to add some points to Order No (1/99) on 27 September 2000. The government has already held comprehensive talks and discussions on orders in force including the ILO Convention No. 29 in the whole nation. New laws to replace 1907 Villages Act and Towns Act are being drawn in compliance with the ILO Convention No. 29.

Myanmar accepted ILO liaison officer in March 2002 and is taking his assistance in the country's anti-forced labour drive. Furthermore, the Ministry of Labour and ILO signed a Memorandum of Understanding in connection with complaints about forced labour on 26 February 2007. ILO task force investigated 389 cases of complaints on forced labour in line with the MoU, and took action against offenders in 182 cases. You see, now, Myanmar is almost free from forced labour the essence of the ILO Convention No. 29.

Myanmar also pays serious attention to prevention of recruitment of child soldiers. The Committee for Prevention against Recruitment of Minors for Military Services was formed on 5 January 2004. The committee issued directives occasionally, took measures for setting up national level monitoring and reporting mechanism, and made preparations for drawing Action Plan. On 23 May 2011, the committee was reconstituted with eight members led by the Minister for Defence. From 2004 to last June, actions have been taken against 23 officers and 146 other ranks who failed to follow the directives in recruiting new members in accordance with the military rules.

Now, I would like to present movements for prevention of trafficking in persons. Myanmar enacted Law on Prevention of Trafficking in Persons in 2005, and the central committee and Region/State, district and township level committees were formed in 2006. Myanmar implemented the first three-year Anti-Human Trafficking Plan (2005-2007), and the second three-year Anti-Human Trafficking Plan (2008-2010), and is implementing the third three-year Anti-Human Trafficking Plan (2011-2013). Thanks to the plans, we managed to raid three cross-border human trafficking gangs at China-Myanmar border and took action against 79 offenders

and saved 104 victims. From 2006 to end of June in 2011, we exposed 709 human trafficking cases, and took action against 1980 offenders, and saved and sent back home 1259 victims. Myanmar is cooperating with all members of COMMIT-Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, a UN-support programme, in addition to bilateral anti-human trafficking programmes with respective countries. UN, international organizations and regional countries acknowledged, praised and documented Myanmar's achievements in anti-human trafficking for many times. On the other hand, the US constantly put Myanmar at Tier-3 from 2000 to 2010 as if the country had not any anti-human trafficking endeavor. But as for Myanmar, the country will definitely continue its anti-trafficking campaign.

Regarding anti-drug campaigns, Myanmar is fighting narcotic drugs as a national duty. Myanmar is now implementing the 15-year plan (1999 to 2014) through effective strategies and tactics. A budget of 33,588.14 billion kyats and 150 million US dollars was earmarked for the plan. Now, the goal of a Drug Free ASEAN by 2015 is in the process of being implemented. In order to meeting the object, Myanmar is implementing plans as a national duty.

According to the report (2011) of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime-UNODC, poppy cultivation in Myanmar fell to 76.6% and opium production to 67% during the period from 1996 to 2011. Myanmar could destroy 90,234.98 hectares of poppy plantations from 1997 to 2011. In addition, ceremonies to incinerate seized drugs were held 21 times in Yangon and 55 times in border areas from 1988 to 2011. The incinerated drugs amounted to 2007.141 billion kyats (18.203 billion US dollars). During a six-month period from January to June in 2011, action was taken against 2182 culprits in 1615 cases of narcotic drugs including 649.7 kilos of opium, 38.89 kilos of heroin, 1.66 million stimulant tablets and 88.51 kilos of ephedrine.

It can be found that the new government's moves have shown transparency, accountability, respect for public desire and special attention to national reconsolidation. These points have proved that Myanmar's political process is on a right track.

Destructive acts of insurgents

Insurgent groups that have not accepted Myanmar's political developments, seven-step Road Map and Constitution are sticking to their subversive acts.

Under the KIA leadership, KNU, KNPP, NMSP, CNF, NUPA, KIA and SSA (Wanhing) held a meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from 2 to 4 November 2010, and Committee for Emergence of Federal Union (CEFU) was formed with In Banla from KIA as Chairman. A CEFU-sponsored meeting held in Chiang Mai from 12 to 16 February 2011 also formed United Nationalities Federal Council (UNFC) with members from KIA, CNF, KNO, KNU, KNPP, LDU, NUPA, NMSP, PSLF, PNLO, SSA (Wanhing) and UWSA.

Those two groups were reportedly formed with the aim of merging the insurgent groups that are still holding arms and the ethnic groups that have made peace with government but not accepted the constitution in order to attack the government politically and militarily and commit terrorist acts in many parts of the country to cause public panic. So, there have been attempts to put local and international pressure on the new government by creating armed clashes in the areas that have built peace and bomb attacks in big cities and on railroads and motor roads. As those incidents are indeed aboveground and underground destructive acts designed to disrupt Myanmar's democratization and harm the already-achieved peace, all the people need to prevent such acts.

I would like to continue to briefly explain two breakaway groups, which have become members of CEFU. The first is KNU Saw Labwe's group from DKBA, which was transformed into a border guard force in accord with the constitution in August 2010. But, Saw Labwe led group did not accept the transformation.

(See page 13)

Government already acceded to peace...

(from page 12)

Saw Labwe's group launched attacks on Myawady and Phayathonsu with the help of KNU on 8 November 2010 the day after multiparty democracy general elections were held. Since then, it has been carrying out destructive acts such as firing small and heavy weapons at Myawady, Phayathonsu, Kyain-seikkyi and Kawkareik and setting fire to and blowing up government departments, houses and stores. Due to the attacks, seven innocent civilians, including two seventh graders, were killed and 27 others injured. When Myawady was attacked, heavy weapons were intentionally fired on the Thai side so as to harm the Thai-Myanmar relations. I want to disclose that Saw Labwe's group in collusion with KNU has continued committing terrorist acts like collecting extortion from passenger buses along Myawady-Kawkareik-Thinganninaung route and blowing up the buses that failed to give extortion.

The other group is SSA (Wanhing) group. The SSA group of Shan State (North) Special Region-3 started transformational tasks in April 2009. Maikhay Group of Brigade-3 and Kali Group of Brigade-7 accepted their transformation and transformed themselves into people's militias. However, Pan Pha-led Wanhing Group of Brigade-1 announced that transformation was unacceptable. With a view to serving the interests of the local nationals, the State did not take any military action against Wanhing group and allowed it to remain in its own region.

But, the group ambushed Tatmadaw columns in Mongauk, Kehsi, Manhsan, Laikha, Mongkai and Seinkyawt and blew up Bridge Nos. 3/59 and 6/36 between Seinkyawt and Mongyal and Bridge No.2/2 in Mongshu Township. In addition, it repeatedly committed destructive acts such as firing into schools and houses in the villages of Tangyan, Kyaukme, Mongyai and Lashio townships and killing innocent people.

As regards some engagements with Tatmadaw troops, four soldiers from Nampok Camp responsible for regional security were ambushed and killed or wounded by the SSA (Wanhing) group while they were collecting water from a creek at the foot of their camp in the evening of 10 July. That was why the Tatmadaw had to unavoidably launch attacks on the hideouts of SSA (Wanhing) group in the surrounding areas of Nampok Camp. In the attacks, only the infantry troops

were used. However, anti-government groups and SSA (Wanhing) group made false accusations as propaganda that the Tatmadaw launched an aerial-supported major offensive. In fact, there were not any aerial bombing raids by the Tatmadaw. Although the government had been in a position to attack with the help of artillery and aircraft, only limited attacks were carried out by setting aside Wanhing Headquarters as it has been designated as the area of SSA (Wanhing) since peace was made.

At the moment, KNU and SSA insurgents in addition to those breakaway groups are resorting to various means to commit terrorist acts constantly such as mine and armed attacks. From March to July 2011, KNU insurgents planted mines 18 times killing four innocent people and wounding 19. Moreover, they fired heavy weapons two times at Kyaikdon town and Kawkareik township of Kayin State killing one civilian and wounding four others.

KNU terrorists have repeatedly carried out bomb attacks targeting the public. It has been known to all that when the culprits were exposed regarding the incidents of a bomb blast on Yangon-Mandalay up-train on 18 May and a bomb blast in Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market on 10 June, they did such acts in public places as ordered by KNU accepting a large amount of money.

Similarly, SSA insurgents have been committing destructive acts like bullying innocent people with the use of guns, collecting extortion and recruiting members and killings. From March to July this year, SSA (Ywatsit) group planted mines four times killing one civilian and injuring three. The group also fired heavy weapons at Kali Sub-township of Kunhe Township in Loilem District, Shan State, killing one innocent civilian and injuring six others.

Authorities concerned have exposed the names of six culprits and five accomplices involved in three bomb blasts that occurred simultaneously in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin on 24 June. According to investigation, the culprits committed the acts as they had been sent by SSA (Ywatsit) group with cash

incentives. Action is being taken to arrest the culprits.

Conclusion
At today's press conference, only the efforts for national reconciliation and political, economic and social sectors since the new government took office have been clarified briefly. Reviewing the clarifications, it can clearly be seen that the new government is taking measures in accord with the policies included in the President's speeches at Pyidaungshu Hluttaw and to Union level organizations. In addition to those policies, the government is also taking other measures necessary under current circumstances to serve the interests of the nation and the people.

Today, Myanmar is embracing the constitution that has been approved through national referendum. Executive, legislative and judicial bodies that have emerged from the elections held in accordance with the constitution have started operation. Those who hold an opposite view on this process are urged to cooperate in matters of common interest for national benefit and to participate in the election according to democratic practices to have rights and powers through legal and proper channels. In addition, the government always opens the peace door for any one who wishes to do so. As for the persons still doubtful about the seven-step Road Map and still seeing the Constitution as unacceptable, the government will show its benevolence in clearing their suspicions, enabling them to serve national interest in unity.

The President has already pointed out that all those in favor of the interest of Myanmar and her people must work within the constitution in the democratization process. The government welcomes all acts within the constitutional framework. On the other hand, it never accepts unconstitutional activities and will take necessary measures to prevent them. Hence, I hereby invite all organizations involved in Myanmar politics to work in the national interest in coherence while seriously taking into account the President's overtures. With this I conclude.

Thank you all.—MNA

Union Minister U Aung Kyi, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi hold talk, reply queries of reporters

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held talk at Seinle Kantha State House in Yangon today.

After the meeting, they replied to local reporters at the press conference.

Following are questions and answers:

Q : U Hline Bwa (Chief Editor, Yangon Times Journal)

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, do you hope which sectors would have changes or progress after this second talk?

A: (Daw Aung San Suu Kyi) I hope there would be progress in all sectors. I hope, all sectors. I hope there would be progress if all things which are good for the country are carried out. I am a little bit confused your question. Please raise your question clearly.

Q : U Hline Bwa (Chief Editor, Yangon Times Journal) You answered the question generally during the previous conference. Do you hope which sector, for example,

issue of national races etc, would see progress and how?

A : (Daw Aung San Suu Kyi) If we cooperate each other, there would be much progress also in the issue of national races. There would be progress in any sectors. In fact, if we cooperate each other, including media, in the interests of our country, there would be progress.

Q : (Ma Nyein Nyein Naing, Executive Editor of the 7-Day News Journal) I want to raise a question to the Union Minister. A joint-press release was issued after the previous talk. The joint-press release said the previous talk have focused matters on dissent and difference. Do you mean that that is between the government and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi? Or between the armed organizations and the government? And, the joint press release also said that the two sides also discussed the issue of the prevalence of law and order. Is that discussion related to the fact Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her party is illegal.

A : (Union Minister U Aung Kyi) There would be need for issue of reducing the difference everywhere. Naturally, We mean "diversity and unity". Every one may face difference in everyone's work. The situation is that we will prioritize a cooperation.

Q : (Ko Nay Tun Naing, Senior Editor of the Eleven Media)

I'd like to raise a question to Union Minister U Aung Kyi. After the previous talk, you told that there is a cooperation between the two sides. How did that cooperation start? And, if so, please let us know the situation of the cooperation. And, you also mentioned Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's open letter and offer for peace. Please let me know how you will continue to do with the offer.

A : (Union Minister U Aung Kyi)

All these factors are under the title of a cooperation. A cooperation is the main problem which we need to deal with for our country. We are now dealing with it. At a time when that problem have been solved, the remaining issues would be corollaries of the main problem. So, as these results would be come out, that situation would be solved easily.—MNA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (191)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (191) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (155)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (155) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.8.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(7) 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
COLTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV EMERALD-CORAL VOY NO (50)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EMERALD-CORAL VOY NO (50) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(7) 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: EASTERN CAR LINER
SINGAPORE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

Major cities in Finland stress responsibility to combat global warming

HELSINKI, 12 Aug—Leaders of Finland's six biggest cities on Wednesday stressed the responsibility of cities in combating global warming and vowed to decrease their cities' energy consumption. According to local media reports on Wednesday, mayors of Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa, Turku, Oulu and Tampere made a joint climate-declaration on Wednesday in a meeting held in Helsinki, the capital of Finland.

In the declaration, the cities commit themselves to various concrete measures to bring energy consumption down. Among proposed measures are energy-efficient building plans, supporting citizens' climate-friendly actions and ecological support personnel at workplaces.

Xinhua

US military loses contact with hypersonic aircraft

WASHINGTON, 12 Aug—The US military lost contact with an unmanned hypersonic test aircraft shortly after its launch, defence officials have said. The Falcon Hypersonic Test Vehicle 2 (HTV-2)—capable of reaching any target in the world in less than an hour—began a test flight from atop a rocket on Thursday.



The HTV-2 was designed by engineers to travel at 13,000mph (21,000km/h).—INTERNET

Contact was also lost with a similar craft during the first mission. The HTV-2 is designed to travel at 13,000mph (21,000km/h).

The Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (Darpa), which is funding the HTV-2 programme and overseeing the tests, said the small craft was capable of reaching speeds of 20 Mach. The aircraft took off using a Minotaur IV rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California early on Thursday.

Engineers programmed the HTV-2 to launch from the edge of space, separate from its rocket and crash into the ocean. No information was available on whether the goals of the mission were achieved.—INTERNET



A bullet train runs in south China's Hainan Province, on 10 Aug, 2011. China's State Council on Wednesday ordered safety checks on high-speed railways and slower running speeds. The decision was made at an executive meeting of the State Council, which was presided over by Premier Wen Jiabao, in the wake of a deadly bullet train crash that killed 40 people.—XINHUA

Swedish expert says elderly people need more vitamin D

STOCKHOLM, 12 Aug—Elderly people who are 65 years old or older are often lack of vitamin D due to the dryness of skin, thus should have more vitamin D, said a Swedish diet expert in a report released on Thursday.

"Various studies have shown that vitamin D is very important to fight against bone disease, muscle problem, diabetes, fatness, heart problem, cancer, infection, dementia and depression and so on," said Elisabeth Rothenberg, dietist and medicine doctor in Sweden.

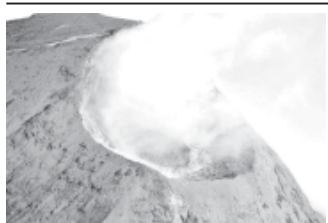
She has written this kind of knowledge recommendation to Swedish food administration. Rothenberg explained that due to the darkness in winter in Nordic countries, many people need vitamin D as a facilitating receiver of various nutrition for elderly people.

She cited American research results as saying that vitamin D is actually a hormone that there is a receptor to help the body receive various nutrition.

Xinhua

Nonagenarian artist wins Australia's top indigenous art award

CANBERRA, 12 Aug—A 96-year-old indigenous Australian artist, Dickie Minyintiri on Thursday was named the winner of the 28th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Art Award (NATSIAA), one of the most prestigious art awards in the nation. Minyintiri lives in Anangu Pitjantjatjara



A lava dome in the Cleveland Volcano, a 5,676-foot (1,730 metres) peak located about 940 miles (1,500 km) southwest of Anchorage, is shown in this 8 August, 2011 handout photo from the Nation Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and released to Reuters on 11 Aug, 2011. The volcano has been in low-level eruption since the end of July, the Alaska Volcano Observatory said.—XINHUA

Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands in remote South Australia. Sitting in a wheelchair, Minyintiri, who finds it difficult to speak, managed a quick smile after being named the winner for his piece titled Kanyalakutjina (Euro Tracks).

The artwork shows tracks of kangaroos, dogs and emu coming to a water hole to drink, and each layer and line is a memory Minyintiri has of a journey he has undertaken. Judges of the award said Minyintiri's painting was a "spontaneous and multi-layered" expression of the winner's relationship to his country. "The opacity of harmonious, pale pigments and the dynamic reiteration of ancestral tracks through country, create a shimmering surface that radiates energy and spirituality," they said in a statement.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 11 Aug, 2011 shows the entrance to a collapsed tunnel located on a state-level road linking the county of Shangri-La to Deqen, southwest China's Yunnan Province.

Eight workers were trapped when the accident occurred around 6:00 am Thursday when the tunnel under construction collapsed.—XINHUA

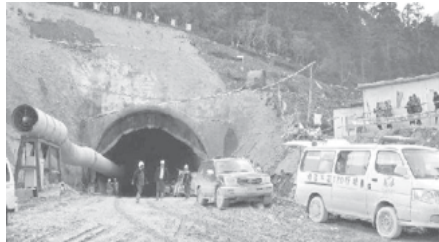
Tunnel cave-in traps eight in SW China

KUNMING, 12 Aug—Rescuers are racing to approach eight workers who remain trapped after a tunnel collapsed on Thursday in southwest Yunnan Province, according to local authorities.

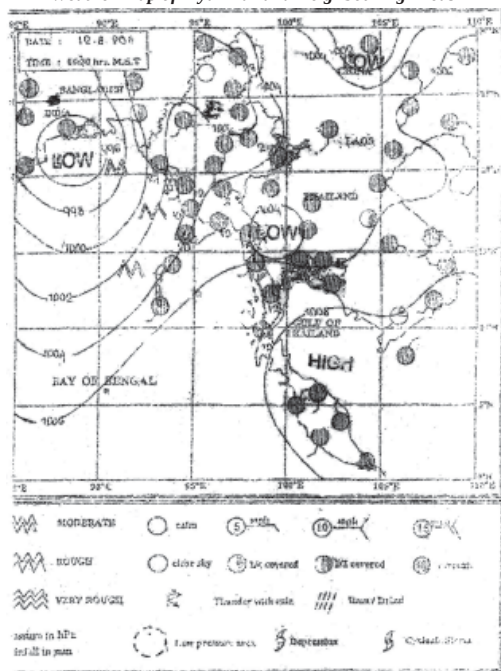
The accident occurred around 6:00 am when the tunnel, which was under construction on National Highway 214, collapsed in the province's Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Degen, said a spokesman with the prefecture's information office.

Excavators and rescuers are digging toward the trapped workers, whose locations have been determined. By 7 pm, the rescuers had not yet made contact with them, according to the rescue headquarters. The collapsed area, estimated to be five-to-seven-meters long, is about 460 meters away from the mouth of the tunnel, rescuers said, adding that the ventilation facilities and water pipelines in the tunnel remain intact.

Xinhua



Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 13th August, 2011

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	33/91	25/77	Scattered rain	100%
2	Kayah	30/86	20/68	Scattered rain	100%
3	Kayin	27/81	23/73	Widespread rain	100%
4	Chin	20/68	15/59	Widespread rain	100%
5	Upper Sagaing	30/86	24/75	Scattered rain	100%
6	Lower Sagaing	35/95	26/79	Scattered rain	100%
7	Tamüthay	29/84	22/72	Widespread rain with isolated heavy fall	100%
8	Bago	30/86	22/72	Widespread rain	100%
9	Magway	35/95	26/79	Scattered rain	100%
10	Mandalay	37/99	25/77	Scattered rain	100%
11	Mon	26/79	23/73	Widespread rain with isolated heavy fall	100%
12	Yangon	30/86	22/72	Fairly widespread rain	100%
13	Rakine	31/88	22/73	Widespread rain with isolated heavy fall	100%
14	Southern Shan	26/79	19/65	Widespread rain	100%
15	Northern Shan	30/86	20/68	Widespread rain	100%
16	Eastern Shan	29/84	22/72	Widespread rain	100%
17	Ayeyawady	30/86	24/75	Fairly widespread rain	100%
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	33/91	23/73	Isolated rain	100%
19	Neighbouring Yangon	30/86	22/72	One or two rain	100%
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	23/77	Isolated rain	80%

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past 24 (hours), rarer or threshold-levels have been observed in Mandalay Region and Kachin State, scattered in Upper Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Regions, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing and Bago Regions, Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Kachin and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Yr 5.00 (inches), Kawlaung (3.27 inches), Ceyzong (2.90 inches), Lashem (2.83 inches), Thainazay (2.32 inches), Mudon (2.13 inches), Thantun and Kyauksemar (2.05 inches) each and Thabakung (1.02 inches).
Bay Inference	Monsoon rain is moderate in the Bay of Bengal and strong in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind strength in squalls may reach (35 to 40) mph.
Outlook for tomorrow and days thereafter	Moderate in strong monsoon.

Ex-world heavyweight boxing contender LeDoux dies



*This 23 Nov, 1979
file photo shows
heavyweight boxer
Scott LeDoux
posing with the
championship belt.*

INTERNET

COON RAPIDS, (Minn) 12 Aug—Former world heavyweight boxing contender Scott LeDoux (lah-DOO') has died at age 62 after battling Lou Gehrig's disease.

His longtime friend and attorney Bob Dolan told The Associated Press Friday that LeDoux died Thursday at his Coon Rapids home after a nearly three-year battle with the disease.

LeDoux was nicknamed the “Fighting Frenchman” and faced some of boxing greats during his 10-years professional career, stepping into the ring with Muhammad Ali, George Foreman and Leon Spinks. The two-time Upper Midwest Golden Gloves champion twice fought for the world heavyweight title.

LeDoux served on the Anoka County Board from 2004 until 2010 when illness forced him to resign. His wife, Carol, ran for his open seat in November and won.—*Internet*

Arkansas' Davis out for season with ankle injury

FAYETTEVILLE, (Ark) 12 Aug—Arkansas coach Bobby Petrino confirmed Friday that running back Knile Davis is expected to miss the season because of a left ankle injury. The injury is a major blow to the preseason expectations for the Razorbacks, who were 10-3 and reached their first BCS bowl game last season. Davis suffered the injury early in the scrimmage portion of practice on Thursday and was carted off the field without being able to put weight on his left leg. "I am extremely disappointed for Knile," Petrino said in a statement. "He is a captain who was incredibly focused on the upcoming year. His leadership throughout the offseason was

significant in the development of this team.

"Our athletic trainers and medical staff are the best in the country, and Knile's mental toughness will be an asset to him during the recovery process. I am fully confident in the mindset of our running back group and their ability to perform." Davis led all Southeastern Conference running backs with 1,322 yards rushing last season, averaging 147 yards per game over the final seven games of the season.

He was a preseason second-team All-SEC selection and had also been named to the Doak Walker, Maxwell and Walter Camp Player of the Year award watch lists.—*Internet*



**Saturday,
13 August**
View on today

////////////////

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable
Mingun Sayadaw

7:25 am
2. Healthy Exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning News

7:40 am
4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am
5. Maha Wuntha Myat Buddha

8:20 am
6. Health Programme

8:30 am
7. Poem Garden

8:40 am
8. International News

11:00 am
1. Martial Song

11:10 am
2. Musical Programme

11:20 am
3. Game for Children

11:50 am
4. Round Up of the Week's TV Local News

12:20 pm
5. Yan Can Cook

12:40 pm	6. TV Drama Series
1:40 pm	7. Documentary
2:05 pm	8. Songs Programme
2:20 pm	9. Preview of 26 th South East Asia Games
2:35 pm	10. Dance Of National Races
2:45 pm	11. Myanmar Tradition Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
2:55 pm	12. International News
3:45 pm	1. MNL Grand Royal Cup 2011 (Live) (Yangon United Vs Yadanarbon)

5:45 pm
2. Musical Programme

6:00 pm
3. Evening News

6:15 pm
4. Weather Report

6:20 pm
5. A Visit to
Beautiful World

6:35 pm
6. Yindagomae

7:00 pm
7. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
8. News

9. International
News

10. Weather Report

11. Cartoon series

12. Teleplay

13. Gitadagale
Phwinphaohn

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
Programme Schedule
(13-8-2011) (Saturday)

<u>Transmissions</u>	<u>Times</u>
Local	- (09:00am ~ 11:00am)MST
Overseas Transmission	- (13-8-11 09:30 am ~ 14-8-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * The Living Legend of a Late Lamented Luminary
- * News

- * Sustainable Development of Wetlands
- * The Creator of Parcel
- * News
- * Today's Efficient Youth (Indonesian In't School)
- * Songs for you
- * News
- * The Wachuset Jivatadana Sanga Hospital

Overseas Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * The Living Legend of a Late Lamented Luminary
- * News
- * Sustainable Development of Wetlands
- * The Creator of Parcel

- * News
- * Today's Efficient Youth (Indonesian In't School)
- * Songs for you
- * News
- * The Wachet Jivitadana Sanga Hospital
- * News
- * Myanmar's Jade Wonderland
- * Shwe Than Lwin Home For Aged
- * News
- * Promoting Tourism Through Sports
- * News
- * Secret Places For Yummy Food Innlay Ahmattaya
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * Historical Kyaukse and its Environs (Part-2)
- * Myanmar Movies "Miss Arrogent"

- ★ 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

Press Release out after discussion between Union Minister U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

Press Release

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi called on Union Minister U Aung Kyi at Seinle Kantha State House from 1:00 pm to 1:50 pm on 12 August, 2011.

The two sides, after the discussion, reached an agreement as follows:-

- (1) The two sides will cooperate in pursuing stability of the State and national development to fulfil the actual needs and desire of the entire people.
- (2) Positive cooperation will be made for further burgeoning of democracy in Myanmar and for ensuring economic and social development.
- (3) The two sides will avoid conflicted views and will cooperate on reciprocal basis.
- (4) The two sides will continue discussions.

MNA



Union Minister U Aung Kyi holds discussion with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Seinle Kantha State House in Yangon.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held discussion from 1:00 pm to 1:50 pm at Seinle Kantha State House in Yangon.

After the meeting, topics of the discussion were informed to journalists from foreign news agencies and local media. The following is the translation of press release after the discussion between the Union Minister and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (12-8-2011)

Ye	(5.08) inches
Kawkareik	(3.27) inches
Cocogyun	(2.90) inches
Loilem	(2.83) inches
Theinzayet	(2.32) inches
Mudon	(2.13) inches
Thaton and	(2.05) inches
Kyaikmaraw	(2.05) inches
Thabeikkyin	(1.02) inches