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Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Austria

YANGON, 25 Oct — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Heinz Fischer, Federal President of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October, 2006. — MNA

NC Plenary Session continues

YANGON, 25 Oct — Members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee read out the clarification on laying down the detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw to be included in the chapter Legislation in drafting the State Constitution made by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee at the National Convention Plenary Session continued at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, at 9 am today.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairmen and officials of subcommittees, delegates of political parties National Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party, Union Kayin League, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, independent representatives, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of State Service Personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President Office, the Pyithu Hluttaw Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General’s Office, the Auditor-General’s (See page 6)

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Work in concert for a peaceful and prosperous world

The world today is changing rapidly and a hopeful change is emerging in accordance with the declarations and resolutions of the United Nations and other world summits. It is for these years that the United Nations and other international and regional organizations have been working for international peace and security and for social and economic advancement of all the peoples of the world. Multilateralism and the world body are also playing an active part in the poverty eradication, environmental conservation and the global fight against HIV/AIDS, avian influenza and terrorism in accordance with the declarations and resolutions of the United Nations and other world summits.

The Governments of Myanmar are fully cooperating with the UN agencies in the fight against HIV/AIDS and avian influenza. As the world today is changing rapidly, the United Nations should be more representative, more efficient and transparent in the working procedures of the Security Council. The de-militarization and de-territorialization are necessary to achieve a peaceful and prosperous world. It is for these years that the United Nations has been working for international peace and security and for social and economic development. The voices of weaker partners are heard and duly respected by the UN agencies. Moreover, the United Nations has already introduced several initiatives and implemented measures to enhance its efficiency and transparency in the working procedures of the Security Council.

The Government of Myanmar is building peaceful and prosperous structures the length and breadth of the nation including the far-flung areas. In addition, it is important to note that the Department for Promotion and Populism is working on the paper. But as long as the words written on the paper are not enough to fulfill the needs of the people, the paper will not be enough to fulfill the needs of the people. The Government of Myanmar is resolute in accordance with the declarations and resolutions of the United Nations and other world summits. It is for these years that the United Nations has been working for international peace and security and for social and economic development. The voices of weaker partners are heard and duly respected by the UN agencies.
**CPC discusses 2006-2010 cadre training plan**

**BEIJING, 24 Oct**—The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) held a meeting on Monday to discuss the 2006-2010 national CPC cadre training plan.

The meeting was presided over by CPC Central Committee General Secretary Hu Jintao.

The meeting decided to focus training for CPC cadres during the Eleventh Five-Year Plan Period (2006-2010) on building a moderately prosperous society, building a harmonious socialistic society, enhancing the Party's governance capacity and maintaining the Party's advanced nature. The meeting recommended that more attention be given to cadre training. The goal is to build a “learning Party” and a “pro-learning society”, and provide an ideological guarantee as well as professional support for the economic and social objectives of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan.

The meeting stressed that the latest achievements of the sinnunciation of Marxism will be comprehensively examined and used. CPC cadres will study Marxism, Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory and the “Three Represents” Important Thought.

CPC cadres will also be further trained on the Selected Works of Jiang Zemin, and on thinking to do with the scientific view of development and the building of a harmonious socialist society, key points raised by the CPC Central Committee with Hu Jintao as General Secretary.

**Beijing to reward commuters who give up their seats on bus**

**BEIJING, 24 Oct**—Beijing buses will reward passengers who give up their seats for others, in an effort to make the capital’s buses a more courteous experience ahead of the Olympics.

Beijing Public Transport Holdings, Ltd, which operates more than 24,000 buses in the capital, will choose “star passengers” who offer their seats to the elderly, the handicapped, the pregnant and women with young children. The bus company also plans to use mobile TV installed in more than 4,000 buses as a platform to promote courteous behaviour. The number of mobile buses equipped with mobile TV will increase to 7,000 by the end of the year, the company said. Buses in Chinese cities often have signs that read: “Please offer seats to the elderly, the handicapped, the pregnant and women with young children.” There are usually a few seats set aside for this purpose.—MNA/Xinhua

**Global ecosystems ‘face collapse’**

**LONDON, 24 Oct**—Current global consumption levels could result in a large-scale ecosystem collapse by the middle of the century, environmental group WWF has warned.

The group’s biannual Living Planet Report said the natural world was being degraded “at a rate unprecedented in human history”.

Terrestrial species had declined by 31% between 1970-2003, the findings showed.

It warned that if demand continued at the current rate, two planets would be needed to meet global demand by 2050.

The biodiversity loss was a result of resources being consumed faster than the planet could replace them, the authors said. They added that if the world’s population shared the UK’s lifestyle, three planets would be needed to support their needs.

The planet’s resources are overused by 25% per capita. The US uses four times the resources of South Africa—Internet

**US soldier missing in Baghdad**

**BAGHDAD, 24 Oct**—A US soldier was reported missing in Baghdad on Monday, the military said, and troops backed by armoured vehicles and helicopters were conducting house-to-house searches in the capital’s centre at night.

The soldier, part of a multi-national division in the Iraqi capital, went missing at about 7.30 pm local time (1630 GMT), the US military said in a statement.

“Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces immediately responded to attempt to locate the soldier, the search is ongoing,” the statement said.

US troops in Humvee armoured vehicles launched an intensive search in Baghdad’s central Karrada District, combing houses, hotels and a Shiite television centre as they looked for the missing soldier, senior Iraqi security officials said.

The sound of military helicopters could be heard flying over central Baghdad, which was under a regular night curfew.—MNA/Reuters

**Most Americans say no one is winning in Iraq**

**WASHINGTON, 24 Oct**—Sixty per cent of the US public said no one is winning in Iraq, a new poll released on Monday showed. The CNN poll, conducted over the past three days, found that only one in five of those surveyed believed the United States was winning the war in Iraq, a number that had dropped by half since December last year.

Eighteen per cent, on the other hand, believed guerrillas were winning in Iraq, according to the poll, which was conducted of 1,013 adult Americans and had a sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Nearly two-thirds — 64-per-cent of those polled — believed the United States was winning in Iraq, according to the poll, which was conducted of 1,013 adult Americans and had a sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The poll also found increased pessimism for the war on terrorism. Sixty per cent were dissatisfied with the way things were going for the United States in that effort, up from 53 per cent in September.

**Chinese President Hu Jintao and other top state leaders meet with members of the seventh council of All-China Association of Journalists (ACJA) and representatives who take part in the first meeting of the seventh council of ACJA held in Beijing on 24 Oct, 2006. —XINHUA**
Chinese PM appreciates Sino-Japan Friendship Organization’s efforts

BEIJING, 24 Oct — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here Monday that he values the efforts made by the New China-Japan Friendship Committee for the 21st Century.

During a meeting with members of the committee, Wen thanked them for their long-term efforts to promote friendship and break the political stalemate between the two countries.

He also expressed his appreciation for the establishment of the “China-Japan Friendship Fund” at the committee’s suggestion, which promotes nongovernmental exchanges, especially between young people.

Wen said maintaining friendship between the two countries is the common desire of the two peoples and nothing can resist it.

He said he hopes the committee will continue to offer suggestions about how to achieve stable and healthy relations between the two countries.

Yotaro Kobayashi, the top representative of the Japanese side, thanked Wen for his appreciation and encouragement for their work.

He said the Japanese members are willing to closely cooperate with Chinese counterparts to promote relations between the two countries.

Before visiting China, Kobayashi visited Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe last Tuesday.

Abe said he hoped that Japan can build strategic, mutually beneficial relations with China on the basis of Japan-China friendship.

Four US soldiers died in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct — Four more American soldiers were killed in assorted violence in Iraq on Sunday, the US military said, bringing the death toll of American troops in Iraq this month to 85.

Two American soldiers died at approximately 11:25 am on Sunday after terrorists attacked their patrol with small-arms fire west of Baghdad, the military said.

A US soldier died at approximately 1:00 pm on Sunday after his patrol struck a roadside bomb in eastern Baghdad, according to a separate statement.

About half an hour later, the fourth was killed when his patrol was attacked by small-arms fire southwest of Baghdad, the military said.

The latest fatalities raised the US troops’ death toll in Iraq this month to 85, making October probably the deadliest month for US forces since January 2005.

American commanders have attributed the death toll rise to a surge in violence during the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan and more US operations in Baghdad.

Since the US-led war in Iraq broke out in March 2003, a total of 2,798 US soldier have died in Iraq.

Vietnam prepares against bird flu outbreaks among humans

HANOI, 24 Oct — Vietnam is actively preparing human forces, health equipment and medicines to combat potential bird flu outbreaks among people, the local newspaper Youth reported on Monday.

The country has prepared 1 million tablets of anti-bird flu medicine Tamiflu, 1,000 respirators, 100 tons of disinfection chemical Chloramin B, and hundreds of thousands of gloves and masks.

Last week, Vietnam carried out a rehearsal on combating potential bird flu outbreaks among humans in the capital city of Hanoi.

The Vietnamese Health Ministry said on Monday that the country has seen no new human cases of bird flu infections since mid-November 2005.

Vietnam has confirmed 93 cases, including 42 fatalities, in 32 cities and provinces since December 2003.

Termites attack 5,000 trees

Jockeys ride their horses to compete during the 2006 National Speeding Horse Racing tournament in Nanjing, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 24 Oct, 2006. —INTERNET

A middle school student holds a model of jinrikisha during a show of nearly 100 mini cycles in various historical periods in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 24 Oct, 2006. —XINHUA

Internet

Termites have rendered nearly 5,000 trees along public roads on the island a danger to motorists.

Among the worst hit are trees along Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah — Penang’s millionaires row — which are beginning to tilt.

Other areas are Pantai Jerejak, Jalan Kelawes, Jalan Burmah, Jalan Mesjid Negeri, Island Glades, Jelutong and Taman Sri Nibong.

The Penang Municipal Council has chopped down some 1,500 termite-infested trees since 1997.

The council has also rehabilitated trees in these areas through regular pruning of the infested branches.

An anti-termite specialist in the council’s landscaping unit said heavy traffic and road widening works usually weakened the roots of trees, making them susceptible to termites.

He said termites usually choose old Pong Pong, Flame of the Forest and rain trees as these had more sap.

The council had been spraying insecticide on some 1,500 heritage trees here in a bid to preserve their existence. As a preemptive measure, the council has started planting new species of trees that are more resistant to termite attack.

On innovative ways to detect the “sick” trees, he said the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) has come up with the use of ultrasound for tree screening.
Beijing to build more emergency shelters

BEIJING, 24 Oct— Ensuring a safe Olympic Games is Beijing’s priority in its plan to build over 100 more emergency shelters by 2010, the Beijing Daily reported Monday.

The Chinese capital will build emergency shelters near the Olympic Games venues and the central business district before 2008, according to the city’s emergency response and disaster relief plan for the next five years.

Beijing has built 28 emergency shelters in school playgrounds, parks, city squares and stadiums over the last few years.

Provided with drinking water, electricity and other facilities, each of them can accommodate between 60,000 to 100,000 people during an earthquake or other emergency.

With 20 to 30 emergency shelters to be built each year for the next few years, by 2010 Beijing will be able to shelter all of its citizens in the event of a disaster, according to the plan.

One killed in WWII bomb explosion in Germany

BERLIN, 24 Oct— One person was killed and five others injured in an explosion of a World War II bomb in southern Germany on Monday, police said.

The explosion occurred on the A3 highway near Asch-affenburg, where a one-ton highway maintenance vehicle cutting concrete struck the 250-kilo bomb, police said. The 46-year-old operator of the machine was killed on the spot. Four other workers and a passing female motorist were treated for shock after the explosion, which left a deep crater in the highway.

Wreckage from the blast damaged several passing cars and trucks and hit two houses 500 metres away, according to police. Debris of the maintenance vehicle lay scattered hundreds of metres from the scene.

The A3 railway running from the Dutch border in the south to Leeuwarden near Amsterdam has been closed in both directions, police said. Undetonated bombs from World War II, Nuremburg and on to Austria, has been closed in both directions.

Iraqi police find ten bodies in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 24 Oct— The Iraqi police patrols found 10 unidentified bodies in different neighbourhoods in Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said.

“Our patrols found seven bodies in Karkh area, the western side of Baghdad, and three others in Rasafa area, the eastern side of the capital since today’s morning,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The bullet-riddled bodies were bound, blindfolded, showing signs of torture, he said. On Saturday, up to 17 bodies in execution-style were found in Baghdad, the source added.

UN and Iraqi officials estimate that more than 100 Iraqis are killed every day in insurgent attacks and sectarian fighting.

Russia has no plans to resume Georgia flights

MOSCOW, 24 Oct— Russia has no plans to re-open air links with Georgia, which it severed over a spying row, Interfax news agency quoted Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov as saying on Monday.

Asked at a meeting with European businessmen if flights between Moscow and Tbilisi would be allowed to resume, Lavrov said: “The answer is simple. For the time being we do not plan to do that,” Interfax reported.

Russia cut air, road and rail links after Georgia arrested four Russian Army officers last month for spying. They were released but Moscow has ignored appeals from Western governments to lift the sanctions and start talks with Tbilisi.

Bad weather slows S Korean search for Russian ship

SEOUL, 24 Oct— Bad weather was hampering efforts to recover a Russian cargo vessel and its 18 crew members, whose fate remained unknown on Tuesday, a day after the vessel lost radio contact off South Korea’s coast, officials said.

The 2,448-ton Sinegorye, carrying timber, sent a mayday call on Monday at around noon about 70 miles (110 kilometres) off Ullung Island on the east coast, the South Korean Coast Guard said.

Two large patrol boats and a search aircraft were dispatched to the area but the vessels experienced difficulty reaching the area until well into the night, a Coast Guard official said by telephone.

“It is too early to talk about the fate of the crew members,” the official said.

Downing at dawn break. “Weather conditions remain extremely bad.” The vessel is believed to have sunk, but the Coast Guard was not able to confirm it yet, the official said.

The vessel was sailing from Russia’s Far East to China when water rushed into its cargo compartment in high winds and tides, the coast guard said in a statement.

Models present outfits by Greek fashion house La Stampa during the Greek Fashion week at the Zappeio Hall in Athens on 23 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET
Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presides over Plenary Session of National Convention. — MNA

Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Development Committee and the State service personnel of the respective ministries, other invited delegates, delegates from Shan State (North) Special Region-1, Shan State (North) Special Region-2, Shan State (North) Special Region-3, Shan State (North) Special Region-4, Shan State (North) Special Region-5, Shan State (South) Special Region-6, Kachin State Special Region-1, Kachin State Special Region-2, Kayah State Special Region-1, Kayah State Special Region-2, Kayah State Special Region-3, Kayinni National Democratic Party (KNDP) (Dragon) Group, Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP) (Hoya), Kayinni National Unity and Solidarity Organization (Ka Ma Sa Nya), Democratic Kayin Buddhist Organization (DKBA) and Haungthayaw Special Region Group, Nyeinchanay Mysothit Group from Hpa-an Township of Kayin State, Burma Communist Party (Rakhine State Group), Arakan Army (AA), Hmeein Region Development and Welfare Group, Shwepyiaye (MTA), Manpan People’s Militia Group, Mon Peace Group (Chaungchi Region) and Mon Na Seik Chan Group that had exchanged arms for peace.

Before the Plenary Session of the National Convention, Chairman of the NCCC Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Commission members, Chairman of the NCCWC Chief Justice U Aung Toe and Work Committee members, Chairman of the NCCMC Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and Management Committee members, chairmen and officials of the subcommittees, delegates of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of the National Races, Peasants, Workers, Intellectuals and Intelligentsia, State Service Personnel, and Other Invited Persons, signed attendance books at Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall.

NCCC Chairman Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presided over the Plenary Session of National Convention and Secretary of NCCC Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan acted as Master of Ceremonies.

The MC declared the start of the group meeting as 1,070 out of 1,081 delegates were in attendance, accounting for 98.98, and the plenary session commenced with the permission of the meeting chairman.

First, NCCWC Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe clarified matters on laying down the detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw in drafting the State Constitution.

(The clarifications made by U Aung Toe and U Aye Maung are reported separately)

When the Plenary Session resumed at 10.30 am, Secretary of NCCWC U Thaung Nyunt read out the clarification made by the chairman on laying down the detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw in drafting the State Constitution.

Afterwards, Member of NCCWC Dr Tun Shin read out the clarification made by the chairman on laying down the detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw in drafting the State Constitution.

When the Plenary Session resumed at 11.40 am, Member of NCCWC Brig-Gen Mya Win read out the clarification made by the chairman on laying down the detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw in drafting the State Constitution and the Plenary Session went into recess at 12.15 pm.

(The clarification made by U Thaung Nyunt, Dr Tun Shin and Brig-Gen Mya Win will be reported.)

The Plenary Session continues tomorrow at 9 am. — MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct — The Saddhasumana Drama for Marionette Contest of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held for the final day at University of Veterinary Science, here, this evening. Ayeya Hline Marionette Troupe representing Ayeyawady Division participated in the contest. Among the audiences were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Win, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Electricity Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Kyaw Aung, Secretary of the Leading Committee Col Yan Naing Oo of Nay Pyi Taw Command, family members of regiments and units of the command and cultural troupes of States and Divisions. — MNA

14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continue

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct — The 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for eleventh day at the University of Veterinary Science, auditorium hall and lecture theatre of the University of Agriculture, auditorium hall of Forest Research Department and convocation hall of the University of Agriculture here.

It was attended by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Sue Naing, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, the deputy ministers, the secretary of the Leading Committee and officials and guests.

At the final day of marionette contests, eight contestants participated at the amateur level (second class) men’s and women’s marionette contests. It was supervised by the chairman and members of the Panel of Judges for marionette contest.

Altogether 12 took part in the amateur level (second class) men’s, four in the basic education level (aged 15-20) girls’ and seven in the higher education level women’s xylophone contests. At the harp contests, four competed in the amateur level (first class) men’s, three in the amateur level (first class) women’s, three in the higher education level men’s and six in the higher education level women’s harp contests.

Altogether four took part in the higher education level men’s, two in the higher education level women’s, eight in the amateur level (first class) men’s, two in the amateur level (first class) women’s mandolin contests. At the solo orchestra contests, two teams took part in the basic education level (aged 15-20) girls’, four in the amateur level (first class) women’s and three in the higher education level (aged 5-10) girls’ solo orchestra contests. The contests were supervised by the chairman of the Panel of Judges for music contest and members. The 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will continue for the final day. — MNA

Chinese goodwill delegation...

Chief of General Staff General Liang Guanglie being seen off by Commander Brig-Gen Hla Hla Htay Win at Yangon International Airport.

A troupe representing Yangon Division participates in basic education level (aged 15-20) women’s orchestra contest. — MNA
As suggestions of some delegate groups are in …

(See page 9)
As suggestions of some delegate groups are in...

(21) (a) If the President sends back the bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after studying the President’s comments, can accept his comments or can decide to amend the bill, or shall make a decision to approve the bill in its original state if it does not agree the President’s comments.
(b) The President shall sign the bill and enact it into a law on the last of the said seven days if the bill so amended according to his comments or his comments are not accepted and the bill approved in its original state is sent back to him with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s decision.
(c) If the bill sent back to the President by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not signed by the President within the fixed time, the same shall be become a law in like manner as if he has, and it on the last date of the said time limit.
(22) The law signed by the President and the law deemed to have been signed by the President shall be published in the official gazette. The law shall come into effect on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention is expressed.
(23) Members of the organizations representing the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution while attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker have right to attend and give clarifications on one of the matters of the discussions and functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(24) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall —
(a) supervise the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sessions;
(b) invite the President, if the President informs him of his desire to address the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw;
(c) have the power to invite organizations and persons representing any Union level organizations formed under the Constitution to attend and give clarifications on one of the matters of the ongoing discussions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session if necessary;
(d) implement his other duties and functions designated by the Constitution or any law
(25) The Union level organizations formed under the Constitution shall submit their general situation necessary to be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with the permission of the Speaker.
(26) (a) Subject to the provisions contained in the Constitution, and the provisions prescribed in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Committee, Concerning the discussions and functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Joint Committee, a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member shall be absolutely privileged, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(b) Subject to the provisions contained in the Constitution, and the provisions prescribed in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of organizations or persons representing any one of the Union level organizations in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have the freedom of speech. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(c) However, if the persons mentioned in the above paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing law.
(27) If there arises a need to arrest a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member attending a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at the invitation of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(28) The reports, documents and Hluttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.
(b) The delegate group, the delegate group of national races, the delegate group of peasants, the delegate group of workers, the delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia, the delegate group of State service personnel, the delegate group of other invited persons — and the Union Pa-O National Organization, the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, the Lahu National Development Party, the Union Kayin League, the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party, the Wa National Development Party and the delegate group of representatives-elect of the delegate group of political parties discussed the points that I have explained, replied that they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.
Separate suggestions made by others will be presented. The National Unity Party gave a suggestion on the point “If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is, without permission of the Speaker, absent from all meetings of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Speaker shall inform the Hluttaw concerned to take action against the member according to the prescribed rules. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days no account shall be taken of any period during which the Chamber is prorogued, or is adjourned.”
The NUP agrees to the fact that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members have the duty to regularly attend the meetings, and that a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member should ask permission for his failure to attend meeting for unavoidable circumstances to the Speaker. But the delegates are living in various parts of the nation. Although communication systems have improved much at present, there can occur unexpected natural disasters such as floods and landslides. If a Hluttaw member faces such a disaster, it will be difficult for him to inform the Speaker for his absence within the fixed time of 15 days. If action will be taken against him for his failure to inform the matter in time, it may have adverse effects for the nation as well as the Hluttaw member concerned and the voters. Thus, the convention should consider extending the permitted period to 30 days.
As regards the suggestion, what the Work Committee Chairman’s clarification on the matter means is the number of consecutive days a Hluttaw member is absent from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, not the time limit for submitting a leave. An MP has enough time to submit his leave of absence if he has informed the matter since the Hluttaw convening date is announced. Fifteen days cannot be said to be few at this age when communication is so easy.
The NUP party also suggested the matter concerning the following detailed basic principle:
“(a) When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacts a law, it shall —
(i) enthrust the right to issue rules, regulations and bye-laws concerning the law to the Union level organizations formed according to the Constitution.
(ii) authorize the respective organizations or authority to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.
(b) The rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by a law shall be in consonant with the provisions contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.
(c) If both the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw decide to annul or amend any of the rules, regulations or bye-laws, it shall be presumed that the rules, regulations or bye-laws are revoked or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(d) If there is any disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning the said rules, regulations or bye-laws, it shall be decided by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.
(e) If a decision is made to revoke or amend any of the rules, regulations or bye-laws according to the paragraph (c) or paragraph (d), the decision shall be without prejudice, however, to the validity of any action previously taken under the rules, regulations or bylaws.”
The party said it found that the provisions contained in the paragraph (a) and subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d) appropriate.
But in the NUP’s view, the paragraph (e) fails to mention the responsibility concerning the mistake whose consequences may have adverse effects on the nation and the people. The fact that whether the mistake is committed inadvertently or not and whether the mistake does have adverse effects on the nation and the people should be considered.
Concerning the suggestion, I would like to say that any of the rules, regulations or bye-laws require revocation or amendments not because of mistakes only, but because of the situation also. Anyhow, the legal expression “the decision shall be without prejudice, however, to the validity of any action previously taken under the rules, regulations or bye-laws” is in accord with the practice of world countries including Myanmar for the validity of any action previously taken under the rules before making any revocation or amendments.
The NUP then said, as regards the privileges of the Hluttaw members in holding discussions, a detailed basic principle says:
“(a) Subject to the provisions contained in the Constitution, and the provisions prescribed in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Committee, Concerning the discussions and functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Joint Committee, a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member shall be absolutely privileged, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.”
(b) Subject to the provisions contained in the Constitution, and the provisions prescribed in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of organizations or persons representing any of the Union level organizations invited (See page 10)
As suggestions of some delegate groups are in … (from page 9)

to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have the freedom of speech. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the law of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

“(c) However, if the persons mentioned in the above paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing laws. Members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and members of organizations or persons representing any one of the Union level organizations invited to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have the freedom of speech in the interest of the nation and the people. But if they commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing laws. The NUP views the principle as a preventive measure against any acts that may tarnish the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s image.

As regards the physical assaults, first, action should be taken against the offender in accord with the rules and regulations of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. But as for the acts that are punishable by the existing laws, action should be taken against the offender under the existing laws in addition to the rules and regulations of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Hence, the party would like to give a suggestion to state the paragraph (c) as follows:

“However, if the persons mentioned in the above paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the rules and regulations of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the existing laws.”

As regards the suggestion, it is required to explain that the NUP proposed to add the wording “rules and regulations” to the subparagraph “(c) However, if the persons mentioned in the above paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing law.” As the proposal is comprehensive and in accord with the already-laid-down basic principles, it is a matter that requires serious consideration. A coordination was made between the members of the panel of chairmen of the Work Committee concerning the matter. A large number of National Convention delegates discussed in support of the proposal saying the subparagraph (c) of the para 26 should be stated “However, if the persons mentioned in the above paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to rules and regulations of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the existing laws.”

The delegate group of national races presented a proposal, saying, at a meeting, a Hluttaw member can stay neutral without casting his vote for the group proposing a matter or the group opposing the same matter. It is an international practice at the parliamentary meetings of nations and the UN meetings.

Suggestion in support of the following detailed basic principle has already been presented “Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting, shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.” It is my view that, the detailed basic principle of the paragraph 8 of the legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the detailed basic principle of the paragraph 7 (a) (i) and 7 (b) (i) of the legislation of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and the detailed basic principle of the paragraph 8 (a) of the legislation of the Region and State Hluttaw should be added with the provision “A hlutaw member shall stay neutral if he wishes to stay neutral without casting his vote”.

In connection with the proposal, I will explain that the detailed basic principle of the paragraph 8 (a) of the legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the detailed basic principle of the paragraphs 7 (a) (i) and 7 (b) (i) of the legislation of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and the detailed basic principle of the paragraph 8 (a) of the legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw means just to pass a matter through majority of votes of the members present and voting. Staying neutral without casting vote is the individual right of every MP. Hence, the proposed point is not necessary to be adopted as a detailed basic principle.

The delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia presented a proposal, saying, the paragraph 8 states, “Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting, shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.” The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker acting as such, shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.” Regarding the paragraph, we would like to give a suggestion. We wish a greater number of Hluttaw members to be present at the sessions. Only then the sessions can obtain a clear majority vote in deciding a matter which is in accord with the essence of democracy.

It presented another proposal, saying, in the point “The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker acting as such, shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes”, the wording “casting vote” is to be replaced with the wording “decisive vote” to enhance the dignity of the Speaker.

The Work Committee Chairman in his clarification used “casting vote” as one side will win due to the casting vote of the person acting as the Speaker in the case of an equality of votes. The Work Committee Chairman used the wording to define the meaning of the paragraph more clearly. “Casting vote” was used in the 1947 Constitution. The Constitutions of some other nations also use the Speaker’s vote as “casting vote”. Hence the wording “casting vote” is more comprehensive and clearer.

The delegate group also gave a suggestion concerning the paragraph 9 “If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is, without permission of the Speaker absent from all meetings of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Speaker shall inform the Hluttaw concerned to take action against the member according to the prescribed rules. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days, no account shall be taken of any period during which the Chamber is prorogued, or is adjourned” and the paragraph (10) “Although there are vacant seats, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to carry on its functions and duties. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of a person or more than one person who were not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.”

The expression “some person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings” is a legal usage. According to the 1973 Interpretations of the Constitution, the expression “having singular meaning is also relevant to the expression having plural meaning, and the expression having plural meaning is also relevant to the expression having the singular meaning. Hence, some person means one person only.”

Of the four papers presented by the representatives-elect group of the National Convention, which has eight delegate groups, the representatives of the National Unity Party and the Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization presented the proposals of their respective parties.

Independent representatives elect, Dr Hmu Htan of Thantlang Township Constituency, U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township Constituency, Shan State (South) and U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township Constituency, Shan State (North) in presenting a suggestion concerning the detailed basic principle “Although there are vacant seats, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to carry on its functions and duties. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.”

A detailed basic principle of the State Structure said that if there arises the need for re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union, it requires votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in each of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw must be sought if required number of votes are not received. The task of re-delineating of the territorial boundary of the nation can be carried out with votes of more than three fourths of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members. Similarly, measures for re-delineation of the territorial boundary of a Region or State shall be taken only if it receives the votes of three-fourths and above of the members elected to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. There should be a principle to prescribe a way for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to make a decision through the votes regarding the matters to be decided and passed with its approval. The facts signify the importance of the voting rights of a law maker.

So, the matter of a person who is not entitled to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sat, voted, or had participated in the proceedings of the Hluttaw should not happen any way. So, respective bodies should supervise the tasks in order to avert an undesirable situation that a person who is not entitled to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sat, voted, or had participated in the proceedings of the Hluttaw.

Other Independent Representatives-elect, U Tin Win of Kyakktal Township constituency-2, U Thein Kyi of Taungdwingyi Township constituency-1, U Hla Soe of Minbu Township constituency-2, U Mya Hlaing of Twantay Township constituency-2, U Kyi Win of Mungleadan Township constituency-1 and U Tin Tun Maung of Mungleadan Township constituency-2 presented similar suggestions.

It is found that the suggestion proper and good. If the suggestion is adopted, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will emerge in accord with the constitution when it comes into force. At that time the matter — any person who is not entitled to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sat, voted, or had participated in the proceedings of the Hluttaw, would not happen anymore.
As suggestions of some delegate groups are in ... (from page 10)

In accord with the suggestions of a large number of National Convention delegates, the following points have been adopted as detailed basic principles for the legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

1. The first session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should be held within 15 days after the beginning of the first session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

2. The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at least once a year. The maximum time limit between one meeting and another shall not exceed 12 months.

3. The following functions and duties shall be carried out at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meetings:
   (a) Recording the address delivered by the President;
   (b) Reading out and recording the message sent by the President and other messages permitted by the President;
   (c) Submitting and discussing and making decision on a bill;
   (d) Discussing and deciding the opinion and remarks of the President concerning a bill approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw;
   (e) Discussing and deciding the matter the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has to implement in accord with the provisions contained in the Constitution;
   (f) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw;
   (g) Submitting proposals, and making discussions and decisions;
   (h) Raising questions and giving replies;
   (i) Implementing the matters permitted by the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

4. The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as may be necessary.

5. The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw soonest when the President informs the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to convene a special session or an emergency session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

6. The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall convene a special session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw when at least one-fourth of the total number of members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw ask to convene the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

7. (a) The first day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be valid if more than half the number of members, who have the right to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting, are present. The meeting if invalid, shall be adjourned.

   (b) The meetings that are adjourned due to invalidity in accord with the sub-paragraph (a) as well as the valid meetings that are extended will be valid if at least one third of the Hluttaw members are present.

8. (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting, shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present.

   (b) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker acting as such, shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

9. If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is, without permission of the Speaker absent from all meetings of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Speaker shall inform the Hluttaw to take action against the member according to the prescribed rules. Provided that in computing the said period of 15 days no account shall be taken of any period during which the Chamber is prorogued, or is adjourned.

10. Although there are vacant seats, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to carry on its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are decided as invalid. (11) The functions and records of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall not be published.

12. (a) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to make laws for the whole or any part of the Union concerning the matters stated in the Union Legislative List.

   (b) If a bill initiated in the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw is approved by both Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, it shall be presumed that the bill is approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

13. (a) When the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —

   (i) entrust the right to issue rules, regulations and bye-laws concerning the law to the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution;
   (ii) fix the further period to which the law is extended;

(b) The rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by a law shall be in consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.

(c) If both the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw decide to annul or amend any one the rules, regulations or bye-laws, it shall be presumed that the rules, regulations or bye-laws are annulled or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(d) If there is any disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning the said rules, regulations or bye-laws, it shall be decided by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(e) If a decision is made to annul or amend any of the rules, regulations or bye-laws according to the paragraph (c) or paragraph (d), the decision shall be without prejudice, however, to the validity of any action previously taken under the rules, regulations or bye-laws.

14. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw —

   (a) shall give the decision on matters in connection with ratifying, cancelling and withdrawing from international agreements, regional treaties or bilateral agreements submitted by the President.

   (b) may fix the international, regional or bilateral agreements that shall need Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s approval and delegate the President to ratify, denounced and withdraw from them.

15. (a) Matters that requires decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, agreement and approval should be implemented as follows:

   (i) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the matter shall be decided within 15 days.

   (ii) If the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the discussion and decisions on the matter shall be made at the nearest Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.

iii) A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.

(b) When the President after issuing an order having the force of the Amyotha Hluttaw to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for approval, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall:

   (i) pass a resolution to approve it or not.

   (ii) fix the further period to which the said order shall continue to be in force if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves the order.

   (iii) The order having the force of law shall cease to have effect from the date on which it is disapproved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

16. (a) Of the matters included in the Union Legislative List, the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, shall have the right to submit bills on matters under their management, to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed procedures.

(b) Bills on national plans, annual budgets and taxation, which are to be submitted exclusively by the Union government shall be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed provisions for decision.

17. Except the bills that are prescribed by the Constitution to be initiated exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the bills initiated by the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution, at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be discussed initially at the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw according to the prescribed provisions.

(See page 12)
As suggestions of some delegate groups are in...

(18) If a need arises to scrutinize the bills, before they are being discussed exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, they are to be scrutinized jointly by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw bill committee and the Amyotha Hluttaw bill committee, and the bills together with the findings and comments of the joint committee can be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with prescribed provisions.

(19) If there arises disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning a bill, the bill shall be discussed and approved in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(20) (a) Within 14 days after the date the President receives the bills sent to him by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after approving them and the bills in like manner as if the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have approved them, he shall sign the bills and shall promulgate them into law.

(b) The President shall send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time to sign and promulgate it into a law.

(c) Although the President does not send a bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, if the bill is not signed by the President within 14 days after the date of presentation, the same shall become a law in like manner as if he had signed it on the last day of the said time.

(21) (a) If the President sends back the bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw together with his comments within the fixed time, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after studying the President’s comments, can accept his comments or can decide to amend the bill, or shall make a decision to approve the bill in its original state if it does not agree the President’s comments.

(b) The President shall sign the bill and enact it into a law on the last of the said seven days if the bill so amended according to his comments or his comments are not accepted and the bill approved in its original state is sent back to him with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s decision.

(c) If the bill sent back to the President by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not signed by the President within the fixed time, the same shall become a law in like manner as if he has signed it on the last day of the said time limit.

(22) The laws signed by the President and the laws deemed to have been signed by the President shall be published in the official gazette. The law shall come into force on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention is expressed.

(23) Members of the organizations representing the Union level organizations formed under the Constitution while attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker have right to explain the bills and other matters in connection with their respective organizations.

(24) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker shall —

(a) supervise the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sessions;

(b) invite the President, if the President informs him of his desire to address the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw;

(c) have the power to invite organizations and persons representing any Union level organizations formed under the Constitution to attend and give clarifications on one of the matters of the ongoing discussions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session if necessary;

(d) implement his other duties and functions designated by the Constitution or any law.

(25) The Union level organizations formed under the Constitution shall submit their general situation, necessary to be presented to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with the permission of the Speaker.

(26) (a) Subject to the provisions contained in the Constitution, and the provisions prescribed in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have freedom of speech and voting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Committee. Concerning the discussions and functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Joint Committee, a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member shall be absolutely privileged, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(b) Subject to the provisions contained in the Constitution, and the provisions prescribed in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, members of organizations or persons representing any one of the Union level organizations invited to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw have the freedom of speech. No action shall be taken against such persons for their speeches, except under the laws of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(c) However, if the persons mentioned in the above paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) commit physical assaults, they shall be liable to punishment according to the existing law.

(27) If there arises a need to arrest a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw member attending a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session or a person attending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session at the invitation of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He shall not be arrested without the prior permission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

(28) The reports, documents and Hluttaw records published by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.” — MNA
Singapore’s CPI up 0.4% in September
SINGAPORE, 24 Oct— Singapore’s consumer price index (CPI) rose by 0.4 per cent in September over the corresponding month of last year, according to the figures released by the Singapore Department of Statistics (SDS) Monday.
The price index for clothing and footwear was up 1.2 per cent in September year-on-year and that for housing up 2.0 per cent. The CPI for food grew 1.8 per cent in the ninth month of this year and that for education and stationery increased 1.6 per cent.
The CPI for healthcare grew 0.9 per cent in September. The recreation and others price index dropped by 0.3 per cent year-on-year in September, while the CPI for transport and communication continued to contract by 2.7 per cent in the same month. — MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan capital sees dengue fever cases
ISLAMABAD, 24 Oct— Pakistani capital Islamabad and the garrison city Rawalpindi have seen some 14 people infected by dengue fever disease, authorities said Monday.
Out of 77 samples received from hospitals of Islamabad and Rawalpindi over the last three weeks, 14 have been found positive for dengue fever, Pakistani Health Ministry announced Monday.
No death from the infection has so far been reported from the twin-cities, the Health Ministry said in a statement.
The samples were collected and confirmed by Pakistani National Institute of Health Laboratories.
Officials said so far some 432 people were found positive for dengue fever while 25 deaths have been reported so far since some months ago in southern Pakistani city of Karachi. — MNA/Xinhua

China to become world’s third largest automobile manufacturer
BEIJING, 25 Oct — PricewaterhouseCoopers predicts that China will produce 5.4 million units of automobiles this year, overtaking Germany to become the world’s third largest automobile manufacturer after the United States and Japan.
PricewaterhouseCoopers’ forecast is based on an analysis of business development trends among the world’s 37 major automobile producers, according to Monday’s China Automotive News. — MNA/Xinhua

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Vegetables make your mind sharp?

High consumption of vegetables — particularly green, leafy ones — might slow down cognitive decline, US researchers reported on 24 Oct, 2006.— INTERNET

BEIJING, 25 Oct— High consumption of vegetables — particularly green, leafy ones — rather than fruit will protect your brain against decline in thinking ability in old age, US researchers reported Tuesday in the journal Neurology.

The findings by Rush University Medical Centre researchers suggest a diet that includes two to three-and-a-half-cup servings of vegetables might boost the memory and protect against Alzheimer’s disease. “People who consumed two or more vegetables a day had a 35 to 40 percent decrease in the decline in thinking ability over six years,” said study leadauthor Martha Clare, associate professor at Rush University Medical Centre in Chicago. “That’s the equivalent of being five years younger in age.”

The researchers used a complete food questionnaire of 139 different food items. They asked about the participants’ usual intake and assessed the frequency of intake. During the six-year study, the participants received at least two cognitive tests that measured their memory and thinking speed.

“By far, the association with a slower rate of decline was found in the group that ate high amounts of green, leafy vegetables,” Morris said. Such foods included lettuce and tossed salad, spinach, kale and collards. Eating lots of fruit, this study found, was not associated with benefits similar to eating a vegetable-rich diet. Morris said it’s possible that some fruit may contain compounds that counteract antioxidants but further studies are needed to determine whether fruit is brain-protective.

Other research said fruit did provide similar benefit, so it is still recommended.— Internet

China launches two satellites with one rocket

TAIYUAN, 24 Oct— China successfully launched two satellites into space with a Long March-4B carrier rocket early Tuesday morning.

The two satellites, which are intended for space environment exploration, were launched from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in northern China’s Shanxi Province at 7:34 am.

One of the satellites was detached from the rocket after about 11 minutes of take-off, followed by the other about one minute later. Both have successfully entered preset orbits.

The two satellites, which form Group-02 of Shijian-6, were manufactured by the Shanghai Academy of Spaceflight Technology and China’s DFH Satellite Co, Ltd respectively. Both have a designed life of more than two years.

They will replace two Shijian-6 satellites launched on 9 September, 2004, to conduct exploration of space environment, radiation in space and their influence, parameters of physical environment of the space, and carry out other related space experiments.

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Dated: 26 October 2006

Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand.

Don’t smoke
Quake jolts Istanbul, second in days

Istanbul, 25 Oct — An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter Scale hit northwestern Turkey on Tuesday and was felt in Istanbul, just days after another quake of the same size in the area, Turkey’s earthquake monitoring centre said.

No injuries or damagedes were reported.

The quake’s epicentre was in the Sea of Marmara, which lies alongside Istanbul, and the shocks were briefly felt in Turkey’s largest city of 12 million residents.

On Friday another small quake hit the province of Bilecik, which lies across the Marmara from Istanbul, but there were no injuries.

Turkey, which lies on a major fault line, has suffered devastating earthquake quakes in the past and in August 1999 nearly 18,000 people were killed in a quake, also in the northwest.

MNA/Xinhua

WEATHER

Wednesday, 25 October, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain and thundershowers have been scattered in Shan State and upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States, Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pyay (1.50) inches, Gwa (0.83) inch and Ye (0.39) inch.

Maximum temperature on 24-10-2006 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 25-10-2006 was 76°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 25-10-2006 was 74%. Total sunshine hours on 24-10-2006 was 8.1 hours approx.

Rainfalls on 25-10-2006 were (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were 98.46 inches at Mingaladon and 111.61 inches at Kaba-Aye and 116.61 inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph from North-east at 11:40 hours MST on 24-10-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the East Central Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 26-10-2006: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin, Chin, Northern Shan and Rakhine States and upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Southern Shan and Mon States, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 60%.

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

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 26-10-2006: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 40%.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 26-10-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 26-10-2006: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 40%.
Prime Minister felicitates Austrian Federal Chancellor

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Wolfgang Schusssel, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria which falls on 26 October, 2006. — MNA

YANGON, 25 Oct— The following is the clarification made at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held at Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, today by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee on adoption of detailed basic principles for legislative functions of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to be included in the chapter “Legislation” for drafting the State Constitution.

I wish you all the delegates blessed with health and happiness and auspiciousness.

All of you, the delegates, have already known the clarification made by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee concerning the detailed basic principles for the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the chapter “Legislation” to formulate the Constitution at the plenary session of the National Convention held from 13 December 2005 to 9 January 2006 and the proposals presented by delegate groups and some delegates. The proposals included proper suggestions within the framework of the detailed basic principles to be adopted. As the suggestions of some delegate groups are in the interest of the nation and the people, the Work Committee sought the opinion of the delegate groups through the panel of chairmen.

The Work Committee thoroughly studied suggestions concerning the legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Region or State Hluttaw. Afterwards, the Work Committee submitted the comprehensive report of the detailed basic principles which should be adopted, to the National Convention Convening Commission. The Commission after studying the detailed basic principles (See page 8)

Chinese goodwill delegation leaves for home

YANGON, 25 Oct— Visiting Chinese goodwill delegation led by Chief of General Staff General Liang Guanglie of the People’s Liberation Army of the People’s Republic of China, accompanied by Maj-Gen Mya Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chinese Ambassador Mr Guan Mu, Chinese Military Attaché Senior Colonel Fan Lian Feng and officials, donated flowers, water, lights and joss sticks and homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

General Liang Guanglie signed in the visitors’ book and presented cash to the funds of the pagoda through members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The guests paid obeisance to Jade Buddha Image and religious buildings on the platform of the pagoda.

At 10.20 am, the Chinese delegation left here by air. Before their departure, Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win presented the VCD on goodwill visit and gifts to General Liang Guanglie at the lounge of the airport.

Next, the Chinese goodwill delegation was seen off at the airport by (See page 7)

As suggestions of some delegate groups are in national, people’s interest, the Work Committee seeks the opinion of the delegate groups through the panel of chairmen

Prime Minister to attend Commemorative Summit Marking the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct— At the invitation of the Government of the People’s Republic of China, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, will be visiting the People’s Republic of China to attend the Commemorative Summit Marking the 15th Anniversary of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations to be held in Nanning, the People’s Republic of China in the near future.— MNA

Clarification on Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw will be published

YANGON, 25 Oct— Clarification made by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee on laying down the detailed basic principles for legislation of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw to be included in the chapter Legislation in drafting the State Constitution at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held at Pyidaungsu Hall of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, today, will be published in dailies.

—MNA