



Build and defend the motherland

It is in the time of the Tatmadaw Government that the national reconsolidation has been made possible and rapid development achieved. It is the practical lesson that the development of the State totally rests on national unity. It is the duty of all the national brethren living in the states and divisions of the Union formed with 14 states and divisions to build and defend their motherland.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From address delivered at the graduation parade of the 4th Intake of Defence Services Medical Academy)

Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance at Coordination Meeting 1/2007 of Special Projects Implementation Committee

Due to correct approaches, thorough coordination and cooperation, nation sees more irrigation facilities, bridges, hydro-electric power stations, and industries

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance at the Coordination Meeting 1/2007 of the Special Projects Implementation Committee at the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Military Operations Hall, here, this afternoon.

Also present at

the meeting were Vice-Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, members of the Committee SPDC member General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary of the Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Committee members

SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Military Affairs Security

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Senior General
Than Shwe gives
guidance at Meeting 1/2007 of
Special Projects
Implementation
Committee.

MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 24 March, 2007

Exert concerted efforts for clean water supply

Water is essential for living beings and agriculture.

At present, nearly 200 dams and reservoirs have been built across the nation, and they are now benefiting farmland all year round.

At the same time, work is well under way to ensure clean water supply to villages in the arid zone (Upper Myanmar). As a result, those villages are now accessible to clean water supply.

Under the clean water supply project, priority is being given to 8,042 villages of Sagaing Division, Magway Division and Mandalay Division, where water is scarce. Up to the end of February 2007, the project covered 7,891 villages.

In addition, the project is being implemented in over 15,000 villages of other states and divisions, where water is scarce. Of them, over 9,000 villages are now enjoying the fruits of the project.

Up to the end of 2006-2007 fiscal year, all villages of ten townships in Sagaing Division, of 12 townships in Magway Division and of 12 townships in Mandalay Division have been accessible to clean water supply.

With the generous contributions of the State, wellwishers, organizations at home and abroad and social organizations, over 8 million people have now access to full supply of clean water. The supply of clean water to regions, where water is scarce, contributes much to development of health and social sectors of those regions. Therefore, the State and wellwishers are to make concerted efforts for successful realization of the project.

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People's Desire

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

Management Multiplier Courses for Executives, Basic USDA Courses open

NAY PYI TAW, 20 March — CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min attended the opening of Management Multiplier Course No 13 for Executives of Waw Township and Basic USDA Course No 1, Management Multiplier Course No 15 for Executives of Bago Township and Basic USDA Course No 1, organized by Bago Division USDA on 17 March.

Next, Patron of Bago Division USDA Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min made speeches at the opening ceremony of Management Multiplier Course No 13 for Executives of Toungoo Township and Basic USDA Course No 1/2007, organized by Bago Division USDA on 18 March and opened the courses.

Afterwards, the CEC Member delivered addresses at the opening of Management Multiplier Course No 25 for Executives of Ottwin Township and Basic USDA Course No 1, Management Multiplier Course No 9 for Executives of Nyaunggaybin Township and Basic USDA Course No 1 and Management Multiplier Course No 9 for Executives of DaikU Township and Basic USDA Course No 1, organized by Bago Division USDA.

MNA

Minister attends ground breaking of Nancho Hydel Power Project



NAY PYI TAW, 21 March — Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min attended the ground breaking ceremony of the Nancho Hydel Power Project being implemented on Nancho Creek 16 miles East of Pyinmana on 19 March.

Minister Col Zaw Min and Project Manager Mr Shoji Tsutsui of Kansai Electric Power Co Inc formally opened the ceremony.

The hydel power project will be equipped with two 20-MW generators and the project is expected to generate 153 million kWh.

18 quit NLD in Ayeyawady Div

YANGON, 23 March — Eighteen members of NLD in Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Division, resigned from the party of own volition on 22 February.

The eighteen persons — U Tin Moe Lwin, U Lwin Moe Aung, U Aung Myo, U Hla Myint and U Kyin Oo of Awasu village, Thazinngu village-tract, U Thein Aung, U Hla Soe, U Myo Thein Tun and U Po Hsint of Khunthaphyu village, U Kyaw Htay and U Hla Myint of Chanchaung village, U Ye Myint, U Lay Myint, U Myo Aye, U Kyaw Sein, U Myint Zaw and U Khin Myint of Thazinngu village, and U Kyaw Win of Ohnbinsu village — also sent letters of resignation to NLD HQ and the respective local authorities.

In the letter they despatched to Bogale Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Subcommittee, they said that they have no interest in NLD at all; and that they quit the party of own volition. — MNA

DRIVE SAFELY

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Discovery of protein may help treat breast, ovarian cancers

OTTAWA, 22 March—Canadian researchers have found a key protein in connection with metastatic breast and ovarian cancers, raising the hope for “smart” therapies for these diseases.

A protein called podocalyxin, which hides on the surface of tumour cells, may be an accurate predictor of metastatic cancer, the kind of invasive cancer which spreads from its original site to other parts of the body, researchers from University of British

Columbia (UBC) said.

“The nice thing about it is, since it's on the surface of cells, it actually is something that we can target antibodies to, or find a way to prevent its action,” said Dr Kelly McNagny, a stem cell expert with the UBC Biomedical Research Centre.

McNagny said the finding is a “small but important step” to developing so-called “smart” molecules to block the protein's function.

The researchers said information from this discovery may speed development of new therapies within 10 years.

“The ultimate goal is to generate new targeted, non-toxic treatments,” which is very different

from the standard “slash and burn” chemotherapy, said Calvin Roskelley, an associate professor of cellular and physiological science.

The finding has been published online by the Public Library of Science.

According to data from the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation in 2006, more than 22,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer and 5,300 died of it.

MNA/Xinhua

A giant model of a Sony PlayStation 3 is displayed near the Eiffel Tower in Paris to promote the gaming machine's sale in France on 23 March, 2007.—XINHUA



Two US soldiers killed in bomb attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 22 March—Two US soldiers were killed and a third wounded in a roadside bomb attack in southern Baghdad on Tuesday, the US military said on Wednesday.

Since the US-led war in Iraq broke out in March 2003, more than 3,220 US soldiers have been killed in the country, according to media count based on Pentagon figures. —MNA/Xinhua

Thousands of British passports issued to fraudsters

LONDON, 22 March—An estimated 10,000 British passports were issued to fraudulent applicants in the year to last September, the Home Office said on Wednesday

as it launched a new initiative to reduce identity fraud.

Face-to-face interviews for new applicants, to be introduced in May, could have helped uncover two

men convicted of terrorism-related offences who had managed to secure two false British passports each, officials said. One, a Moroccan, is serving an 18-year sentence for a

bombing in Casablanca. The other man, Dhiren Barot, who also had seven British passports issued in his own identity, was jailed for at least 40 years last November for plotting to kill thousands with attacks in Britain and the United States. Identity fraud often turns out to be the “tip of the iceberg” for individuals involved in more serious criminal activity, said James Hall, chief executive of the Identity and Passport Service (IPS).

Most fraudulent applications are done remotely, either by post or through a third party. “People think they can get away with it,” Hall said.

MNA/Reuters

Bridge collapse in Guinea kills 65

CONAKRY, 22 March—Sixty-five people were killed after a bridge collapsed under the weight of a truck packed with passengers and merchandise in south-eastern Guinea, a senior Army official in the West African country said on Tuesday.

The accident happened as the truck was heading for a local market near the remote town of Gueckedou on Monday, more than 400 kilometres (250 miles) from the capital Conakry, the official said.

“There are 65 dead. A

bridge collapsed under the weight of a truck carrying people who were on their way to a weekly market,” the military officer, who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

French radio RFI said there were seven survivors.

Traffic accidents are frequent in the former French colony and across West Africa. Roads are poorly maintained and vehicles are often decrepit and overloaded with passengers and goods. But the death toll is rarely so high.

MNA/Reuters



A hot air balloon floats past people watching the sunrise of the spring equinox at the Sun pyramids of Teotihuacan outside Mexico City, on 21 March, 2007. Hundreds of Mexicans and tourists gather at Teotihuacan every year to welcome spring equinox at the Pyramid of the Sun.—XINHUA

French study says diet rich in lignan may reduce breast cancer

BEIJING , 22 March— Consuming plant foods rich in estrogen-like compounds called lignans may help women curb breast cancer after menopause, according to a French study published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

Women should follow the general dietary

guidelines for a healthy and prudent diet, that is, consuming large amounts and varieties of fruits, vegetables and whole-grain cereal products daily (all foods rich in lignans) may also help prevent breast cancer in postmenopausal women, according to Dr Francoise Clavel-Chapelon, from the

National Institute of Health and Medical Research, Villejuif, France.

Clavel-Chapelon and associates evaluated the relationship between the amount of four types of plant ligands in the diet and breast cancer risk in 58,049 postmenopausal French women.

A total of 1,469 women

in the study group were diagnosed with breast cancer during the follow-up period of more than seven years.

Analysis of the data showed that women with the highest total amount of lignans in the diet had a 17-percent lower risk of developing breast cancer compared with women having the lowest dietary lignan levels.

The women got their lignans from fruits, vegetables, tea, coffee, and grain products including bread, breakfast cereals, rice, and pasta.

Flaxseed, which is particularly high in lignans, isn't part of the traditional French diet, but it may be becoming more common in French multigrain bread, the researchers note.

Internet



Three lynxes suckle at their mother's side after they were born in captivity at Donana National Park, south of Spain on 22 March, 2007.

INTERNET

Vietnam developing vocational training

HANOI, 22 March— Vietnam will spend state monies of 7 trillion Vietnamese dong (437.5 million US dollars) on upgrading existing vocational establishments and building new ones from now to 2010, local newspaper Transport reported Wednesday.

A total of 7.5 million people will receive vocational training in the 2007-2010 period, of whom 7.5 per cent are estimated to attend vocational colleges, 22.5 per cent schools, and 70

per cent short training courses, the newspaper quoted the country's Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs as reporting.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan warns against bird flu drug for teens

TOKYO, 22 March — The Japanese Government has ordered the importer of the bird flu drug Tamiflu to warn doctors against giving it to teenagers, the Health Ministry said on Wednesday.

The warning is to be

applied after two more teenagers were found to have injured themselves falling from buildings after taking the drug, produced by Swiss drug-maker Roche Holding AG, according to a ministry news release.

Two young people fell to their deaths last month, triggering concerns that Tamiflu, seen as effective against a possible pandemic triggered by bird flu, may induce psychiatric symptoms.

The drug is imported to Japan by Chugai Pharmaceutical. "As well as changing the warning distributed with the drug, we have directed Chugai Pharmaceutical to raise awareness among medical professionals of the risk of abnormal behaviour after taking Tamiflu," the release

said. The new warning is to include the words: "Except in cases judged to be high risk, avoid prescribing this drug to minors over the age of 10."

The text will also instruct doctors to tell those caring for younger children taking Tamiflu not to leave the patients alone. — MNA/Reuters

စက်မှုပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်တော်ပြည့်စုံစေ



Uzbek woman carries a basket full of fruit on her head during celebrations marking the upcoming Persian New Year, known as Nowruz, in the Uzbek capital Tashkent, on 20 March, 2007. —INTERNET

Singapore to set up new marriage resource centre

SINGAPORE, 22 March — To promote marriage wellness, a new marriage resource centre will be set up at the Singapore Registry of Marriages by

the end of this year, local television Channel News-Asia reported on Wednesday.

The one-stop Marriage Central, led by the Singa-

pore National Family Council (NFC), is for the public to get information, for couples who want to get married, and for married couples to promote and strengthen marriages.

"It's really about enhancing the values and teaching young people the value in long, trusting relationships," the television quoted Anita Fam, chairperson of the National Family Council workgroup on marriage, as saying. The marriage rate in Singapore fell from 49.5 per cent in 2000 to 43.2 per cent in 2005.

MNA/Xinhua



Model Paris Hilton walks the catwalk at the 2 B Free fashion show at Boulevard 3 night club in Los Angeles on 19 March, 2007.

INTERNET



Residents search for survivors in the rubble of a landslide in the the Leepa valley, about 100 km (60 miles) southeast of Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistan-Administered Kashmir on 22 March, 2007. Heavy rain across northern Pakistani mountains triggered two more landslides on Thursday that killed seven people, police said. — INTERNET

New building of T & C Group Co Ltd inaugurated

YANGON, 23 March — The new building of T & C Group Co Ltd was inaugurated on Padewun U Shwebin Street of Shwepyitha Industrial Zone (4) in Insein Township, Yangon North District this morning.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the inauguration of the new building.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and invited guests were present.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveiled the signboard of T & C Group Co Ltd and sprinkled scented



water on it.

Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party observed auto parts, mini-tractors, conversion of vehicles into CNG and trucks in the new building, and Chairman U Win Kyaw of the company conducted them around

the building.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe called for production of home-made vehicle, generator and tractor.

The company has

carried out export and import, growing of physic nut and rubber, conversion of vehicle into CNG and manufacture of auto and tractor. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveils signboard of T&C Group at Part-4 of Shwepyitha Industrial Zone.

MNA

Spain's Royal Academy launches new Spanish grammar

MEDELLIN (Colombia), March 23 — Spain's Royal Academy on Wednesday launched a new grammar for Spanish at the beginning of the 13th Congress of Spanish-Language Academy Associations in the Colombian city of Medellin.

"The *New Grammar* is not a book of black and white... because there are situations that are progressing," Garcia de la Concha, director of the Royal Academy, told Xinhua. The book, the *New Grammar*, will be discussed at the congress and await approval.

The new grammar is the product of years of study and cooperation of academies in Spanish-speaking countries, the Royal Academy and the Association of Academies, according to the director.

"This is the best grammar book ever written. It has more than 2,000 pages and has not left out any of the language's problems," said Jose Moreno de Alba, director of the Mexican Language Academy. — MNA/Xinhua

World Meteorological Day observed

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — The World Meteorological Day, which falls today, was observed at the Ministry of Transport, here this morning.

Minister for

Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe made a speech on the occasion. Next, Director-General U Tun Lwin of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology read the message of the

Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, depart-

ment heads, rectors and invited guests.

Experts also read out 14 research papers on Meteorology, Hydrology and Seismology.

MNA



Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe speaking at ceremony to mark World Meteorological Day. — MNA

“Atlantis” launch likely to be delayed until May

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 23 March — Repairing damage to a space-shuttle fuel tank from a freak hailstorm probably will push the next launch of *Atlantis* from April to mid-May, NASA planning documents show.

Managers were meeting on Wednesday to assess the repair plan and set a new target launch date for *Atlantis*, which is scheduled to fly to the *International Space Station* to deliver and install a third set of solar arrays.

Planning

documents show a targeted launch date of around 11 May.

NASA intended to launch the shuttle on 15 March but the ship had to be returned to a processing hangar to repair insulation on *Atlantis*' fuel tank. The foam was damaged

during a severe hailstorm that passed over the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida on 26 February.

The shuttle was being prepared for launch at a seaside launch pad when the storm hit.

MNA/Reuters



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and wife being welcomed by Pakistani Ambassador Mr Muhammad Nawaz Chaudhry and wife at National Day reception Friday.

MNA

HAILING THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY ARMED FORCES DAY:

Today's Myanmar and the blind Ponnas of the present era

Kyaw Min Aye

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



Once, six blind Ponnas (Brahmins) tried to imagine the shape of an elephant by the feel. The first Ponna touching the animal's body said that it was like a wall. The second reaching the tusks said it was like a spear. Likewise, the third Ponna said it was like a snake; the fourth, a pillar; the fifth, a fan; and the sixth, a rope depending on the part of the body they had touched. The six failed to imagine the actual shape of the elephant because they could not feel every part of the animal.

Nowadays, a certain Western power and its cohorts are like the Ponnas in the story as they are biased against Myanmar without viewing the nation's affairs from all angles.

The Western power and its cohorts receive wrong information on Myanmar through the so-called MPs who are fed by Myanmar politicians from inside and outside the nation, racists, ideologists and

those with personality cult, expatriates living abroad for various reasons, remnants of insurgents and the colonialist-minion media. Based on wrong information, they are putting pressures on Myanmar from their own point of view.

Their wrong accusations concerning forced labour, licensed to rape, ethnic cleansing, child soldiers, human rights violations and slow democracy transition are unrealistic and unjust as they are like the six blind Ponnas.

Since its assumption of the State responsibilities, the Tatmadaw has been upholding the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union; non-disintegration of national solidarity; and perpetuation of sovereignty — eternal cause of the nation and the people. The national strategy of the government is to sincerely serve the interest of the entire nation, without disturbing or harming others.

In accord with the national policy, the government laid down the 12 political, economic and social objectives, and is implementing them. It is giving priority to the first political objective — Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. The national people were suffering from internal insurgency for over 40 years. Unlike in the past, they are now leading a secure life. Peace, stability and the law and order are prevailing in border areas at present. Now the people can earn their living peacefully.

The government then successfully realized the second political objective — National reconsolidation. Seventeen major armed groups that launched armed opposition against the past successive governments returned to the legal fold. Peace is now prevailing in the entire nation except in some border areas where remnant insurgents are taking refuge. The sound

of guns has ended. Local people of the remote areas are enjoying socio-economic progress like their counterparts of the central regions.

In order to open more sound economic opportunities for the people, the government is implementing the four economic objectives.

As Myanmar is an agricultural country, the government is developing the agro-based economy in all aspects and effectively materializing the market economic system.

In 1988, Myanmar had a sown acreage of 19.9 million acres and a population of over 41 million. Myanmar's population is increasing at an annual rate of 2.2 per cent. The government has been reclaiming wetlands and fallow, virgin and vacant lands to ensure food sufficiency in the future.

Up to now, the government has built nearly 200 dams and 298 river water pumping stations. It has also built 999 rural irrigation canals and also artesian wells and mini dams. Hence the nation's sown acreage increased to 46.9 million acres. In the past, the nation put 11 million acres under monsoon paddy annually, now it puts 16.8 million acres under the crops. It is also growing 3.4 million acres of summer paddy annually and extending double cropping.

Hence, the nation sees an over 157 per cent rise in crops production. It extends beans and pulses sown acreage to 11 times, edible oil to three times and kitchen crops to four times. Up to 1988, the nation produced 653 million baskets of paddy

yearly. Its annual paddy output has now reached 1360 million baskets, which is more than the national food consumption requirement for the present population of more than 55.4 million.

But the population growth never stops. The government has been making arrangements to produce surplus food for the 100 million people. It is striving to produce over 1500 million baskets of paddy annually. Thanks to the government's endeavours to enhance the sound foundations, Myanmar is poised to become a main agricultural exporter of the world within four or five years.

Other economic sectors are also developing together with the agricultural sector. The government has been promoting the private economic sector, extending industries, and laying sound foundations for national industrialization. It has set up industrial banks, 18 industrial zones and over 42,000 industries. The population of the people of working age have reached 34.7 million or twice that of 1988.

Myanmar now has over 22.3 million farm workers, 4.8 million industrial workers, and 7.5 million workers in the services. It has opened opportunities for people who wish to work abroad.

The nation is also implementing the four social objectives. It now has 35,893 primary schools, up from 31,329 in 1988; 2600 middle schools, up from 1696 in 1988; and 2045 high schools, up from 722 in 1988. It is also building post-primary schools,

affiliated middle schools and affiliated high schools. The whole nation now has 41,816 schools. Every five villages have three schools.

The number of institutions of higher learning has reached over 160, up from 32 in 1988. Each of the 24 special development zones has at least one arts and science university, one technological college and one computer college.

In 1988 there were 36,000 university students. Now the number has reached 428,000. Likewise, the number of graduates at present is 1.22 million, up from 458,000 in the past. The curricular, teachership qualifications and teaching aids have been developed for the students to pursue world-class education.

The government has been implementing the 30-year national health plan to launch health care programmes in the whole nation. The nation now has 832 hospitals, up from 631; 94 special hospitals, up from 67. Every special development zone has a 200-bed hospital. More hospitals and dispensaries are being opened in border areas.

Myanmar can now remove leprosy from the main public health concerns. It is now free from polio and iodine deficiency. It is trying to control AIDS, TB and malaria with international assistance. It is also paying attention to drug rehabilitation task. Life expectancy is rising significantly. Those are all the results of the goodwill

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Today's Myanmar and the blind Ponnas...

(from page 6)

endeavours of the Tatmadaw government.

The three pillars — peace and stability, robust economy and education development are essential for building a democratic state. The government is reinforcing the three pillars for the future nation. It has declared its seven-step Road Map internationally to build a democratic state after adopting a new constitution.

The National Convention has been laying down and adopting detailed basic principles. It will conclude successfully in the near future.

The fundamental principles and detailed basic principles adopted by the National Convention guarantee the practising Union system, multiparty system and market economy in accord with public wish.

As it is now in a transitory period, the government has been making all-out arrangements for the flourishing of democracy in the nation.

But the neo-colonialists who are like the blind Ponnas are making baseless accusations against Myanmar, while ignoring the development in democracy transition. The work of introducing democracy is easier said than done. History of the US democracy stands witness to the fact. In Iraq democracy is like a lotus

in the inferno.

The US gained independence on 4 July in 1776 after freeing itself from under the British rule. It held the National Convention in 1787 with the participation of about 55 delegates to draw a constitution. It had faced and overcome the danger of union fragmentation before the period. The constitution was not comprehensive at first. Only in 1971, it became comprehensive.

So if the US is said the grandfather of democracy, Myanmar will be just toddler. So, how can one say that democracy transition in Myanmar is slow?

Myanmar has advanced to the present stage from a least developed nation on own strength. All nations that have become developed at present received foreign assistance. They developed fast. But they too have social problems till now.

Myanmar faced internal armed insurgency for over 40 years. Myanmar was stranger to capitalist economy as she was practising socialist economy. Some of the few infrastructures were destroyed during the 1988 unrest.

The Tatmadaw government has extended development infrastructures till reaching border areas. It has striven to develop the rural areas. It has developed all the sectors. The government has left no stone unturned. Hence, the

people are enjoying the fruits of progress at present.

Let alone development, the people of border areas had not even seen peace and stability in the past. Few in rural areas were able to enjoy the fruits of progress. And for the urban people they could enjoy the fruits to a certain degree.

All the over 55.4 million people of Myanmar including those of border areas are enjoying the fruits of peace and all-round development. Moreover all-round development reaches every corner of the nation.

But Myanmar's situation is in contrast with other developing countries that are receiving assistance in running their development drive which is free from disturbances. Since 1993, the Western power and cohorts have been imposing sanctions against Myanmar. They are like the blind Ponnas. If there are not sanctions, Myanmar will develop two fold.

Like the parents who are always fair in attending to the needs of their children, the Tatmadaw has equal goodwill for all citizens. Hence, the people are joining hands with the Tatmadaw in the nation-building endeavours with family spirit.

The people are contributing manpower and financial assistance to infrastructure building projects. They are also building self-reliant roads

and bridges, sinking tube-wells, rural water supply networks, and donating schools, hospitals, dispensaries, power generators and libraries, with a view to serving the national interest.

Except from a handful of persons that are against the government, all the national races are playing their own role for national all-round development.

The nation never expects any foreign assistance with strings attached. It carries out the nation-building tasks with united efforts.

Prospects are high in all sectors due to the development reaching all fields. The nation will produce 5863 megawatts when 20 ongoing hydel power projects are completed. The nation's power generation will exceed the local demand within three or four years. The Tatmadaw government has never done anything bad, but only good for the nation and people. Despite the disturbances and sanctions, it is shaping a better future of the nation. It is true that the government has striven for the nation to enter a golden age. Intelligent people know the essence of the nation-building tasks.

The Western power and cohorts should have vision that pressures will not benefit Myanmar's democracy transition. They will only push the people into abject poverty. They should re-assess their deeds to know whether their acts are fulfilling the national requirements or destroying the human resources.

If they have real humanitarian spirit, they should visit Myanmar and see with their own eyes the nation's objective conditions. They should not be like those blind Ponnas.

Myanmar has never threatened regional and international peace and security. It has been building a peaceful modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state to serve the public interest.

Objectives of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day

- * **To work in concert with the people in building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation**
- * **To strive for successful realization of the seven-step Road Map of the State with genuine Union Spirit**
- * **To crush every danger posed to stability and development of the State hand in hand with the people**
- * **To build a strong, capable and modern patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes**

POEM:

Soldier's virtue

- * **Not the mercenaries
Working for pay**
- * **Making sacrifices
Not to earn living**
- * **Not the stupid thugs
Nor the uneducated**
- * **But from a good family
Educated and intelligent
We enlist into Tamadaw
With love for nation**
- * **Knowing all hardships
But never expecting self-interest
We join Armed Forces
Because of love for race**
- * **With wish to glorify
Nation, history
And enhance
Myanmar glory, prestige
We, soldiers
Pledge to serve the nation
Of our own volition
No regret even neglected
With heart of stone
And Myanmar pride
We of true Myanmar blood
Strive for victory with patriotism
Come, match against us if you deserve so
Come, match against us if you dare
Precious lives of soldiers
Difficult but honourable**

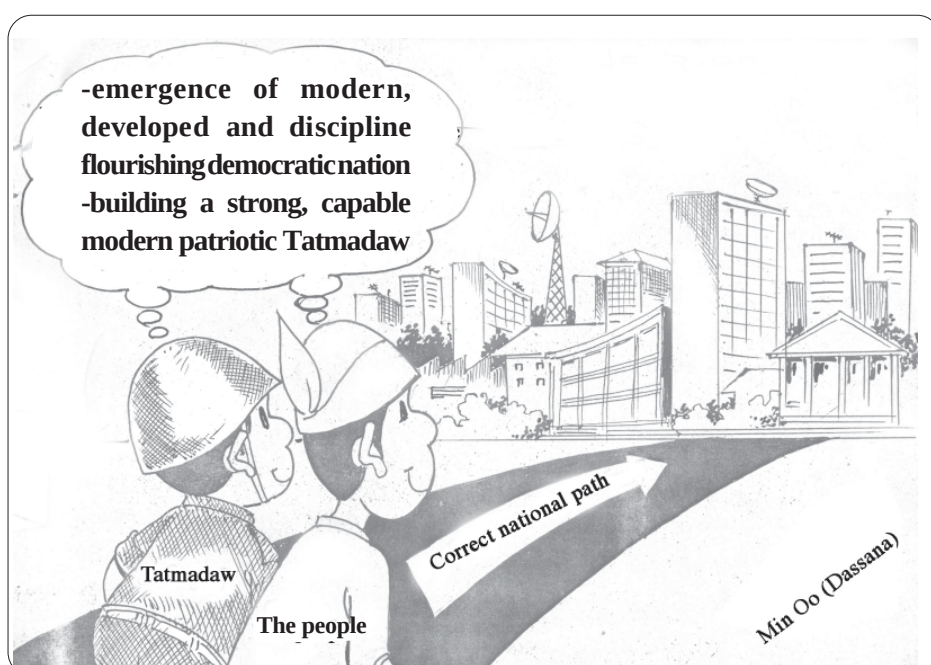
Zaw Min Min Oo (Trs)

(Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day)

If the said power and cohorts do not have the correct vision, they will be like the blind Ponnas or the fox that said, "Grapes are sour". But they are unmatched to our national strength with which we are achieving rapid development. No one can disturb or

weaken our national strength. With this article I honour the Tatmadaw government's endeavours for emergence of a peaceful modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

(Translation: TMT)



Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance at ...

(from page 1)

Chief Maj-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads and officials.

Joint-Secretary of the Committee Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the SPDC Office acted as MC.

The Senior General in his speech said that the purpose of the meeting was to review the construction projects.

Normal efforts are not enough to achieve success in rebuilding the nation that lagged behind in development, he pointed out. In the process, the forces in various sectors are to be welded and efforts are to be exerted with added momentum to achieve the goal.

The Special Projects Implementation Committee was thus established, and the projects scheduled for national progress were scrutinized and implemented through collaborative efforts.

The projects to be implemented need huge investments with large work volume.

So, it will be ineffective if the ministry concerned

region-wise to bring about equitable development in all parts of the Union, and narrow the development gap between one region and another. Now, states and divisions are enjoying remarkable progress, resulting from new roads, bridges, irrigation facilities, higher learning institutions and modern hospitals.

The development momentum is to be accelerated in the interests of the people. So, special projects are to be implemented constantly.

Realizing that special projects play an important role in the drive for national development, the ministry concerned is to take effective measures by doing its bit.

The projects are grouped into two categories—short-term and long-term ones. The ministries have to exert strenuous endeavours to complete the projects on schedule or ahead of schedule.

He called for efficient use of the funds on the project. In this regard, responsible persons are to make field trips to the project sites to be able to supervise the tasks.

Only then will the projects be completed ahead of schedule with less expenditure. And the people will be able to enjoy the fruits of the projects earlier than scheduled.

With earnest efforts and harmonious cooperation, there will be more basic foundations necessary for



**Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation
Maj-Gen Htay Oo. — MNA**

Palway Dam Project will be implemented near Kyauklongyi Village, 20 miles from Pynmana to irrigate 3,000 acres in the township for regional development. The project will supply water to Chaungmange irrigated area.

Phaunglaung Dam Project will be implemented



Ma Mya Dam Project is being implemented on Ma Mya Creek, one and a half miles north west of Hmyinwataung Village near Pathein-Monywa Road in Myanaung Township.

alone takes all responsibilities to complete such a giant project. And necessary arrangements are made to implement the project through the supervision of the central level and cooperation of all relevant ministries.

Due to correct approaches and thorough coordination and cooperation, the nation has seen more irrigation facilities, bridges, hydroelectric power stations, and industries one after another.

And the people are now enjoying the results of the projects.

The government is implementing necessary projects

building a new developed nation, he said.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on matters related to implementation of Sitha Supporting Dam Project, Palway Dam and Phaunglaung Dam projects.

Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation will implement Sitha Supporting Dam Project on Sitha Creek near Sitha Village of PynOoLwin Township with a view to supplying 1 million gallon of water to Yadanabon Myothit of PynOoLwin Township daily and irrigating more water to the farmlands.

on Phaunglaung Creek near Meelaunggon Village, 15 miles from Pynmana. On completion, the dam can irrigate 400 acres in Pynmana Township for regional development.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung submitted matters on Pakokku Garment Factory (Project), Myittha Textile Factory (Project), Pyawbwe Textile Factory (Project), Advanced Insulator Factory Project (Chauk), Cement Plant (Nay Pyi Taw) and other factory projects.

The Ministry of Industry-1 is building personal and household goods factories with the aims of fulfilling the basic needs of the people, developing the regions, creating job opportunities and enabling people to use local goods made at reasonable price.

Pakokku Garment Factory built on Pakokku-Myaing Road can manufacture 12 million pieces of shirts. The factory started going into commercial operation in July 2006.

Plans are under way to build Myittha Textile Factory (Project) near mile post No 387 of Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Langwa Village-tract of Myittha Township and Pyawbwe Textile Factory (Project) near Pyithaya Myothit in Pyawbwe Township. Each factory will be able to produce 5.472 million pounds of thread a year.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Industry-1 will implement the Advanced Insulator Factory Project (Chauk) that will manufacture 800 tons of advanced

(See page 9)



Garment Factory (Pakokku) manufactures 1.2 million pieces of garment yearly.

**Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung.**

MNA

**Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin.**

MNA

**Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun.**

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance at ...

(from page 8)

insulators a year. The factory will be built beside Chauk-Sale Road, four miles from Chauk. The insulators are used in power lines.

The ministry will build 500-ton Cement Plant (Nay Pyi Taw) near Taungphila Hill, 12 miles from Thawutthi of Lewe Township.

The 80-ton Brown Paper Factory, the 50-ton CTMP Factory and the 120-ton Mineral Salt Factory are under construction near No 2 Paper Factory (Yeni) in Yedashe Township.

Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported on construction of factories and

progress of tasks, and implementation of Aluminum Wire Cable Factory (Project).

In Thagara Industrial Region of Yedashe Township, Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory (Project), Bulldozer and Excavator Factory (Project) and Hydrel Power Turbine and Generator Factory (Project) are being implemented.

On completion, Multi-purpose Diesel Engine Factory will manufacture 128 ZC series engines such as 6V 128 ZC engine (250-400 hp), 8V 128 ZC engine (330-540 hp), and 12V 128 ZC engine (500-800 hp). Likewise, Bulldozer and Excavator Factory will

manufacture SD 22-M bulldozers and SC 220.7-M excavators. Hydrel Power Turbine and Generator Factory (Project) will also produce 100-kilo, 500-kilo, 2000-kilo and 5000-kilo turbines and generators.

On completion, Radial Tyre Factory in Bilin Township is expected to produce nine types of Radial tyres for vehicles.

Ministry of Industry-2 will also establish a factory in Pahtosan Village of Magway Township to produce aluminum conductor steel reinforced cables to be used for the grid.

Regarding the construction of bridges and roads, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun reported on arrangements for keeping a record of construction

of roads and bridges and construction of Patheingyi-Thalathkha-Mawtinsun Road, Swa Creek Bridge and Bago Bridge.

Ministry of Construction has laid down short and long term plans and has constructed roads and bridges across the country. The length of road has increased from 13,635 miles in 1988 to 19,194 miles and 6 furlongs in March in 2007 and therefore, the ministry constructed 5,559 miles and 6 furlongs.

Till 1988, there were 3,305 bridges which are under 180 feet long. A total of 2,074 bridges have been constructed from 1988 to March 2007 by the ministry, the number of under 180-foot-long bridges reaches 5,379.

There were 180-foot and above long 198 bridges before 1988. The ministry constructed 203 bridges which are 180 feet and above long.

Regarding the construction of road, construction work of Patheingyi-Thalathkha-Mawtinsun Road was launched in 1989. So far, 42 miles of the road have been placed with gravel while earthwork of 42 miles have been completed.

The road will be upgraded from an earth road to a gravel road, and to an asphalt road. On completion of Patheingyi-Thalathkha-Mawtinsun Road, residents can travel to coastal regions through the road and their health, economic and social standards will improve.

Swa Creek Bridge on Yangon-Man-

dalay Highway is old and one-lane bridge. As the bridge can no longer withstand the increasing loads of trucks, it will be replaced with a new one. The new bridge will be 270 ft long and 48 ft wide. It will be a four-lane road and it is expected to withstand 60 tons of load.

Having become the old dual bridges on Yangon-Mandalay Highway, the two bridges across Bago River in Bago can no longer withstand the loads of trucks which have increased day by day. As the dual bridges are also located in a strategic place in Bago, the town has experienced traffic congestion. Therefore, the two bridges are required to be replaced with new one.

Therefore, Ministry of Construction has arranged to construct a 72-foot-wide reinforced concrete bridge and to replace it with the old ones. The new bridge will be 360 ft long and is expected to withstand 60 tons of load.

Afterwards, Minister for Electric Power No 1, Minister for Electric Power No 2, Minister for Transport, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, Minister for Energy, Minister for Rail Transportation and Minister for Forestry reported on projects of respective ministries.

The coordination meeting ended in the evening.

Reports of the ministries at the coordination meeting will continue to be published. — MNA



Pyapon Bridge in Pyapon Township, Ayeyawady Division. With the length of 3,933 feet, Pyapon Bridge is located on Pyapon-Dedaye-Kungyangon Road.

LPDR President, wife pay homage to Shwedagon, Kyaikhtiyoe pagodas, visit Hlinethaya Industrial Zone

YANGON, 23 March — At the invitation of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, a delegation led by President of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Choummaly Sayasone and Madam Keosaychay Sayasone visited the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon and the Kyaikhtiyoe Pagodas in Kyaikhto Township, Mon State, this morning.

The Laos President, wife and party also visited Hlinethaya Industrial City here in the afternoon.

While visiting the Shwedagon Pagoda, the goodwill delegation members paid homage to Buddha images at the prayer hall in the western archway of the pagoda and offered flowers, light, water to the images.

The Laos President and wife signed the visitors’ book and donated cash to the pagoda. Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepted cash donation and presented the painting depicting the Shwedagon Pagoda to the President and wife, who left there at 9 am.

On arrival at the Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda, the Laos President, wife and party were welcomed by Chairman of Mon State PDC Commander of South East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win, wife and officials.

The Laos President, wife and party paid homage to the Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda and offered flowers, water

and light to the pagoda, and signed the visitors’ book.

Next, the commander and wife presented gifts to the Laos President and wife.

The Laos President applied gold foils on the pagoda and donated cash to the pagoda. And the chairman of Pagoda Board of Trustees presented gifts to the President.

The Laos President, wife and party arrived back in Yangon in the afternoon.

They also visited Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon North District. At Kanaung hall of the industrial zone, Director-General U Aung Win elaborated on the industrial zone to the President and party, who later raised queries. The goodwill delegation members proceeded to Tokyo Pipe Factory of Myanmar Pipes and Accessories Co Ltd and observed production process of the factory.

Subsequently, the Laos President and party paid a visit to FAME Pharmaceutical Factory and viewed production process of the factory. The Laos President signed the visitors’book of the factory and left there at 3 pm.—MNA

Lao People’s Democratic Republic President Mr Choummaly Sayasone and Madam Keosaychay Sayasone and delegation members pose for documentary photo at Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda. —MNA



President Mr Choummaly Sayasone and Madam Keosaychay Sayasone conclude visit to Myanmar



Lao People’s Democratic Republic President Mr Choummaly Sayasone and Madam Keosaychay Sayasone being seen off by Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win. — MNA

YANGON, 23 March—President of Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Choummaly Sayasone and Madam Keosaychay Sayasone and party, who were here on a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar at the invitation of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, left here by special flight this evening.

The goodwill delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and wife, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Myanmar Ambassador to LPDR U Nyunt Hlaing and wife, Director-General of Protocol

Department U Kyaw Kyaw, Laos Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kouily A Souphakhet and wife, embassy staff and their families.

On arrival at Yangon International Airport, President of Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Choummaly Sayasone and Madam Keosaychay Sayasone and party were welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife. At the lounge of the airport, Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win presented CDs on goodwill visit to President Mr Choummaly Sayasone and wife, and accepted gifts from them.

The special flight carrying President Mr Choummaly Sayasone and Madam Keosaychay Sayasone and party left the airport at 4 pm. And Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife and party bade farewell to the delegation from the VIP lounge.—MNA

Anti-human trafficking workshop held

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — A national level workshop on five-year anti-human trafficking project (draft) took place at Myanmar Police Force here yesterday.

Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi gave a speech at the workshop co-sponsored by MPF and UNIAP.

The workshop discussed international policy and four strategies — cooperation, prevention, legal action and protection. Experts discussed the year-wise implementation of the project.

Other participants gave suggestions.

The workshop made coordination on the adoption of the draft.

MNA

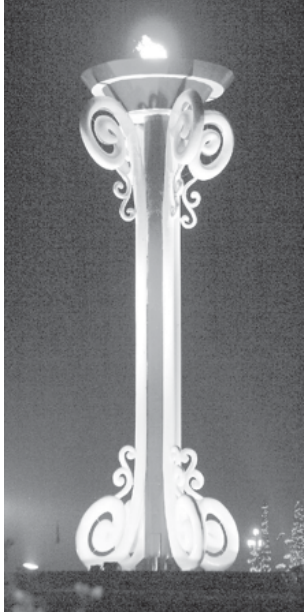


Secretary of Central Committee for Prevention against Human Trafficking Director-General of MPF Police Brig-Gen Khin Yi delivers address at national level workshop on five-year anti-human trafficking project (draft). — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects...

(from page 16)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected the parade drill of Tatmadawmen, police members, members of



Armed Forces Day torch seen at Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground. — MNA

Myanmar Fire Brigade and members of Myanmar Red Cross Society of Anawrahta Column led by Column Commander Col Aung Gyi and Commanding Officer Lt-Col Kyaw Aung, Kyansittha Column led by Column Commander Col Thein Zaw and CO Lt-Col Aung Kyaw Moe, Bayintnaung Column led by Column Commander Captain Zaw Oo (Navy) and CO Cmdr Win Myint Aung (Navy), Aungzeya Column led by Column Commander Col San Win and CO Lt-Col Zaw Win Aung, Hsinbyushin Column led by Column Commander Col Than Lwin and CO Lt-Col Thet Wai, Bandoola Column led by Column Commander Col Khin Maung Hsint and CO



Three statues at Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground seen with multi-coloured lights. — MNA

Lt-Col Thurein Kyaw and Myawady Column led by Column Commander Col Nay Win and CO Lt-Col Aung Kyaw Nyunt under the command of Parade Commander Brig-Gen Myint Naung and Parade

Adjutant Lt-Col Myint Lwin.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected Tatmadawmen, MPF members, members of Myanmar Fire Brigade and Red Cross Society of

the parade companies and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party visited Tatmadaw Park and left there at 8 am.

For public visit and

relaxation, the Tatmadaw Park of Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground will be kept open from 12 noon to 9 pm on 27 March (Armed Forces Day) and from 7 am to 9 pm from 28 to 31 March. — MNA



Tatmadaw Park in Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground being illuminated. — MNA

Apple TV connects your computer to your TV

BEIJING, 22 March — Looking to take advantage of a niche in the video market provided by Internet download movie enthusiasts who are not "techie" and don't understand the intricacies of hooking up a computer to a television, Apple Corp presents Apple TV. Apple TV is a box that can connect computers and TVs without wires. After many delays, Apple TV finally went on sale Wednesday for 300 US dollars.

Apple does have competition in Microsoft's Xbox 360 (400 dollars), which also acts as a bridge between PC and TV, and Netgear's week-old EVA8000 (350 dollars). Xbox 360 also has its own online movie store, and Netgear features an Internet connection for viewing YouTube videos and listening to Internet radio. A good feature of Apple TV is its small and quiet

compared to the Xbox, but a drawback is it requires a widescreen TV—preferably an HDTV. It doesn't work with the traditional TVs many people still have. Apple defends its audience-limiting decision by saying the future is HDTV; Apple is just "skating to where the puck is going to be," as a product manager

put it. Apple TV doesn't come with any cables. You're supposed to supply the one your TV requires (HDMI, component video or HDMI-to-DVI adapter). Basically, Apple TV is an iPod for your TV. It copies the iTunes library (music, podcasts, TV shows, movies) from one Mac or

Windows PC on your wired or wireless home network to its 40-gigabyte hard drive and keeps the copy updated. The drive holds about 50 hours of video or 9,000 songs; if your iTunes library is bigger than that, you can specify what subset you want copied — only unwatched TV episodes, for example.

Internet

Pakistan finds H5N1 bird flu in Islamabad crows

ISLAMABAD, 23 March — The deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu has been found in dead crows in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, agriculture authorities said on Thursday.

Up to 70 dead crows had been found in and around the capital recently and eight samples taken from a public park and the outskirts of the city.

Two of them tested

positive for the H5N1 strain on Wednesday, said Mohammad Afzal, livestock commissioner at the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

"We are telling people that if they find any dead bird on the street they should handle it with care," Afzal said.

Pakistan first found the H5N1 strain of the virus in February last year in North-West Frontier Province and

about 40,000 birds were culled.

Several outbreaks have been detected in chickens in small poultry farms this year and birds have been culled.

Authorities temporarily shut Islamabad Zoo last month after four peacocks and a goose died of the H5N1 strain. Pakistan has had no human cases of the virus.

MNA/Reuters

Greece, S Korea expand cooperation in "IT" communications

ATHENS, 23 March — Greece and South Korea signed on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding aimed to become the institutional framework for promoting bilateral cooperation in the fields of electronic communications and information technology.

Greek Transport and Communications Minister Mihalīs Liapis and the South Korean Information and Communications Deputy Minister Young-whan Yoo, currently on an official visit to Greece, examined the situation in electronic communications between the two

countries, along with national strategies in IT and Communications.

Telecommunications experts from both countries also met to discuss developments in the IT and Communications sectors, and ways to immediately implement measures resulting from the memorandum.

The Greek minister welcomed the signing of the memorandum of understanding as a first step towards expanding bilateral relations in these sectors to the benefits of both countries.

MNA/Xinhua

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

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(TENDER NO. 22(T) MPE/ HSD (17) 2006-2007)

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel Oil (24,000 ± 10%) Metric Tons (Gas Oil Regular 0.5%).
2. Tender Closing Date: (29-3-2007) at (12:00) hrs noon.
3. Tender Opening Date: (29-3-2007) at (13:00)hrs noon.
4. Delivery Time : Within May 2007
5. Tender Documents and detail information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing (23-3-2007) on payment of the One Hundred (100) FEC per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director,
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

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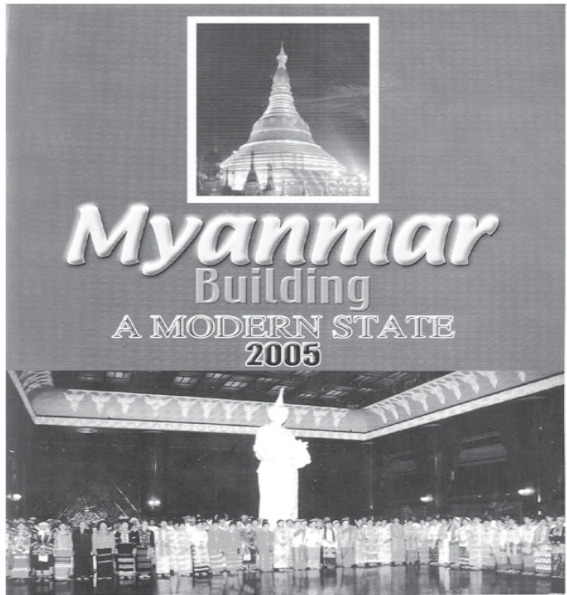
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British researchers develop intelligent, driverless model car

LONDON, 22 March—British researchers have developed an autonomous model car that could pave the way for intelligent driverless cars.

The autonomous model car developed by a research team led by Simon Lucas of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Essex will be tested on a race track at the Colchester campus during the summer, according to

a Press release by the university on Tuesday.

“As far as we are aware, this is the first time a completely autonomous model car has been developed. Similar principles have been applied to full-size cars in the past — for instance in the DARPA challenge to navigate across the Mohave Desert — but the cost implications of developing the technology using real cars mean it just isn't viable for most researchers. By using model cars, we will be able to investigate the possibilities of the technology far easier and more cheaply,” Lucas said.

The intelligent model car will be built using a standard remote control model vehicle, with a PC mounted on the chassis and a video camera, streaming real-time computer vision, along with other sensors added.

The researchers said the software written for the PC will allow the car to be fully autonomous, able to recognize obstacles and to make tactical decisions as it drives itself around the racetrack.

The Essex prototype will allow researchers across the globe to build their own autonomous cars which will race against one another at the IEEE

(Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) World Congress on Computational Intelligence to be held in Hong Kong in 2008, the researchers said.

They envisage that the technology needed to develop their prototype could pave the way for a future where driverless cars are a reality.

It is entirely possible that in the next 15 years driverless cars could be seen being used in cities around the world, probably for specific transportation needs such as taxis or delivery vehicles, according to the researchers.

MNA/Xinhua

India short of manpower in “IT” sector

BANGALORE (India), 22 March —India should quickly embrace a modern and world-class human resources policy to avoid serious shortage of manpower in information technology respect, said Narayana Murthy, head of India's software giant Infosys here on Wednesday.

“There is a serious manpower shortage. So, unless we have put in place a dynamic, forward-looking, modern and world-class human resources policy, I think we will regret,” Murthy said at an IT seminar.

“The success of India's software sector and other research and development activities is a result of an extraordinary policy that

was put in place in early 1950s by the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. We are now reaping the benefits. Unfortunately today, we do not have people who have imagination, youth, energy and enthusiasm in

framing modern, world-class human resources policy,” Murthy said.

He said that he had raised the issue with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on a number of occasions.

MNA/Xinhua

UN chief arrives in Baghdad on surprising visit

BAGHDAD, 22 March — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon arrived here on one-day unannounced visit to Iraq for talks with Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, the Iraqi television reported.

Ban and Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki are expected to hold talks in the fortified green zone, a Iraqi governmental source was quoted as saying.

This is Ban's first visit to Iraq after he took over Kofi Annan as the UN chief. Annan visited Baghdad in November 2005. Ban will be in Baghdad for only one day to hold talks with premier Maliki, confirmed UN officials, declining to give more details about the visit.

Internet

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Scientists find brain area where morality, emotions clash

BEIJING, 23 March — Scientists may have pinpointed the area in the brain where morality and emotions clash in dicey situations. The area is the ventromedial prefrontal

cortex (VMPC), according to a new study in the journal *Nature* released this week.

Conducted by researchers at the University of Southern California,

studied six people who suffered VMPC damage as adults. For comparison, they also looked at 12 healthy adults with no brain damage and 12 adults with brain damage that didn't affect the VMPC or other emotion-related areas.

All subjects were asked 50 questions involving moral dilemmas.

Each question required a "yes" or "no" response, and the questions varied from easy nonmoral to very agonizing moral dilemmas (like throwing the person out of the lifeboat).

The subjects with VMPC damage stood out in their stated willingness to harm an individual — a prospect that usually generates strong aversion.

"Because of their brain damage, they have abnormal social emotions in real life.

They lack empathy and compassion," said Ralph Adolphs, Bren Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience at Caltech.

"In those circumstances most people without this specific brain damage will be torn.

But these particular subjects seem to lack that conflict."

The researchers aren't calling the VMPC-damaged participants cold or immoral.

But they say the findings support the theory that the VMPC is involved in making personal, emotional, intense moral decisions.

Internet



The scientist find clash area in brain.— INTERNET

Harvard University, Caltech and the University of Iowa, the study shows that emotion plays an important role in scenarios that pose a moral dilemma.

"If certain emotions

are blocked, we make decisions that — right or wrong — seem unnaturally cold," they wrote.

Michael Koenigs of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and colleagues

WHO says global tuberculosis epidemic levelling off

GENEVA, 22 March — Tuberculosis (TB) is still a major cause of death worldwide, killing 1.6 million people in 2005, but the global epidemic is on the threshold of decline, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday.

"TB prevalence and death rates have probably been falling globally for several years. In 2005, the TB incidence rate was stable or in decline in all six WHO regions," the WHO said in its 2007 Global Tuberculosis Control Report.

Should a sustained downward trend in the TB epidemic develop, it is likely that the Millennium Development Goal of achieving a decrease in the number of TB cases per year will be satisfied years in advance of the 2015 target, the WHO said.

But the report, released ahead of the

World TB Day on March 24, warned that the total number of new TB cases was still rising slowly, mainly due to the expansion of world population.

In 2005, there were an estimated 8.8 million new TB cases, with 7.4 million of them in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. A total of 1.6 million people died of the disease, which is caused by a bacterium and can be passed on through sneezing, coughing, talking, spitting, etc.

Although the TB burden may be falling globally, the decline is not fast enough to meet the targets in the Global Plan to Stop TB: to halve the 1990 prevalence and death rates by 2015, the WHO said.

Internet

Britney Spears "successfully" completes rehab



Britney Spears

BEIJING, 22 March — Nearly a month after checking into Promises Malibu Alcohol and Drug Rehab Treatment Facility, Britney Spears checked out — but to paraphrase The Eagles in "Hotel California," can she ever leave?

Spears' manager, Larry Rudolph, said in a statement she checked out "after successfully completing their programme." He then asked that Spears' privacy be respected.

Spears, 25, entered the

facility 22 Feb after a bout of bizarre behavior that included shaving her head, getting tiny lips tattooed on her wrist, beating a car with an umbrella and foregoing the wearing of underwear. Photos of the incidents were beamed worldwide.

Spears has yet to say why she sought treatment at Promises, which offers detox, counseling and 12-step programmes, although it's common knowledge she and alcohol do not go well together. — *Internet*

China to launch national survey on TB drug-resistance

BEIJING, 22 March — China's Health Ministry is to launch a two-year national survey on patient resistance to drugs to treat tuberculosis.

The survey, scheduled to start in April, will be conducted at 70 research bases covering all of China's provinces, ethnic minority regions, and four municipalities, a ministry official said.

"The situation of tuberculosis drug-resistance in China is thought to be very serious. The international organizations estimate Chinese account for 25 to 33 per cent of the world's total infections," said Xiao Donglou, deputy director of the ministry's Centre For Disease Control and Prevention (CCDCP).

Xiao said the ministry would establish a monitoring system for drug-resistance as the survey progressed.

The survey is expected to cost more than 17 million yuan (2.15 million US dollars), including the purchase of facilities, he said. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Heavy coffee drinkers show no blood pressure rise

NEW YORK, 22 March — Coffee lovers who are in good health may have little reason to cut back, at least as far as their blood pressure is concerned, a new study suggests.

Because the caffeine in coffee and other foods can cause a short-term spike in blood pressure, there's been concern that coffee drinking may over time raise the risk of high blood pressure. Studies, however, have come to inconsistent conclusions.

In the new study, published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, researchers found that healthy women who drank upwards of six cups of coffee per day were no more likely than abstainers to develop high blood pressure over the next decade.

On the other hand, women who drank coffee occasionally or in moderation — reporting anywhere from zero to three cups a day — had a higher risk of developing high blood pressure than the heavy coffee drinkers or the abstainers.

For men, the risk of high blood pressure did not significantly increase or decrease, regardless of how much coffee they drank each day. However, men who abstained did have a lower risk than any coffee drinkers.

Still, the effect was "relatively small," Dr Cuno S PM Uiterwaal, the study's lead author, told Reuters Health. Handing out blanket advice on coffee or any food is difficult, noted Uiterwaal, an associate professor at the University Medical Centre Utrecht, in the Netherlands. — *MNA/Reuters*

Afghan horse riders play 'buzkashi' during a competition between Parwan and Panshir provinces in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 22 March, 2007.

INTERNET



SPORTS

Albelda flattered by Barca talk

VALENCIA, 22 March —David Albelda has hinted that he would consider moving to Barcelona if the Catalan club made an offer and said that he is flattered by their interest.

The Blaugrana have made it no secret that they would like to prise the Valencia captain away from Mestalla in the summer and are reportedly preparing a bid.

Despite having three years left on his current contract, Valencia are keen to tie Albelda down for another season with improved conditions and a higher buy-out clause.

His dispute over the salary on offer has led to



David Albelda

a stand-off with the director of sport, Amedeo Carboni, and that could lead to Barca being able to land their man at the end of the current campaign.

"If Barcelona called me I would be very proud," Albelda said. "If any big club shows an interest then it is a reason to be proud."

Internet

Romario draws a blank, stays on 998 goals

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 March — Former Brazil striker Romario failed to add to his career tally of 998 goals as Vasco da Gama were held 2-2 at Second Division Gama in a Copa Brasil tie on Wednesday.

Romario, 41, came on as a second-half substitute and hit the crossbar in the move which led to Vasco's first goal in the second round, first-leg match.

His next attempt to emulate Pele and reach the 1,000-goal milestone will be against arch-rivals Flamengo at the Maracana Stadium, his favourite stage, on Sunday. Brazil's 1994 World Cup winner was given a rousing reception when he came on in the 57th minute with his team 1-0 down.

Despite having Ciro sent off for a professional foul after half an hour, Gama went ahead through Valdeir early in the second half.

They increased their lead with a Neto Potiguar header three minutes after Romario entered the fray.

Vasco reduced the deficit when Romario, who barely touched the ball otherwise, deflected a shot onto the crossbar and Fabio Braz scored from the rebound before Abedi snatched a last-minute equalizer.

MNA/Reuters



Jia Tong and Chen Ruolin of China take part in the 10-metre synchronized platform diving final at the World Aquatics Championships in Melbourne on 19 March, 2007. China took the gold medal in the event.

XINHUA

Woodgate withdrawal hits England

LONDON, 22 March — Centre-back Jonathan Woodgate has been ruled out of England's Euro 2008 qualifier in Israel on Saturday.

Woodgate, on loan at Middlesbrough from Real Madrid, has a knee injury and has not travelled to Tel Aviv but could be back to play Andorra next Wednesday.

"Jonathan's fitness



Jonathan Woodgate

comes first and we won't take risks with any player," said England coach Steve McClaren.

"We will keep in close contact with Middlesbrough to determine his availability for the Andorra match."

Woodgate's withdrawal has added to McClaren's defensive problems.

Right-back Gary Neville is out injured, left-back Ashley Cole is suspended and Micah

Richards has a calf problem.

Full-backs Luke Young and Gareth Barry were late call-ups to help ease McClaren's problems at the back but Woodgate's injury will leave England short of cover in central defence.

John Terry and Rio Ferdinand are expected to start in the heart of the defence and, with Jamie Carragher set to play on either the right or left side of defence, will be the only recognised centre-backs in the squad.

In attack, injured striker Darren Bent has been replaced by Preston's Nugent.

Nugent will be getting his first taste of the senior international scene and, if he plays, the 21-year-old would be England's first outfield player from outside the top flight since Michael Gray in 1999.

Nugent has scored 16 goals this season and is the first Preston player to be called up by England since Sir Tom Finney in 1959.

Internet

Lille and Man Utd fined by UEFA

LONDON, 22 March — Lille and Manchester United have been fined by UEFA following their fraught Champions League match last month.

UEFA launched an investigation after United fans appeared to be pushed against a 10-foot high fence and at least two people were lifted to safety.

The French club must pay £42,000 for poor security and organisation at the stadium — and the furious reaction of their team to Ryan Giggs' winning goal.

United were fined around £6,300 for the poor behaviour of their supporters.

The French team threatened to walk off the pitch after Giggs' goal, which came from a quickly-taken free-kick.

UEFA's control and disciplinary body imposed the fine on United after some

fans let off fireworks, and others were involved in disturbances at the entrance to the stadium.

A statement from UEFA said: "The French club were fined 100,000 Swiss francs for breaches of security provisions and lack of proper organisation, as well as for the improper conduct of the team after United's goal in the English side's 1-0 victory."

The statement added: "Manchester United have been fined 15,000 Swiss francs for the improper conduct of their fans at the game, which included the setting-off of fireworks and disturbances at the entrance to the stadium."

"Appeals may be lodged against the verdicts within three days of receipt of the written grounds for the decisions." — Internet

Big Sam expects Ben Haim exit

LONDON, 22 March — Bolton boss Sam Allardyce has conceded Tal Ben Haim will leave the club in the summer.

Ben Haim came close to leaving Bolton in January after Chelsea made a move for the Israeli international.

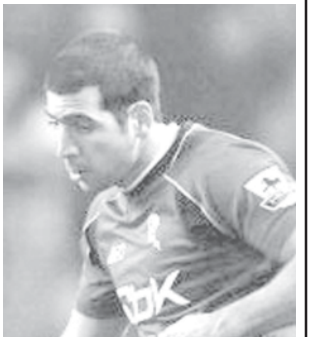
However, Bolton managed to keep hold of Ben Haim after Chelsea failed to meet their asking price.

Allardyce has now revealed Bolton can no longer afford to keep Ben Haim, whose contract expires at the end of the season, and that the central defender will move on to pastures new in the summer.

"We can't afford Tal anymore," said Allardyce.

"He will move on at the end of the season with my blessing and he will get a big club."

Internet



Tal Ben Haim

"What happened in January was disappointing because Chelsea made it aware they wanted him but then never made a bid of the significance that would have tempted me to let him go."

"Tal wanted to leave, which is understandable, but then all of a sudden Chelsea's funds appeared to have dried up so they wouldn't pay the kind of money that would have allowed us to sell him."



Russian long-distance swimmer Vladimir Dyatchin is flanked on the podium by Germany's silver medalist Thomas Lurz (L) and his compatriot and bronze medalist Evgeny Drattsev (R) after winning the gold medal in the men's 10 km open water event at the World Aquatic Championships at St Kilda Beach in Melbourne on 21 March, 2007. — XINHUA

Getafe draw Barca in cup, Sevilla meet Depor

MADRID, 23 March — Bernd Schuster's Getafe have been handed a tie against league leaders Barcelona in their first ever appearance in the semifinals of the King's Cup.

The modest Madrid-based side were paired against the 24-times Cup winners in Thursday's draw, while second-placed Sevilla have been pitted against Deportivo Coruna.

Getafe beat Valencia and Osasuna on their way to the semis. Barca, who notched up their 24th title in 1998, overcame last year's losing finalists Real Zaragoza in the quarters.

Barca winger Ludovic Giuly stressed the importance of winning the first leg at the Nou Camp.

Sevilla face a Deportivo side who are coached by their former boss Joaquin Caparros, but have the advantage of playing the second leg at their Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium. — MNA/Reuters

Jurassic crocodile fossil unearthed in Oregon

BEIJING, 22 March — The fossil of an ancient amphibious reptile with a crocodile's body and a fish's tail has been unearthed in US Oregon.

Scientists believe the creature's remains were transported by geologic processes nearly 5,000 miles away from where it originally died more than

100 million years ago.

The new fossil is the oldest crocodilian ever unearthed in Oregon and one of the few to be unearthed on this side of

the Pacific. The "hybrid" animal is thought to be a new species within the genus *Thalattosuchia*, a group of crocodilians living during the age of dinosaurs.

The reptile roamed a tropical environment in Asia about 142 to 208 million years ago. Called a *Thalattosuchian*, the amphibious creature represents an early milestone in evolutionary history, marking a transition during which these reptiles moved from being semi-aquatic to wholly ocean species.

Scientists uncovered the remains of the six- to eight-foot-long reptile in Jurassic rock on private property in the Snowshoe Formation of the Izee Terrane, a rock formation

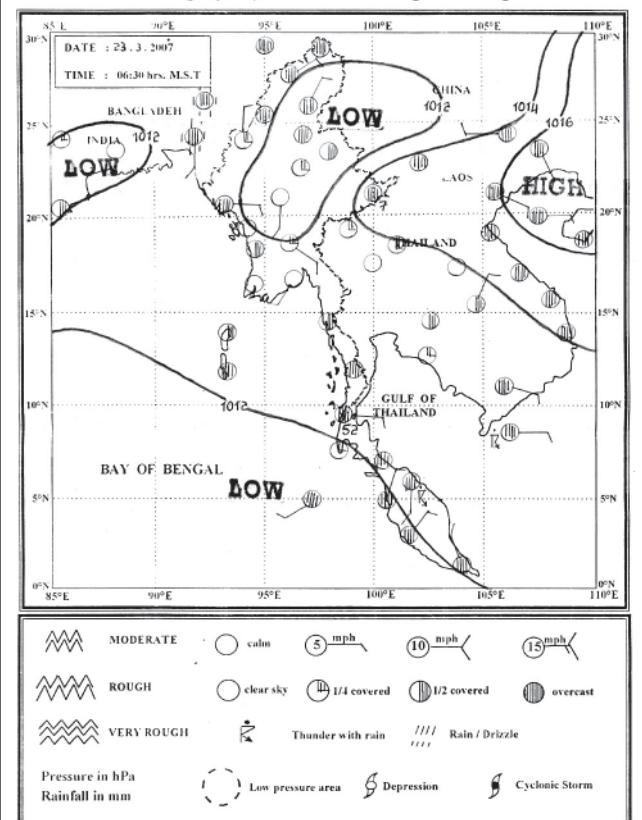
in Oregon. They knew the croc came from Asia due to distinct anatomical features, such as the way its ribs were connected to the rest of its body.

The rock-entombed animal migrated eastward from perhaps Japan via continental drift, a theory of land movement in geological time, suggests William Orr, part of the fossil-discovery team and director of the Thomas Condon State Museum of Fossils at the University of Oregon.

During ancient times, the Pacific Ocean was much wider than it is today, and Orr suggests the rocky ride could have taken as long as 100 million years before reaching North America.

Like modern-day crocodilians, the creature sported both land-lubbing and ocean-faring equipment. It had short, stubby legs, which the scientists say would have allowed it to creep easily along the ground and lay eggs. — Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 23 March, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in Rakhine State and Yangon Division and generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (10°C) below normal in Eastern Shan State and about normal in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were Minbu (41°C), Sagaing and Aungmye (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (2.05) inches, Kengtung (0.27) inch and Hakha (0.12) inch.

Maximum temperature on 22-3-2007 was 98°F. Minimum temperature on 23-3-2007 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 23-3-2007 was 60%. Total sunshine hours on 22-3-2007 was (9.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 23-3-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northwest at (13:30) hours MST on 22-3-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 24-3-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Shan State and Taninthayi Division, isolated in Kachin, Chin, Kayah and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Rakhine and Kayin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. 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 Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 24-3-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 24-3-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 24-3-2007: Partly cloudy.

Weather outlook for last weekend of March 2007: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.



Bones from a Jurassic-age marine crocodile remain in rock removed from an eastern Oregon mountainous region. At left are rib bones. At right is an upper leg bone (humerus) that measures 8.5 inches. — INTERNET



Saturday, 24 March
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓဇမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓဇအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

6. အသွင်ဏှာန်တောက်သည်၊ သဇင်တန်ပေါက်တံတား

8:20 am

7. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammar made easy

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:15 am

2. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

11:30 am

3. Games for children

11:55 am

4. Round up of the week's TV local news

12:55 am

5. “သုရဲကောင်းများ ထွန်းကားသည်” (အပိုင်း-၁) (ကျော်သူ၊ ရန်အောင်၊ ဒွေး၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ နိုင်းနိုင်း၊ နေမျိုးအောင်၊ စိုင်းစိုင်းခမ်းလှိုင်၊ မေသန်းနု၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ စိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးမိုး)

1:55 pm

6. မိုင် (၁၀၀၀)ခရီးရှည် စက်ဘီးစီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:00 pm

7. Dance of national races

2:25 pm

8. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ အိမ်အပြန်လက်ဆောင်ကောင်း ပုသိမ်ဟာလဝါအကြောင်း

2:35 pm

9. “မျှော်သူမမောစေချင်” (စိုးသီဟ၊ ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)

2:45 pm

10. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ်(ရူပဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)

4:45 pm

4. ဖြူတော်အေးမင်းအောင် ဆိုင်းအဖွဲ့ဖျော်ဖြေခန်း (အပိုင်း-၂)

5:05 pm

5. တပ်မတော်နေ့ဂုဏ်ပြု တေးသီချင်းပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုရတေးများ (၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်)

5:15 pm

6. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

5:45 pm

7. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုအစီအစဉ်

6:00 pm

8. Evening news

6:30 pm

9. Weather report

6:35 pm

10. အလှူရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

6:50 pm

11. (၆၂) နှစ်မြောက်တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုသွေးလျှူကုသိုလ်ယူ

7:00 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “သမားတော်” (အပိုင်း-၁၂)

7:45 pm

13. ပြည်သူ့အတွက်တပ်မတော် (မြန်မာအားမာန်ဆည်တစ်)

8:00 pm

14. News

15. International news

16. Weather report

9:00 pm

17. (၆၂)နှစ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်နေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုရုပ်မြင်သံကြား “အဖေတူသား” (အပိုင်း-၂) (ဇင်ဝိုင်း၊ လူမင်း၊ မင်းမော်ကွန်း၊ နေမျိုးအောင်၊ ထွန်းထွန်း(Examplez)၊ ပန်းဖြူ၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်၊ မေသဉ္ဇာဦး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ပန်းချီစိုးမိုး)

18. The next day's programme



Saturday, 24 March
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music:

-Sweet kisses

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music:

-Girl on film

8:50 am National news

9:00 am Music

-Baby come back

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:

-Angel

1:30 pm News & Slogan

1:40 pm Music at your request/Lunch time music

9:00 pm ASEAN news

9:10 pm Article

9:20 pm Myanma culture..Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

9:30 pm Souvenirs

9:45 pm News & Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects parade drill of parade columns at Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects parade drill of parade columns at Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected parade drill of parade columns that will take part in the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade for 2007, at Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground, here, this morning.

Accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, SPDC members Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Chief of Armed Forces Train-

Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing and Maj-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of the Management Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, ministers, Chairman of the Parade Working Committee Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Brig-Gen Zaw Win, deputy ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye arrived at 6 am at the



Hailing the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day

Article

increasing at an annual rate of 2.2 per cent. The government has been reclaiming wetlands and fallow, virgin and vacant lands to ensure food sufficiency in the future.

PAGES 6+7

Cartoon

PAGE 7

Poem

- * Not the mercenaries Working for pay
- * Making sacrifices Not to earn living
- * Not the stupid thugs Nor the uneducated

PAGE 7

ing Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, parade ground in Nay Pyi Taw where the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade will be held. (See page 11)

Tatmadaw Park to open for public in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — The Tatmadaw Park in Nay Pyi Taw Parade Ground, where the 62nd Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade is to be held, will be kept open at noon to 9 pm on 27 March (Armed Forces Day) and from 7 am to 9 pm from 28 to 31 March. People can take recreation in the park.—MNA