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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

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than goes on inspection tour of Mamya Dam, cultivation of teak and physic nut plants along Pathein-Monywa road

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of Ministry of Defence inspects hydro power machines at Mamya Dam.— MNA

Clarifications of NCCWC Chairman on detailed basic principles for two chapters to be published

YANGON, 3 Aug—Clarifications of the National Convention Convening Work Committee on laying down detailed basic principles for the chapters "Transitory Provisions", and "General Provisions" to be included in the State Constitution will be published in this paper.—*MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence and party went on an inspection tour of Mamya dam in Myanaung Township on 1 August.

Upon arrival at the dam, they looked into small generators which can produce power installed by Irrigation Department Construction Group-9 and Director U Kyaw Myint Hlaing briefed them on generation of power and arrangements for supplying power through two 5-kilowatts generators to the local people.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on more efforts to be made for supplying power in rural areas. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party oversaw a 150-acre teak plantation in Myanaung Township and urged officials concerned to make efforts to constantly grow teak trees on both sides of Pathein-Monywa road.

Afterwards, they inspected 3.5-acre groundnut plantation in Ingapu Township. Next, they attended the ceremony to grow physic nut plants in Yekyi Township and Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than distributed physic nut saplings to members of social organizations and departmental officials. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party together with members of the social organizations and departmental personnel grew physic nut plants at the designated places. — *MNA*

INSIDE

Prepared for every eventuality

The ruling government is building up a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In doing so, it focuses on the seven-step Road Map and upholds the 12 State objectives.

PAGES 8+9

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 August, 2007

Take preventative measures against possible floods

Recently, there have been floods in some countries due to swelling rivers caused by heavy rains.

Normally, downpour occurs in the north and coastal regions of the country as there are incessant rains in July and August.

The Meteorology and Hydrology Department has issued a reminder that the water levels of Ayeyawady, Chindwin and Dokhtawady rivers are on the rise. Consequently, the water level in Mawlaik, Kalewa, Monywa, Katha, Mandalay, Sagaing, Minbu, Magway, Hinthada and Myitnge is above the danger level.

Towns and villages on the banks of Ayeyawady river and Chindwin river in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay divisions are to take preventative measures against possible floods in the rainy season. Those from flood-prone towns and villages are to constantly inspect embankments along the river after setting up water sentry posts and stockpiling of sand bags. At the same time, the flood prevention and rescue teams are to be formed.

There can be inundation in towns and villages, resulting in the interruption of transport as roads and bridges may be destroyed by floods. Hence, preventative measures need to be taken. Departmental officials in cooperation with administrative bodies of towns and villages and local people are to make health, security and rescue arrangements for flood victims. Only then, will preventative measures against floods be possible.

Measures taken as to prevention against bird flu

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Sagaing and Mandalay divisions were struck by an outbreak of bird flu in February and March 2006 and Yangon Division in February and March 2007. And there was a sign of recurrence of bird flu in July 2007.

The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department detected H5N1 virus at two poultry farms in Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State, on 24-7-2007. All chickens of the two farms were culled under the Early Detection and Containment Programme.

In the same way, the LBVD applying an advanced PCR laboratory test detected H5N1 virus at a poultry farm raising about 4,000 broilers in Minyat Ward, Letpadan, Bago Division. All poultry of the farm were culled under the Early Detection and Containment Programme.

The LBVD has issued a warning that breeders are to raise separate biosecurity of the affected poultry farms, exposure of their domestic chickens to wild birds is to be strictly avoided, people are to come forward with information to the LBVD, Myanmar Livestock Breeding Federation and local authorities in case they find the dead domestic fowls, and breeders are to exercise personal hygiene and wear work site suits.—*MNA*

People's Desire

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

USDA CEC member offers alms to monks in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — Under the aegis of CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and wife Daw Mya Theingi, the alms offering ceremony of the secretaries and members of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District USDA and staff family members of the ministry was held at Ywakauk Ward Dhammayon this morning.

USDA CEC member Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District USDA U Khin Maung Htay and party offered alms to 1037 monks led by member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabuddhi of Pyinmana Pali Tekkatho Mingalar Zeyon Pariyatti monastery.

MNA

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe offers 'soon' to a monk.

MNA

***Chairman U Zaw Zaw Naing of All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (HQ) and members donate Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaws of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) at Mogok Refectory, Kaba Aye Hill, on 29 July.*— UMFCCI**

Central Command offers Waso robes to monks

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — Central Command Headquarters held a ceremony to offer Waso robes to Members of the Sangha at Dhammayon in Nanmyo, Mandalay, on 29 July.

It was attended by 10 members of the Sangha led by Chairman of Mandalay Division Sangha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw of Shwewawin Monastery Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Sasanabhivamsa, Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and wife, senior military officers and departmental officials.

First, the congregation led by the Commander and wife took the Nine Precepts from Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Paññasami, and members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Afterwards, the congregation donated Waso robes and offertories to members of the Sangha and shared merits gained.

MNA

Hindu families to donate Waso robes

YANGON, 3 Aug — Hindu Thanantana Dhammapalaka Organization will organize the ceremony to offer 'soon' and Waso robes to members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and 472 members of Sangha of the State Pariyatti Sasana University at Mogok Refectory on Kaba Aye Hill, here, at 9 am on 5 August.

Wellwishers may donate K 12,000 for one set of robes and K 8,000 for 'soon' offering to U Kyi Min, Tel: 525165, U Thein Lwin of Sandi Press House at 84 (B) on 31st Street, Tel: 242751 and 245605.

MNA

Donate blood

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iraq veterans suffer stress and alcoholism

Long tours in combat zones linked to serious mental problems, study finds

LONDON, 3 Aug— Thousands of frontline veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are facing escalating mental health problems, alcoholism and family breakdown, an extensive examination of the British military has found.

Prolonged periods in conflict are linked to higher levels of post-traumatic stress disorder, psychological distress and problems at home, researchers report in the British Medical Journal online.

The Ministry of Defence said it would study the findings to try to better understand mental health problems in the military, but last night there was pressure on the government to address accusations that the military is currently overstretched, forcing personnel into longer tours of duty. Opposition MPs said the burden on the military was another reason to begin phased withdrawal from Iraq. The Kings College London military health centre's study of 5,547 veterans of overseas tours focused on the 20% who were deployed for more than 13 months within a three-year period, the maximum recommended time limit set by the government and known as the "harmony guidelines".

Internet

US official analysis says Iraq war costs to top $1trillion

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — The war in Iraq could ultimately cost well over a trillion US dollars, according to a new US official analysis.

That will at least double what has already been spent, said a report compiled by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) which was obtained by US media Thursday.

The figure includes the estimated cost to leave some US forces behind for at least several years to support the Iraqi Government.

Tha report also predict other long-term costs, such as extended medical care and disability compensation for wounded soldiers and survivor's benefits for the families of the thousands of combat-zone fatalities.

The cost of the war in Iraq and other military operations has soared to the point where "we are now spending on these activities more than 10 per cent of all the government's annually appropriated funds," said Robert A. Sunshine, CBO's assistant director for budget analysis.

Those costs — both to sustain the current mission in Iraq and to pay longer-term "hidden" expenses like troop healthcare and replacement equipment — are far more than US officials advertised when Congress gave President George W Bush the authority to launch the invasion in March 2003.

At the time, Lawrence Lindsey, one of Bush's top budget advisers, estimated in 2003 that the entire undertaking could cost as much as 200 billion dollars. He was later fired.

MNA/Xinhua

Japan's Riyo Mori (R), Miss Universe 2007, is accompanied by Miss Indonesia 2006 Agni Pratistha during a visit to Taman Sari royal heritage and spa in Jakarta on 2 Aug, 2007. INTERNET

Iraqi senior police officer killed, US airstrike wounds five

BAGHDAD, 2 Aug— Gunmen shot dead a high-ranking police officer in central Baghdad on Wednesday, while five people were wounded in a US airstrike in a southern neighbourhood of Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

"Unknown gunmen assassinated Major-General Maher Nuri, from the Baghdad's traffic police, while he was driving his car in the morning near the Nahdha area," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

In separate incident, the source said that five people were wounded when US aircraft bombarded targets in Baghdad's southern neighbourhood of Zaafaraniyah.

There is no reports about any clashes between the US troops and gunmen in the neighbourhood, but the source said that the attack also caused damages in several building and cars.—*MNA/Xinhua*

***Residents stand at the scene of a car bomb attack in Baghdad, on 1 Aug, 2007.* — INTERNET**

'Health juices' harm baby teeth

LONDON, 2 Aug—Children's teeth are being damaged by "healthy" fruit juices, a dentists' group has warned.

Organic juices which combine sugar and fruit are the worst culprits for eroding the teeth, say the dentists.

Half of UK parents are unaware that they can contain as much sugar as some fizzy drinks, a YouGov survey reveals.

Dr Philip Stemmer, a dentist at Teeth For Life, advised parents to restrict children to one glass of fruit juice or full-sugar cordial a day.

Dr Stemmer said: "Dental erosion caused by acidic fruit juices and squashes affects the whole surface of a tooth. Ex-posure daily will cause a progressive loss of enamel with the effect that the teeth 'shrink' and crumble at the biting edge.

"Even diet drinks which have no sugar in are very acidic and can dissolve tooth enamel. "While mothers and fathers think they are doing the best by their children by giving them 'healthier' drinks, the acid in these drinks are wearing away the enamel.

"I am seeing more and more children whose teeth have been damaged in this way." He advised parents to try and combine acidic drinks with meal times and give the child a straw to drink soft drinks through.

Parents should also supervise teeth brushing to ensure it is thorough and use a toothpaste which contains fluoride.—*Internet*

At least 100 dead in DRCongo rail crash

KINSHASA, 2 Aug—At least 100 people were killed when a goods train jumped the tracks in the Democratic Republic of Congo overnight Thursday, with illegal passengers thought to be among the dead.

"According to our information, at least 100 passengers have perished and dozens have been injured in the derailment of a goods train," said government spokesman and information minister Toussaint Tshilombo Send.—*Internet*

***A British Airways plane comes in to land at Heathrow Airport in London, on 1 Aug, 2007. A British regulator fined British Airways 121.5 million pounds (US$ 246 million; euro 180 million) on Wednesday after the airline admitted colluding with rival Virgin Atlantic over fuel surcharges on long-haul flights.*— INTERNET**

NCC Work Committee Chairman's clarification ...

(from page 16)

(a) The proposal to amend the Constitution shall be submitted in the form of a Bill.

(b) A Bill to amend the Constitution shall contain no other proposals.

2. Such Bill to amend the Constitution shall be initiated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

3. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall accept the Bill to amend the Constitution for considera tion, if 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit it.

4. (a) The adopted provisions of the State Fundamental Principles, the State Structure, the Formation of Legislature, the Formation of Executive, the Formation of Judiciary, and the State of Emergency shall be amended with the prior approval of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in a nation-wide referendum only with a majority vote of more than half of those who have the right to vote.

(b) Provisions other than those mentioned in the paragraph (a) shall be amended only with a majority vote of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(c) Articles that are relevant to or inclusive in Chapters stated in the paragraph (a) shall be prescribed when the Constitution is drafted.

The points I have explained for detailed basic principles win the support of the delegate groups:

- the Delegate Group of National Races,
- the Delegate Group of Peasants,
- the Delegate Group of Workers,
- the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelli gentsia,
- the Delegate Group of State Service Person nel,
- the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons, and
- the political parties from the Delegate Group of Political Parties:
- the National Unity Party
- the Union Pa-O National Organization
- the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party
- Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organiza tion
- the Lahu National Development Party
- the Union Kayin League
- the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party
- the Wa National Development Party, and
- representatives of political parties from the Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect, and three Independent Representatives-Elect including Dr Hmu Htan, and six Independent Representatives-Elect including U Tin Win.

Mr Chairman,

I would also like to present separate suggestions of the NC delegate groups.

The Shan State Kokang Democratic Party said, "Regarding the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution", we would like to present our views about sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Para (4).

"After the establishment of an independent state, a Constitution is adopted. But constitutional amendments in connection with some of the prescribed provisions will have to be made due to certain reasons or if and when necessary. The amendment of any provision of the Constitution is as important as the lifeblood of the nation. Instead of amending the Constitution with the referendum or over 75 per cent of the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with the stipulations of the constitution, a detailed basic principle should be adopted to amend the constitution if over 50 percent of the members of representative Hluttaws proposed to do so.

"Hence, sub-para (a) of Para 4 should be "The adopted provisions of the State Fundamental Principles, the State Structure, the Formation of Legislative, the Formation of Executive, the Formation of Judiciary, and the State of Emergency shall be amended with the prior approval of more than 50 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in a nationwide referendum only with a majority vote of more than half of those who have the right to vote";

Sub-para (a) of Para 4, "Provisions other than those mentioned in the paragraph (b) shall be amended only with a majority vote of more than 50 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw", and sub-para (c) of Para 4 Articles that are relevant to or inclusive in Chapters stated in the paragraph (a) shall be prescribed when drafting the Constitution is drafted."

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall accept the Bill to amend the Constitution for consideration, if 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit it.

To assess the suggestion, I would say, the designation of "after more than 75 per cent of the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approve" is to uphold Our Three Main National Causes and ensure perpetual existence of the Union along with harmonious cooperation of all Hluttaw members. If a principle is adopted through which provisions can be amended with the approval of not many per cent of Hluttaw members, it will have an adverse effect on the initial objective "Proper evolution of an enduring State Constitution" alongside disunity among the Hluttaw members. So, the designation is aimed to avert such undesirable consequences.

Mr Chairman,

Independent Representatives-Elect from the Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect—U Tin Win of Kyaiklat 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 Mingaladon Township Constituency (1), and U Tin Tun Maung of Mingaladon Township Constituency (2) presented the stances of their parties.

As a separate suggestion, they said, "A constitution will become practical only after ten years of existence. As the term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is five years, two terms will be ten years.

"We would like to suggest that the following detailed basic principle should be adopted.

"Other than the provisions prescribed in the Chapter "the State", the provisions of other chapters shall not be amended until the end of the second term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."

"When the third Pyithu Hluttaw election is held after the end of the second term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the people will have experiences concerning the election for three times. We assume that at that time the people may have understood the democracy norms and ideas to a certain degree. The people who are farmers, workers, servicemen etc. may become persons possessing enough political knowledge as they have studied politics or the national affairs with keen interest. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members elected by such people will be the right persons at the rightful position who have pragmatic ideas and required qualifications.

"Instead of holding a nationwide referendum, that will be a financial and an administrative burden on the nation, the following detailed basic principle should be adopted in making constitutional amendment.

"If there arises the wish to amend the constitutional provisions beginning from the third term of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the provisions of the chapters, other than the provisions of the Chapter on the State, shall be amended with the votes of two-thirds of the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."

In this regard, we notice two parts. Regarding the first part, if this suggestion is adopted, it will impose restrictions on the powers of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Moreover, it will disrupt the vesting of powers in the Hluttaw on behalf of the people.

The second part is the same, as the suggestion of the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party. I have made a similar explanation.

Mr Chairman,

The Delegate Group of National Races said, "We Delegate Group of National Races would like to make a suggestion about paragraph (3).

"The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will have to make constitutional amendments as and when necessary because of the globalization process or advancing time and situation. We are glad to know the inclusion of the expression **"if 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit it"** in the para 3 as it ensures democracy rights for the minority. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after accepting and discussing the Bill will make a decision with majority votes to amend or annul the respective articles in accord with the prescriptions. It will not be proper if 20 per cent of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit the same amended or rejected Bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw again. We believe that submitting a proposal to amend anyone of the provisions of an enduring State constitution is not appropriate. In our assumption there should be a prescribed time limit to re-submit the Bill whether it is approved or rejected. **As the Bill to make constitutional amendments should not be re-submitted during the appropriate time of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw term** although there are 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members to submit it, the matter should be take into consideration in enacting parliamentary laws and rules."

To assess their suggestion, I would say, they mentioned the points that should be taken into consideration in issuing laws, rules and directives. So, their suggestion will be put on record so that it can be under discussion, as appropriate when laws, rules and regulations on election are to be issued.

So, the detailed basic principles for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution":

1. If there is wish to amend any of the provisions of this Constitution, the following methods shall be applied:

(a) The proposal to amend the Constitution shall be submitted in the form of a Bill.

(b) A Bill to amend the Constitution shall contain no other proposals.

2. Such Bill to amend the Constitution shall be initiated in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

3. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall accept the Bill to amend the Constitution for consideration, if 20 per cent of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw members submit it.

4. (a) The adopted provisions of the State Fundamental Principles, the State Structure, the Formation of Legislature, the Formation of Executive, the Formation of Judici ary, and the State of Emergency shall be amended with the prior approval of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, in a nation-wide referendum only with a majority vote of more than half of those who have the right to vote.

(b) Provisions other than those mentioned in the paragraph (a) shall be amended only with a majority vote of more than 75 per cent of all the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(c) Articles that are relevant to or inclusive in Chapters stated in the paragraph (a) shall be prescribed when the Constitution is drafted." are adopted.—*MNA*

Detailed basic principles that should be adopted for …

(from page 16)

"The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw."

Mr Chairman,

Now, I will present the separate suggestions of delegate groups.

Independent Representatives-Elect Dr Hmu Htan of Thantlang Township Constituency in Chin State, U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township Constituency in Shan State and U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township Constituency in Shan State (North) from that delegate group said, "The State Law and Order Restoration Council on 18 June 1989 issued the Order No 2/89 which said that **the word "Bamar" included in the National Anthem of the Union of Myanmar was like representing only the Bamar people; that actually the National Anthem stood for all the national races of the Union; and that the word "Bamar" should be substituted with the word "Myanmar" representing all the national races.** But some are still singing the song casually with the word **"Bamar".** Notifications and orders should be issued in the future to remind the people to use the word **"Myanmar"** in accord with its essence instead of the word **"Bamar".**

"As **Yangon** has been designated as the Capital in accord with the said fundamental principles and detailed basic principles, there will be two Capitals in the nation, if **Nay Pyi Taw** is designated as the new Capital without abolishing the status of Yangon. At present, **Nay Pyi Taw** is included in Mandalay Division, and no detailed basic principle concerning **Nay Pyi Taw** has been laid down or adopted yet.

"We are confused as to (1) when and how a Union territory under the direct administration of the President concerning Nay Pyi Taw, (2) its boundary and (3) its administration will be designated. We are unable to know whether they will be designated at the ongoing National Convention or when the bodies emerge under new Constitution.

"We are not clear yet which city will be the capital of Yangon Region, if Yangon remains as a Union territory.

"The laying down of the fundamental principle to designate Yangon as the Capital and Union territory was based on the executive of the then period.

"Concerning the designation of Union territories, the sub-para (c) of the para 11 says, "If the need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national security, administration and economic etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws". It is not proper to designate Yangon that is no longer the nation's Capital, as a significant area without holding formal discussions on the matter at the National Convention. We assume that Yangon should be designated as a Union territory after enacting laws. We would like to suggest that the matter concerning the designation of Nay Pyi Taw as the Capital should be explained at the National Convention for all the delegates to know about it clearly."

To respond to the first of the two suggestions "Notifications and orders should be issued in the future to remind the people to use the word **"Myanmar"** in accord with its essence instead of the word **"Bamar"**, as prescribed in the suggestion, the government has already issued necessary notifications and orders to officially change the term. Moreover, in practice, in singing the National Anthem, the term "Myanmar" is used in place of the term "Bamar".

Regarding the second suggestion "whether the matters — Nay Pyi Taw will be designated as the Capital, Union territory of Nay Pyi Taw will be delineated, and its administration will be designated at the ongoing National Convention or not, the matter of adopting the detailed basic principle of Yangon, previous capital, is designated as a Union territory, and these matters should be explained at the National Convention for all the delegates to know about it clearly, the National Convention is planning to review the already-adopted detailed basic principles so as to cancel the unnecessary basic principles and detailed basic principles and amend some principles if necessary.

Mr Chairman,

Independent Representatives-Elect from the Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect—U Tin Win of Kyaiklat 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 Mingaladon Township Constituency (1), and U Tin Tun Maung of Mingaladon Township Constituency (2) from the same delegate group in their suggestion said, "The following points should be adopted as detailed basic principles. They are:

"The following points should be taken into consideration in choosing the design of the State Flag;

"(a) It shall portray the significant characteristics of the nation,

"(b) It shall not be the one that resembles other nations' State Flags in appearance;

"(c) It shall be the one that even a primary level student can easily understand its essence and draw its picture. This will help vitalize the patriotism of students since childhood days;

"(d) It shall be easy to be proportionate and identical to one another in making different shapes and sizes and in drawing them;

"Based on these points, we would also like to make a separate suggestion:

"The three colours — green, yellow and red — were included in the three-colours Peacock Flag used during the national liberation struggle. And they have represented the nation's significant conditions. Hence, they are suitable for the State Flag. The White Star representing the whole Union should be placed in the centre of the Flag or in other words at the center of yellow stripe instead of at the top to stand for the unity of the entire Union. The pointed top of the star should touch the base of green stripe and the two bottom points should touch the vertex of the red stripe. Only then the Flag will represent the unity and ensure uniformity in drawing or duplicating it.

"In considering whether to adopt the detailed basic principle "The Capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw." or not, we would like to suggest that Nay Pyi Taw possess the following requirements.

(a) being a place that is easily accessible from all parts of the nation,

(b) having an adequate number of buildings, a good transport, information network and easy intra-connections between government institutions that are the characteristics of a Capital,

(c) having easy communications among the institutions that will exercise the three organs of power of the State,

(d) being a region that is free from inadequate supply of electricity and water supply, traffic congestion and other kinds of confusion that are common in all commercial cities because of the high population density.

"Now, I will present a point that is noteworthing. In detailed basic principle "Yangon City is designated as the Union territory placed under direct administration of the President" is included in the chapter "the State Structure" to formulate the Constitution. Here, we should consider whether the said detailed basic principle should be annulled or amended or not. In addition, Nay Pyi Taw should be designated as a Union territory.

In essence, the suggestion about the points for State Flag of the Delegate Group of National Races is similar to that of these six representatives including U Tin Win. Both groups suggested that there should be a change in the size and place of the white star, but no change in the three colours of the flag, as proposed initially. If the white star, which represents the whole Union, is enlarged, it will be more significant and more harmonious with the three colours—green, yellow, and red, they said.

They said that the white star should be stated on the left side or in the centre of the flag in harmony with the three colours instead of doing so on the left side of the green stripe.

"The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw."

To assess the suggestion, if the white star is stated at the heart of the State Flag, it will be more distinct. However, the white star is stated on the yellow stripe, it will not be distinct enough.

So, the yellow stripe should be stated at the top and the green stripe, in the middle of the flag, and the star is portrayed in the middle of the green stripe, the State Flag will be more significant.

This suggestion is in conformity with the already-adopted basic principle, so it deserves well consideration. The National Convention Convening Work Committee held discussions with members of the panel of chairmen to decide as to whether this suggestion should be adopted as a detailed basic principle or not. The members of the panel of chairmen then discussed the issue with respective representatives, and forwarded by letter the stance of members of the delegate group concerned to the Work Committee. All delegate groups suggested unanimously that the point:

"Regarding the State Flag,

"(1) The State Flag shall be prescribed as follows:

The Flag is marked with green, yellow and red stripes in a proportionate ratio. On the left end of the green stripe at the top of the Flag is a large white star directing upwards." should be adopted as a detailed basic principle for the Chapter "State Flag".

To respond to the suggestion of the six independent representatives-elect including U Tin Win — to designate Nay Pyi Taw as a Union territory, and whether or not it is needed to abrogate or amend the already-adopted detailed basic principle of designating Yangon as a Union territory because Yangon is no longer the capital, I would say their suggestion is similar to that of the three independent representatives-elect including Dr Hmu Htan in appearance. So, my response to their suggestion is similar to that to the suggestion of the three independent representatives-elect.

Mr Chairman,

The Delegate Group of National Races in its suggestion said, "Mostly, provisions concerning the State Flag focus on the means to stipulate and design it. Procedures and rules in connection with the State Flag and punishments for offences are prescribed in the separate law enacted by the legislative assembly.

"The stipulations of the State Flag mostly depend on history of a nation. Colours including white, red, blue, green, yellow, orange etc are used in the State Flags in accord with the history of a nation."

In response to their suggestion, I would say that their suggestion carries a point that procedures and rules in connection with the State Flag should be enacted. So, their suggestion will be recorded so that it can be taken into consideration when rules and regulations are enacted.

(See page 6)

Detailed basic principles that should be adopted for …

(from page 5)

The group said, **"Two sprigs of Eugenia each flanking the map of Myanmar, located in the centre of the State Seal, on both sides in an upward position should be included in the Seal."**

"The suggestion is meant to fill the spaces on the left and right sides of the map of Myanmar and to depict the auspiciousness, peace and success."

It is considered that if doing so, it will reinforce the two spaces on the right and left side of the map and reflect auspiciousness, peace and success.

This suggestion is in line with the already-laid down detailed basic principle, so it well deserves thorough consideration. The Work Committee held discussions with members of the panel of chairmen to decide as to whether this suggestion should be adopted as a detailed basic principle or not. The members of the panel of chairmen then discussed the issue with respective representatives, and forwarded by letter the stance of members of the delegate group concerned to the Work Committee. And then, all delegate groups in their suggestions said that two sprigs of Eugenia each flanking the map of Myanmar, located in the centre of the State Seal, on both sides in an upward position should be included in the Seal. And the National Convention Convening Commission should designate the number of the sprigs of each Eugenia, as appropriate.

So, the point "Two sprigs of Eugenia each flanking the map of Myanmar, located in the centre of the State Seal, on both sides in an upward position should be included in the Seal" should be prescribed in the suggestion about the Chapter "State Seal". Regarding the suggestion about the designation of the number of sprigs of each Eugenia, the Work Committee reported to the commission in accord with the suggestions of the delegate groups. The commission in this regard gave a directive to designate 14 sprigs for each Eugenia.

Therefore, with the suggestions of the majority of the NC delegates, the points:

Regarding the State Flag,

"(1) The State Flag shall be prescribed as follows: The Flag is marked with yellow, green and red stripes in a proportionate ratio. On the green stripe in the centre of the State Flag is a large white star covering all the three stripes directing upwards.

"(2) Law shall be promulgated concerning the State Flag."

Regarding the State Seal,

with the picture of the State Seal under it,

"The State Seal shall be as shown below."

Regarding the National Anthem,

"The present National Anthem shall be prescribed as the National Anthem."

Regarding the Capital,

"The capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw." are adopted as detailed basic principles for the Chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital".—*MNA*

Commander attends ceremony to mark World Breastfeeding Week 2007

YANGON, 3 Aug — A ceremony to mark the "World Breastfeeding Week 2007" was held at the building of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association in South Okkalapa Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Patrons, the President, Vice-Presidents and CEC members of MMCWA, the Vice-President and CEC members of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, the Chairperson and members of Yangon Division MCW Supervisory Committee, departmental officials, the resident representatives of UN agencies, responsible persons of social organizations and members of district/township MCWAs.

First, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win delivered addresses at the occasion.

Next, the deputy minister presented first prize to Yangon East District team, Daw Khin Khin Win, second and third prizes to Yangon West District and Yangon South District team in acting contest to mark the "World Breastfeeding Week 2007". — *MNA*

Final day of National Workshop on Juvenile Justice and Child Protection held

***Final session of National Workshop on Juvenile Justice and Child Protection in progress.* — MNA**

YANGON, 3 Aug — The final session of the National Workshop on Juvenile Justice and Child Protection was held at the Sedona Hotel this morning, attended by Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme Court U Thein Soe, departmental heads and officials of Supreme Court, Attorney-General's Office, ministries and YCDC, Myanmar Police Force, resident representatives of UNICEF, WHO, UNDP, UNFPA, JICA, resource persons, professors from abroad, experts and guests.

Ms Shelley Casey presided over the workshop and four groups read out their papers. Next, those present sought approval on matters related to Juvenile Justice and Child Protection.

Later, Director-General U Mya Thein of the Supreme Court reported on future tasks and Director-General U Soe Nyunt of the Supreme Court gave concluding remarks on the workshop. Mrs Elke Wisch (Senior Programme officer, UNICEF Myanmar) spoke words of thanks on the occasion. — *MNA*

POEM:

Knot the Closest Tie through Breastfeeding

* All expectant and new mothers
Be proud to breastfeed your babies and toddlers
Because it's believed to be the way best
To ensure their life-long health

* Some scientists said breastfed kids
Get more insulin from their mothers milk
With a lesser chance to get 'diabetes'
Or any other related disease

* A newborn is an addition to the family
For mothers, to bring it up properly
Childhood molding is utterly necessary
Through a special relationship gained from breastfeeding

* Holding the baby in both arms
Cuddled and being fed in her bosom
With its secured and warm feeling running high
A mother creates the closest tie with her beloved child

* For the babies growing on breastfeeding
Those precious moments have a special meaning
Forever to cherish and treasure
Full of tender love, fondling and pleasure

* A period of nine months, a little less or more
Many favorite things a pregnant mom has to forgo
For the tiny one inside,
Looking after herself with great care,
Daily praying for the arrival of a baby proper and well

* To the pregnancy care and sacrifice willingly made
Add a new extension you can take
To breastfeed and get the advantage
Of a mother-baby relationship so great

Aye Phyu

ကမ္ဘာ့ မိခင်နို့တိုက်ကျွေးရေးနေ့ ရက်သတ္တပတ် unicef

(၁-၈-၂၀၀၇ မှ ၇-၈-၂၀၀၇) ထိ

World Breastfeeding Week

(1-8-2007 to 7-8-2007)

Breastfeeding : The 1st Hour—Save ONE million babies

"ရင်သွေးငယ်များရှင်သန်ရေး၊ မွေးပြီးမနေး မိခင်နို့တိုက်ပေး"

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Waso robes offered

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug —The Eastern Command held its 45th Waso robes offering ceremony at the Command here on 28 July.

At the robes offering ceremony, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and wife Daw Thin Myo Myo Aung offered a day meal to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pyinnyasari to Oaktayayon Monastery and members of the Sangha. The congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayadaw and Waso robes and provisions were donated.

After the donation, they shared merits gained.— *MNA*

Minister U Aung Thaung attends signing ceremony to construct 500-ton cement plant project. —INDUSTRY-1 (News Reported)

MAWFA holds ASEAN Cultural Show

Vice-Chairperson of Myanmar-ASEAN Women's Friendship Association Daw Thida Nyunt extends greetings at the ASEAN Cultural Show in U Can Floating Restaurant. —MNA

YANGON, 3 Aug —To mark the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN Founding Day which falls on 8 August 2007, an ASEAN Cultural Show organized by Myanmar-ASEAN Women's Friendship Association (MAWFA) was held at U Can Floating Restaurant this morning.

It was attended by member of the panel of patrons of the association Daw Myint Myint Soe, wife of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the honoured members, wives of the ministers, the executive committee members of the association, wives of the departmental heads of the ministry, wives of the ambassadors of ASEAN member countries, members of the association and guests.

MAWFA Vice-Chairpersons Daw Thida Nyunt and Madame Dana Phany extended greetings on the occasion.

Next, traditional cultural dances and songs were presented by Fine Arts Department and ASEAN embassies. — *MNA*

People in flooded areas evacuated in Pyay, Pakokku, Amarapura, Singu, Mogok

Local authorities, wellwishers donate relief aids to flood victims

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — Due to swelling and flooded waters of Ayeyawady River, Marlargon Ward along Nawin Creek, Bawga Ward near Nawin embankment and the lower area of Shwepalinhmaw in Pyay Township were inundated.

On 1 August, people from 12 households of Marlargon Ward and five households from the low-lying areas of Shwepalinhmaw Ward and 39 households from the area beside Nawin embankment were evacuated. At present, officials and social organizations are making preparations for taking preventive measure against flood and carrying out rescue tasks. Likewise, 86 households of some wards and villages were evacuated in Pakokku Township due to overflow of Ayeyawady River. Officials and social organizations provided 55 bags of rice to the flood victims. Furthermore, as Ayeyawady River overflowed and flooded some villages of Amarapura Township at 1.30 pm yesterday, the people from 312 households were evacuated to the safe places. Wellwishers donated rice, edible oil and medicines to the flood victims. In addition, some wards and villages in Singu and Mogok townships were also inundated. Officials are supervising the timely completion of main-tenance and repair of damages on some road sections and bridges. —*MNA*

39 members quit NLD

YANGON, 3 Aug —Altogether thirty nine members of National League for Democracy in Pathein, Insein, Myaung, Taungup, and Gyobingauk townships resigned from the party of their own accord from 22 to 24 July.

Those who quit the party were U Soe Thein of Pathein Township National League for Democracy, U Khin Maung Shwe of Insein Township National League for Democracy, U Tin Aung, U Soe Myint, U Thein Tun and U Kyaw Naing of Myaung Township National League for Democracy of Sagaing Division and U Myint Thu of Taungup Township National League for Democracy of Rakhine State and thirty two members including U Hla Kyaing, Daw Ma Soe, U Myint Oo, U Tin Maung Swe, U Tin Win and U Bo Kywe of Gyobingauk Township National League for Democracy, Bago Division (West). They sent their resignation letters to the Headquarters of the National League for Democracy and the authorities of the local organizations.

In the letters of resignation sent to Pathein, Insein, Myaung, Taungup and Gyobingauk townships Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commissions, they said NLD party, thumbing their nose at nation-building tasks of the government, has been in contact with destructive elements within and without and has attempted to push the nation into servitude. That is why they resigned from the party, they said.

MNA

Two injured in insurgent-planted mine explosions

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — With the intention of disrupting stability of the State, prevalence of law and order and killing the people and making them panic, the insurgents are committing destructive acts with various ways and means.

Forty-five-year-old Ma Soe, daughter of U Kyaw Thein of Theintan ward, Kyaukkyi, Bago Division, stepped on a mine planted by insurgents and lost her right foot while she was making her way to the forest in search of bamboo shoots on 30 July.

When six persons including Maung Thein Win were rushing the victim to the hospital from Theintan ward, twenty-three-year-old Maung Thein Win, son of U Ohn Thaung, again stepped on a mine and his right foot was blown off and was wounded at his thigh.

Two injured were rushed to Kyaukkyi Hospital and the local authorities are providing necessary assistance to them and they were receiving medical treatment. The local authorities and the people are in hot pursuit of the insurgents.

MNA

Drive Safely

Prepared for every eventuality

Ko Ke

I have heard recently that the US extended one more year its sanctions on the goods of Myanmar. The report is nothing new. The news is not in a position to change the status quo. A roly-poly will remain upright or standing position wherever it is thrown. Indeed, Myanmar is exactly the same.

In 2003, President Bush signed the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. The act is now four years old. In total disregard of objective conditions in our country, the US Senators and Congressmen alike have remarked that after four years the sanctions did not work, that Myanmar government did not make any progress, that there was no significant improvement in the Road Map and that democratic forces were not permitted to attend the National Convention.

The extension of sanctions is not for the sake of human rights or democratic cause of Myanmar people but in the American interests. The sanctions have been extended with the aim of enabling the US government to launch propaganda, to win the votes of the American people and finally to place Myanmar under its influence. It is designed to serve self-interest. In fact, it is an invention to enhance its image as an advocate of the world democracy under the pretexts of human rights and democracy but at the expense of Myanmar people.

Sanctions against a developing nation like ours and cutting of humanitarian assistance constitute acts lacking humanitarian spirit. They are breach of human rights as they have created hardships among the people.

The West bloc thinks that economic sanctions would contribute to the flourishing of democracy in the countries unfriendly to them. The world nations do not accept this policy. It is aimed at suppressing the nations concerned. In every nation, economic progress is the key to improvement in the standard of living, higher literacy rate, greater thinking power, narrowing the gap of the people's basic needs. Only after fulfilling these requirements will it be possible to achieve success in democracy. They are shouting democracy cause but in practice they are imposing economic sanctions against our country. It seems that they are hindering the process of transition to democracy.

The nation and the people are like the water and the water lily. The two are inter-dependent. If the level of water rises, the water lily will look grander. They said they targeted the ruling government but the nation and the people were to suffer as well. So, the excuse that the sanctions were targeted at the government only is meaningless. The present government since 1988 has decentralized the economy and opened the door to market economy thereby paving the way for a multiparty political system desired by the people. In doing so, it is trying its utmost to change over smoothly to a system conducive and acceptable in all aspects to the Myanmar society instead of directly copying the western democracy. They should understand how difficult the task has been to be able to rebuild the nation and reach this stage after overcoming all the political and economic pressures initiated by the elements inside and outside the country in collusion. In spite of the government's constant efforts made day in, day out, certain requirements are yet to be fulfilled. This is largely due to the pressures, sanctions and hindrances perpetrated by those elements. The people of Myanmar are able to distinguish the original and the imitation, the truth and the untruth.

The elements seem to assume that the government would release Daw Suu Kyi if they apply pressure and impose sanctions on the latter, and they would be able to install a government they favour and work for the flourishing of democracy in the country. If so, it is totally wrong. The condition of our people today is different from that of those in 1988. **The government has categorically stated that it will hand over power systematically to the new government elected by the people in accordance with the constitution that will come into existence. As described in the seven-step Road Map, a new civilian government will come to power inevitably. However, the government will not accept the kind of government desired by the US and the West bloc at present, in other words it will not allow a new government to be a minion that is under the influence of the external powers.**

As it is relevant I would like to add something. Who is the one who introduced the term sanctions? None other than Daw Suu Kyi. She remained in her house under restrictions which were lifted in July, 1995.

But the day after the lifting of sanctions she, with reliance on the West bloc, threatened that the Tatmadaw government had to choose one of the two alternatives—dialogue or utter devastation. She met diplomats and correspondents time and again and often wrote letters to the UN and international organizations demanding not to invest in Myanmar, not to extend humanitarian assistance to Myanmar, and not to allow Myanmar to attend international meetings. Hence, the term 'sanctions' is friendly to us against our wish. This has been due to the demands of Daw Suu Kyi.

The West bloc led by the US immediately obliged the demand of Daw Suu Kyi and NLD. Apparently they did not seem to consider whether the move would be proper or not. As a result, there also came into use the practice 'the four cuts'. They are: (1) the flow of international investments into Myanmar is to be barred; (1) international aids and loans to Myanmar are to be prohibited; (3) international trade and business dealings are to be cut; and (4) no international relations and no tourist visits.

Daw Suu Kyi is the person who demanded these sanctions and cuts. Her mentors readily granted them. Well, why did Daw Suu Kyi hastily demand such economic sanctions and blockages? Did she demand those sanctions for the well-being of our people? I do not wish to say but I have to. The reason of her demand was not for the well-being of the people. She did so for her self-interest and to grab power. If the international circles blocked and opposed the government, Myanmar would be isolated in the world. The country would face economic recession due to sanctions and blockages. The people would be impoverished followed by general deterioration. This would lead to discontent of the people. At that stage her destructive group would attempt to stir up trouble as in the case of 1988 disturbances throughout the nation. If their attempt became successful the ruling government would be toppled and they would grab power. That was what they had calculated. They seemed to think their scheme to be a superb one. Well, was that much important for the NLD to seize full authority? Wasn't too bad to attempt to grab power or secure position at the expense of the people?

Why is the US putting pressure on our country? Its reason to do so is on the pretext of democracy and human rights but its ulterior motive is to install a puppet government that will be dancing to its tune. That is why the US is putting all the blame on the Tatmadaw government and encouraging any act to oppose the government whether or not the act is within the framework of law for democracy cause. All its attempts are to help Daw Suu Kyi get State power. Only when she comes to power will the Americans be able to exploit resources from Myanmar's soil and they can contain our great neighbour, the potential target of theirs. Besides, the US will seek its own interest by taking advantage of Myanmar's political, economic and social affairs. All things considered, it is clear that the US is attempting to seek self-interest by driving our country to the brink of deteriorating situation.

In reality, America is resorting to all wicked schemes to dominate the whole globe only for its goodness' sake. In addition, its economy is strong enough to dominate international economic organizations like WTO, IMF and WB. There have been many instances that the US persuaded many developing countries to copy its economic style for its own interest. Shouting free market, it forced other countries to introduce open market. But the US protected its own market. The small nations that refused to copy the US's political and economic styles have to face pressure and economic sanctions. Moreover, it is trying to have the international community blame and isolate the ruling government in the name of democracy and human rights.

The US government has been putting various kinds of pressure and restrictions on Cuba, Syria, North Korea and Myanmar. Although these countries

(See page 9)

The flourishing of a democracy calls for a proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system. And this also calls for peace and stability of the State and national unity. This is why the ruling government is taking steps to adopt a market-oriented economic system after building peace, stability and national consolidation.

Prepared for every eventuality…

(from page 8)

had to suffer economic sanctions, there caused no dramatic change the way the US expected. Clear evidence is that the US policy of imposing economic sanctions did not work although Cuba and Iraq suffered economic sanctions for over 40 years and 14 years respectively. But the US is still self-opinionated. It is turning a complete blind eye to the assessments of political experts that sanctions only caused more trouble to the people rather than their government. There have been instances that some governments have matured by learning from their experiences while overcoming all internal hardships and obstacles.

America's imposition of economic sanctions for over 60 times could not make any nation a democracy, merely causing that nation's situation to deteriorate and the people to get into trouble. One clear example is Iraq. The US administration blatantly declared war on Iraq shouting the fall of the dictatorship and establishment of democracy after imposing economic sanctions on it first. Actually, its invasion of Iraq is to monopolize oil resources. If we look at the act of the US to destroy the lives and property of the Iraqi people for its self-interest, we can clearly know the ulterior motive of the US.

Who suffered in our country due to the US economic sanctions as instigated by Daw Suu Kyi? Both the country and the people suffered a lot. There caused great losses such as delay and withdrawal of FDIs and cessation of Global Fund. And few international aids came into the country. What's more, the US even accused France-based Total company engaging in exploration and distribution of natural gas in Myanmar of degrading the natural environment, illegally seizing the public farms in collusion with the government and committing forced labour, and filed a lawsuit against the company to pay a fine in its country.

In consequence, the State economy was more or less affected. Most of the people lost their job opportunities and became jobless. The number of the people who were out of work as factories were shut down reached even six digits and their dependent families had to face economic difficulties. With the declining tourism industry in the country as instigated by the US, not only major businesses but also souvenir shops, restaurants and taxi services depending on tourism had to experience economic losses. It is not strange that our people cannot tolerate any more and have lost their support for and trust in Daw Suu Kyi and her NLD as well as their master US that are the root cause of various problems facing the nation.

There is another intolerable act that they are committing. On the one hand, they are imposing sanctions on our country under various pretexts but on the other hand, they are aiding and abetting anti-government organizations and insurgent groups. National Endowment for Democracy (NED) that is formed with the assistance of the US government has been provided with US$ 3 millions to help commit destructive acts in our country under the title of the flourishing of democracy. To make matters worse, plans are under way to speed up the assistance until reaching 35.5 million pounds (over 73 million dollars) in 2013. This implies that the US is adopting the policy of giving others just a bit of a cracker. Those who have eaten only a bit of that cracker have no other choice but to do everything it has commanded. This point is already known to the general people.

However they put pressure and imposed sanctions on us, our country did not even tilt let alone its breakup. Our country can stand tall with its own dignity and have many good neighbours due to its independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy. Our country has favorable weather conditions and rich natural resources. Our country is the one where all patriotic national people always wishing to serve national interests live in unity and amity. Prevailing conditions have proved that our country has the ability to stand on its own feet enlisting the strength of its own people.

The ruling government is building up a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In doing so, it focuses on the seven-step Road Map and upholds the 12 State objectives. As Myanmar is an agricultural country, measures are being taken for the development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. Likewise, the State is encouraging industrial development by establishing industrial zones across the nation. At the same time, a network of roads and bridges have been built to ensure speedy flow of commodities. Education, health, and social foundations have also been built the length and breadth of the nation. The State also gave priority to rural development by laying down five rural development tasks. Besides, the government tried its utmost to build national reconsolidation with 17 major national race armed groups and 18 other small armed groups, thereby contributing to development of border areas and elimination of poppy cultivation.

As a result of these efforts, the entire country has enjoy peace and stability that has never prevailed before. In comparison with the periods of colony, AFPFL and socialist programme party, the nation today has seen its economic growth and improved living standards of the people. As for the international arena, Myanmar has been able to actively cooperate with ASEAN, BIMSTEC and Asian countries in the areas of regional peace and economy. Despite withdrawal of Global Fund from the nation, its effort to fight the three major diseases has met with success due to the replacement of EU's 3D Fund. Even some regional countries that incidentally misunderstood Myanmar in the past have realized the goodwill effort and achievements of the ruling government and they are cooperating with constructive attitude. The reason I am writing this article is to let them (the US and its allies and anti-government groups) know Myanmar is marching towards its goal with the strength of its neighbouring nations by regarding all one-sided restrictions and sanctions as an inspiration to move forward.

The flourishing of a democracy calls for a proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system. And this also calls for peace and stability of the State and national unity. This is why the ruling government is taking steps to adopt a market-oriented economic system after building peace, stability and national consolidation. However, to be frank, the government's steps towards that economic system are being held back because of economic sanctions. While the nation's political and economic conditions were affected, small- and medium-scale businesses were not successful as much as desired. If Daw Suu Kyi and NLD have not demanded outside economic sanctions, the country would have been much nearer to its goal.

Actually, the ruling government is the one that saved the nation when its situation was deteriorating in 1988 and strove its utmost to develop in all aspects enlisting the strength of the people. As such, **I have something to tell Daw Suu Kyi, NLD and the superpower that extended the period of economic sanctions on our country. A determined rower will not stop rowing the boat just because the oar breaks. He will use his hand in place of the oar. He will not call for help in a loud voice putting aside the broken oar.** We are like the rower. We are prepared for every eventuality. I have already stated that we have been able to manage our affairs. Of course, the boat will not move fast enough when we use our hands in place of the oars. Under the normal condition and if the wind helps the boat move forward, it will make good progress. It is food for thought for you. We, on our part, will carry on striving for the realization of the democratic goal as much as we can, rowing the boat in unison. We would like to assert that we are capable of continuing the journey.

Translation: AK+ST

Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 3-8-07

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The ruling government is building up a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In doing so, it focuses on the seven-step Road Map and upholds the 12 State objectives.

Why is the US putting pressure on our country? Its reason to do so is on the pretext of democracy and human rights but its ulterior motive is to install a puppet government that will be dancing to its tune.

However they put pressure and imposed sanctions on us, our country did not even tilt let alone its breakup. Our country can stand tall with its own dignity and have many good neighbours due to its independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy.

Prevailing conditions have proved that our country has the ability to stand on its own feet enlisting the strength of its own people.

I have something to tell Daw Suu Kyi, NLD and the superpower that extended the period of economic sanctions on our country. A determined rower will not stop rowing the boat just because the oar breaks. He will use his hand in place of the oar. He will not call for help in a loud voice putting aside the broken oar.

Personnel, local farmers of Bago Division urged to participate in boosting agricultural products and changing agricultural system from conventional to mechanized farming

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends transplanting competition in Bago. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence delivered an address at the concluding of monsoon paddy cultivation for 2007-08 of Bago Division and the paddy transplanting contest in Indine Village of Toungoo Township yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the government has been laying down annual plans for states and divisions to grow 10 major crops including monsoon and summer paddy, three perennial crops, three new item crops and one special crop for development of the agricultural sector. It is necessary to ensure local food sufficiency, and exports of surplus crops will contribute not only toward booming the State economy but also toward developing the socio-economy of the rural people.

He cited that the ceremony was to conclude the cultivation of monsoon paddy on about 2.86 million acres in Bago Division. Hence, the remaining acres are to be put under monsoon paddy and efforts are to be made for exceeding the target of cultivation. Furthermore, preparatory tasks are to be made for growing of summer paddy on 400,000 acres of land in Bago Division for 2007-08.

He pointed out that it is necessary to plant physic nut on 500,000 acres of land in the whole Bago Division within three years. In addition to paddy, edible oil crops and physic nut, arrangements are to be made for cultivation of three new item crops and rubber to meet the targets. With a view to meeting the targets, the government has built 201 dams after 1988 in the entire nation and 36 dams, five sluice gates and two river water pumping stations in Bago Division. To serve the interest of the people, four new dams and one sluice gate are under construction. In conclusion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged departmental personnel and local farmers to participate in the task for boosting agricultural products and changing agricultural system from manual to mechanized farming.

Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko delivered an address.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander watched the paddy transplanting contest and presented prizes to respective winning teams.

After the ceremony, they viewed agricultural equipment at sales rooms and booths of Myanma Agriculture Service and Agricultural Mechanization Department. — *MNA*

Monywa University students become USDA members

***Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint donates K 1 million to Monywa Technology University to install water purifying machine at the university.* —SPED**

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug —The presentation of Union Solidarity and Development Association membership applications of Monywa University was held at the university here on 31 July.

Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and USDA CEC member Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered addresses. Afterwards, Rector Dr Maung Htoo of the university briefed on presentation of applications. At the presentation, Secretary of the division USDA U Soe Soe accepted 1,120 membership applications of students.

While in Monywa, the CEC member viewed the competition of Sepak-takraw events of the university teams and presented awards to outstanding teams.

In Monywa Economic University, the minister attended the opening of men's soccer tournament of the university. Pro-Rector U Aung Myint of the university delivered an address. Next, the minister donated sports gear to the university.

At Chaung U Township USDA office, the minister met with local people. He donated cash, books and sports gear to Aye Yeik Mon (2) Parahita Women Centre.

MNA

Commander inspects progress in setting up of Thanlyin as model town

YANGON, 3 Aug — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win attended the ceremony to clarify preventive measures against dengue haemorrhagic fever and diarrhoea, sanitation and progress in establishment of Thanlyin as a model town, at Shin Saw Pu Hall in Thanlyin this morning.

The commander and party viewed greening and beautifying of Kyaikkhauk Pagoda Road and Aungmyinmo Road.

At Thanlyin Township Development Affairs Committee Office, the commander heard reports on preventive measures against DHF, proper flow of water at drains, sanitation and spraying of insecticide presented by officials. Next, he viewed dredging of drains and sanitation in South Myoma Ward.

At the ceremony to clarify progress in establishment of Thanlyin as a model town, officials reported on growing of coconut and star-flower trees, setting up of six village-tracts as wards, arrangements for establishment of Thanlyin Industrial Zone and installation of solar system traffic lights. Later, the commander attended to the needs. — *MNA*

***Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win inspects dredging a drain in Thanlyin Township.* — MNA**

Commander supervises agriculture task, religious affairs in Ponnagyun

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Shein inspected cultivation of monsoon paddy on 200 acres of land and broadcasting of fertilizers in Yaybyukan Village of Ponnagyun Township on 28 July.

On 29 July, he attended the ceremony to hoist the Htidaws (umbrellas) atop Htindawmu and Myindawmu pagodas in MraukU. At the ceremony, the commander offered fruits to Buddha images in the precinct of the pagodas.

The commander supplicated on the religious affairs to the Sayadaws. Nine members of the Sangha consecrated the pagodas.

After the ceremony, the commander and wife together with officials donated provisions to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Cash rewards presented to those who handed over ancient Buddha images, artifacts

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — A ceremony to present cash reward for handing over of ancient Buddha image and artifacts found near Thayawhan Village of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District was held at the Ministry of Culture yesterday afternoon.

On behalf of the Minister for Culture, Director-General U Sann Win of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department presented K 12,658,739 to U Kyaw Thet Khaing and U Than Tun of Thayawhan Village who handed over a gold Buddha image and a silver Buddha image of Pyu age, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Indaçakka of YwaU Monastery of Sipintha Village who handed over an alloy Buddha image of Konbaung age, Sayadaw Bhaddanta U Tikkha of Shwetaunggale Zedi Monastery who handed over silverware of Pyu age and U Kyaw Nyunt of Thayawhan Village who handed over multi-coloured marble beads.

On behalf of those who were awarded with cash rewards, U Than Tun expressed gratitude.

Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department is preserving objects of cultural heritage and ancient buildings in accord with the laws, rules and regulations.

MNA

Director-General U Sann Win of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department present cash awards to those who found ancient artifacts in Thayawhan Village of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.
CULTURE

Symposium on "Global Climate Change and its Impact on Health" on 11 August

YANGON, 3 Aug — Department of Microbiology of University of Medicine-1 will hold a symposium on "Global Climate Change and its Impact on Health" at Myanmar Medical Association on Theinbyu Road here on 11 August.

Professor Kyi Kyin Thinn will give talks on "Global Warming and its Consequences — Believe it or not!" ; Associate Professor Win Win Maw on "Climate Extremes : Causes and Effects" ; Associate Professor War Win Htike on "Effect of Climate Change on the Emergence and Re-emergence of Infectious Diseases "; Associate Professor Thuzar Han on "Climate Change and Non-infectious Diseases" and Associate Professor Kyu Kyu Win on "Ways and Means to Save the Earth".

Those interested are invited by MMA to participate in the symposium and registration can be made from 10 am to 4 pm at Department of Microbiology, University of Medicine-1, Yangon, or on-site on the day of the symposium.

MNA

Solar-powered traffic lights operational in downtown

YANGON, 2 Aug — Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin gave the green light to install solar-powered traffic lights in downtown Yangon after inspecting the test-run of solar-powered traffic lights in Mingala Taungnyunt Township today.

The solar-powered traffic lights have been operational at the junction of Theinbyu Road and Bo Min Yaung Road, Theinbyu Junction and at the junction of Daw Thein Tin Road and Upper Pansodan Road since 24 July.

As the traffic lights are also connected with the battery back up system, they can operate around the clock. Solar panels imported from China and India are used at the new traffic light system to produce electricity from the sun light.

Arrangements are being made to use solar-powered traffic lights at junctions in Kamayut and Tamwe Townships.

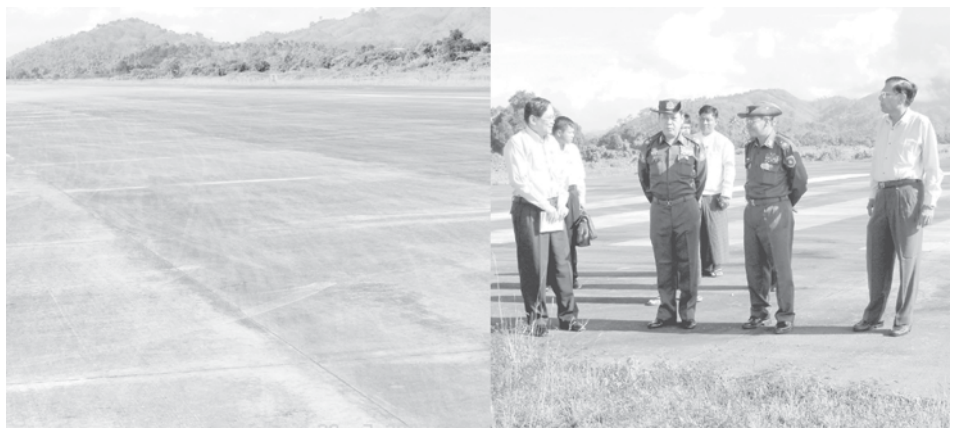
MNA

Myanmar makes unbeaten run in impressive 2-1 win over Malaysia

YANGON, 3 Aug — Myanmar made unbeaten run in an impressive 2-1 win over Malaysia in the group-A of ASEAN U-20 Football Championship held in Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam at 5.30 pm Vietnam time today.

Myanmar took the lead with the first-half 25th minute goal of Kyaw Khine Win. Malaysia leveled the match with the 40th minute goal in the second half. Pyae Phyo Oo broke the deadlock from a well-weighted free kick at the stoppage time to spark Myanmar's hopes of reaching the semifinals.

Myanmar grabs up six points in the group-A with two wins in two matches while Malaysia and Laos have three points each after two matches. Myanmar takes on Singapore on 5 August. — *MNA*



Transport Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe inspects the runway of Ann Airport. **— MNA (News Reported)**

Maintenance of airplanes of Myanma Airways supervised

YANGON, 3 Aug — Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung inspected tasks of the maintenance workshop of Myanma Airways in Mingaladon on 31 July afternoon.

After giving instructions, the minister presented cash and prizes to engineers and Senior Steward Thet Naing Tun who was an outstanding trainee in the course at Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi).

Next, the minister viewed major maintenance, special inspection and checking of machines at the airplanes.

MNA

Ceremonies to grow physic nut plants, mark completion of ploughing held in Bago Div

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug — A ceremony to grow physic nut plants was held in the compound of No 89 Saw Mill in Kaytumate of Toungoo Township in Bago Division on 28 July.

It was attended by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint, senior military officers, local authorities, departmental officials, members of the social organizations, teachers and students and the local people.

Next, the commander and wife grew physic nut plants and so did departmental officials and members of social organizations.

On 30 July, the commander attended a ceremony to mark completion of ploughing and transplanting skills contest held in Bago township and presented prizes to winners. — *MNA*

Education Minister arrives back

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug — Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein arrived back here by air this morning after attending the UNESCO's regional conference on world literacy held in the People's Republic of China from 31 July to 1 August. They were welcomed back at the Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Ministers for Education U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min and departmental officials.

Director-General U Ohn Myint of Myanmar Education Research Bureau also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

ADVERTISEMENTS

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားနှင့် မြန်မာ့ရုပ်ရှင်လုပ်ငန်းအတွက်
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မြန်မာ့အသံနှင့် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား

(က)	100 W TVTX	1 Set
(ခ)	50 W TVTX	3 Sets
(ဂ)	10 W TVTX	2 Sets
(ဃ)	e Network Equipment	1 Lot
(င)	Maintenance Equipment	1 Lot
(စ)	Digital Satellite Receiver (DYNASAT F-1)	20 Nos
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(ဎ)	Double Cassette Deck	2 Nos
(ဏ)	Radio Cassette Recorder	7 Nos
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(ဗ)	1 KVA UPS SVC 1000A	2 Nos
(ဘ)	5 KVA UPS	2 Nos
(မ)	2 KVA UPS	9 Nos

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(ဃ)	Remote Control Cable	8 Nos
(င)	14” TV Colour Monitor	8 Nos

မြန်မာ့ရုပ်ရှင်လုပ်ငန်း

(က) ဆေးရောင်စုံနဂ္ဂတစ်ဖလင် (၄၀၀) ပေ ၁၇၀ ဘူး
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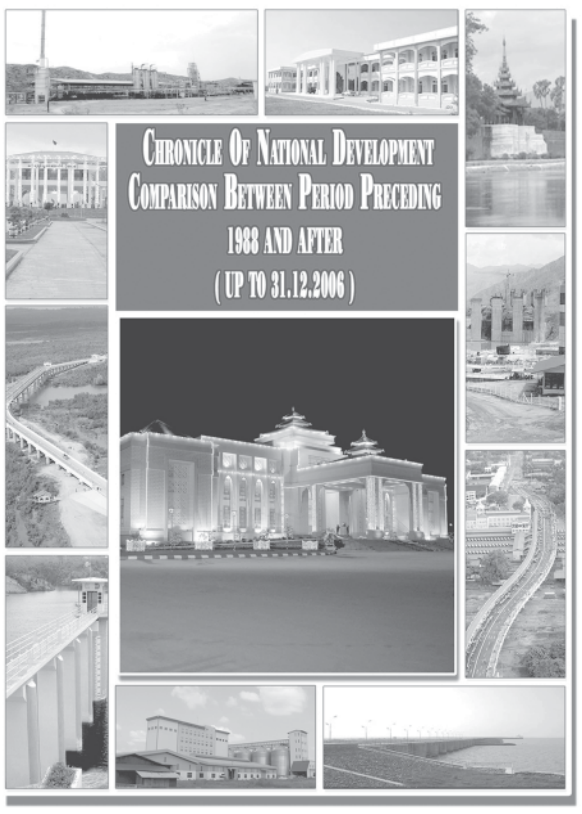

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2. Tender documents are available at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Supply), Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon starting from 3.8.2007 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call: 01-291982,291985,291988, (201555 Ext 601,602,605,612) Deputy General Manager
Supply Department,Myanma Railways,Botahtaung Yangon

Nine killed, 12 wounded in Thai south

YALA (Thailand), 2 Aug—Five rebels were killed in Thailand’s rebellious Muslim far south after militants launched a spate of gun, arson and bomb attacks on Wednesday, killing four and wounding at least 12, police and soldiers said. Police said they found five bodies of men aged between 25 and 30 after clashes in a rubber plantation in Yala, one of the four southern provinces where more than 2,300 people have been killed in the three-year insurgency.

Four *M-16* rifles and combat gear were also found at the site, a police officer involved in the clashes told *Reuters* by telephone.

Earlier on Wednesday, militants shot dead two soldiers and wounded another as they patrolled a rail track in Yala.

The attackers escaped with two *M-16* rifles and a pistol, police said.

The attack came shortly after 400 police and soldiers raided 17 targets in the capital of Yala Province, but found only four guns and no suspects, an Army spokesman said.

In Narathiwat Province, insurgents set off a bomb hidden in a motorcycle parked in a busy market, killing a Buddhist woman and wounding 11 other shoppers.—*MNA/Reuters*

An adult seal and pup are seen resting on the ice. The government of Canada on Tuesday said it would try to reverse a recent Belgium ban on imported seal products, by challenging it at the World Trade Organization. — INTERNET

Iran, Nicaragua deepen links despite US concerns

MANAGUA, 2 Aug—Iranian Government officials met leftist President Daniel Ortega on Wednesday for the third time this year as Nicaragua seeks help for its energy crisis in a deepening of ties with Teheran that worries the United States.

Ortega, a former Marxist guerilla and Cold War veteran who won power for a second time in January, is eager for assistance in helping end energy blackouts that threaten his support.

Despite US warnings, Ortega is building alliances with anti-Washington countries such as Venezuela and Iran, which are flush with cash from high world oil prices and eager to win friends in Latin America.

Ortega met Iranian Deputy Energy Minister Hamid Chitchian on Wednesday to try to convince Iran to help build several hydro-electric plants in Nicaragua as the impoverished country grapples with long daily blackouts.

MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးဖွင့် ဆေးဘိမ့်ဖွဲ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ခဲ့

Japanese study finds coffee may prevent colon cancer

TOKYO, 2 Aug— Drinking three or more cups of coffee a day may cut the risk of colon cancer in women by half, according to a study by Japanese scientists.

Researchers from Tokyo's National Cancer Centre studied data from more than 96,000 men and women aged between 40-69 over a period of up to 12 years from 1990, a member of the team said on Wednesday. They found no significant benefit in men.

Even after adjusting for other factors including diet and exercise, they found that women who drank three or more cups of coffee a day had half the risk of developing colon cancer, compared with those who drank no coffee at all.

The researchers, whose findings have been published in the *International Journal of Cancer*, did not find any link between consumption of green tea and colon cancer.

"In Japan, almost all the male population drinks alcohol and there are a large number of smokers," said Manami Inoue of the research team.

"There may be some benefit from coffee for men, but it may be that we were unable to adjust for these factors."

The mechanism by which coffee may prevent cancer is unknown, Inoue said. The caffeine it contains could stimulate the working of the colon, or the effect could be due to coffee's antioxidant properties, she said.

"Some people cannot tolerate caffeine, so they should not force themselves to drink coffee.

But for people who like it, there is no reason to give it up," Inoue said.

MNA/Reuters

British lottery player wins twice by mistake

LONDON, 2 Aug— A lottery winner doubled his share of the jackpot to nearly one million pounds after he mistakenly bought two lucky tickets for the same draw, organizers Camelot said on Wednesday.

Derek Ladner, 57, from Cornwall, and his wife Dawn, 60, won with their usual numbers in the mid-week draw, sharing the 2.4-million-pound jackpot with four other tickets.

A week later, he found a second identical ticket in his wallet and realized he had absent-mindedly entered twice. Their double-share of the jackpot is worth just under a million pounds.

The pair have handed in their notice at work and are taking a break to decide how to spend their windfall.

"It's beginning to sink in," Ladner told a news conference. "We are going on holiday first...and then think about what we are going to do for the rest of our lives." — *MNA/Reuters*

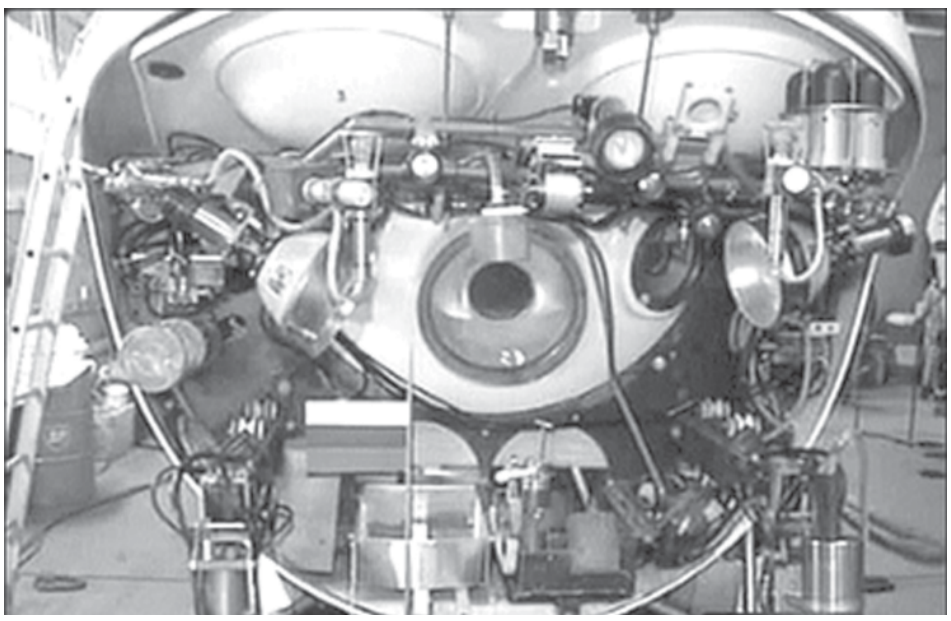
Three German states introduce smoking bans

BERLIN, 2 Aug— Three German federal states introduced smoking bans on Wednesday, after an attempt to create national regulations collapsed in the face of disagreement between states and opposition from the tobacco lobby.

Lower Saxony and Baden-Wuerttemberg in the west and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania in the east were the first to ban smoking in public places, while the other 13 regions have pledged to introduce bans by next year.

The three banned smoking in schools, hospitals and state institutions, but Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania will wait until January 2008 before joining the other two states in outlawing smoking in bars and restaurants.

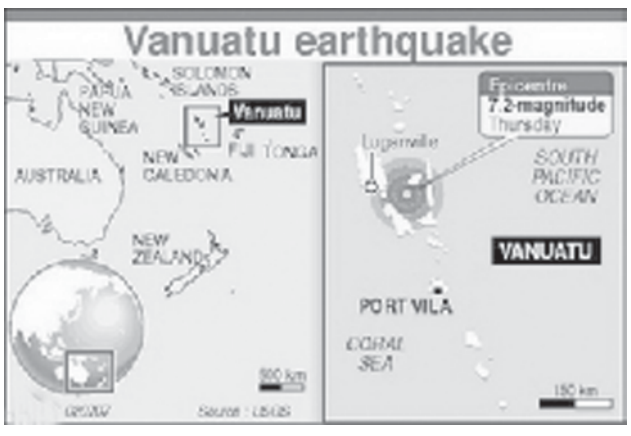
"It's a promising start," said Martina Poetschke-Langer at the German Cancer Research Centre in Heidelberg. Almost a third of Germans smoke and anti-smoking activists said nearly 140,000 die each year from tobacco related diseases. — *MNA/Reuters*



A Russian NTV channel TV grab shows recently, a front view of the Mir-1 mini-submarine with a Russian state flag prior to diving into the water of the Arctic Ocean . A Russian expedition planted the country's flag on the seabed under the North Pole on Thursday, capping a mission to claim the mineral riches of the Arctic and drawing ridicule from abroad. — INTERNET

Powerful quake jolts Vanuatu, South Pacific

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug— A 7.2-magnitude earthquake struck on Wednesday in the South Pacific 30 miles (45 kilometres) southeast of Santo, Vanuatu, the US Geological Survey said.



Map showing the epicentre of a 7.2 magnitude earthquake that hit the South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu on 2 Aug, 2007. — INTERNET

The quake was at a depth of 107.3 miles (172.7 kilometres), USGS said. The epicentre was also 1,240 miles (1,996 kilometres) northeast of Brisbane, Australia.

"Based on all available data a destructive Pacific-wide tsunami not expected and there is no tsunami threat to Hawaii," read an advisory from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre.

The quake struck at 4:08 am local time (1:08 pm).

MNA/Reuters

Ring-tailed lemurs eat iced watermelon during hot weather at South Korea's largest amusement park Everland in Yongin, about 50 km (31 miles) south of Seoul, on 2 Aug, 2007. INTERNET

Seven dead after falling into paper pulp pool in north China

SHIJIAZHUANG, 2 Aug— Seven workers died and one was hospitalized after they fell into a paper pulp pool in north China's Hebei Province, work safety officials said on Wednesday.

The accident occurred around 11:00 am on Wednesday at the privately-owned Qianzhang Village Paper Mill in Langfang City, according to the Hebei work safety administration.

One worker fell into the pool and seven others also fell in one after another in rescue attempts, the administration said.

Seven workers were poisoned by the chemicals in the pool and the surviving rescuer was still being treated in hospital.

The paper mill has halted production. Local authorities are investigating the cause of the accident.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

China Olympic team beat Botswana 2-0 at 4- nation tourney

SHEYANG (Northeast China), 2 Aug — Chinese Olympic team won 2-0 over Botswana's Under-23 side on the opening day of the four-nation invitational tournament.

Ratomir Djukovic's team, who was humiliated by the African side with a 4-0 whitewash during their oversea training tour last month, created many opportunities but did not converted any of them into goals until the dying minutes of the first half.

With six minutes to go before the break, midfielder Shen Longyuan passed the ball to Zhao Xuri and the latter's powerful drive from 30 metres away in front of the goalmouth forced a corner for China after Botswana keeper Itumeleng Selapa flung himself to tip Zhao's kick around the post.

Chen Tao unleashed the corner, a Botswana defender cleared it out of the box, but Shen was again picked by the loose ball and drove it in with a tight angle to make the breakthrough for China in the 40th minute. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Sharapova, Williams ease into San Diego third round

SAN DIEGO, 3 Aug — Defending champion Maria Sharapova made an impressive return to the San Diego Classic by overpowering Thailand's Tamarine Tanasugarn 6-1, 6-3 in the second round on Wednesday.

Wimbledon champion Venus Williams also put in a solid performance, beating Virginie Razzano of France 6-2, 6-4.

Number two seed Sharapova will face 13th seed Tatiana Golovin of France on Thursday, who beat Luxembourg's Anne Kremer 6-1, 4-6, 6-2.

Playing her first match since falling to Venus Williams in the fourth round of Wimbledon, Sharapova played a steady yet lethal match, standing inside the baseline and taking big rips at the Thai's groundstrokes.

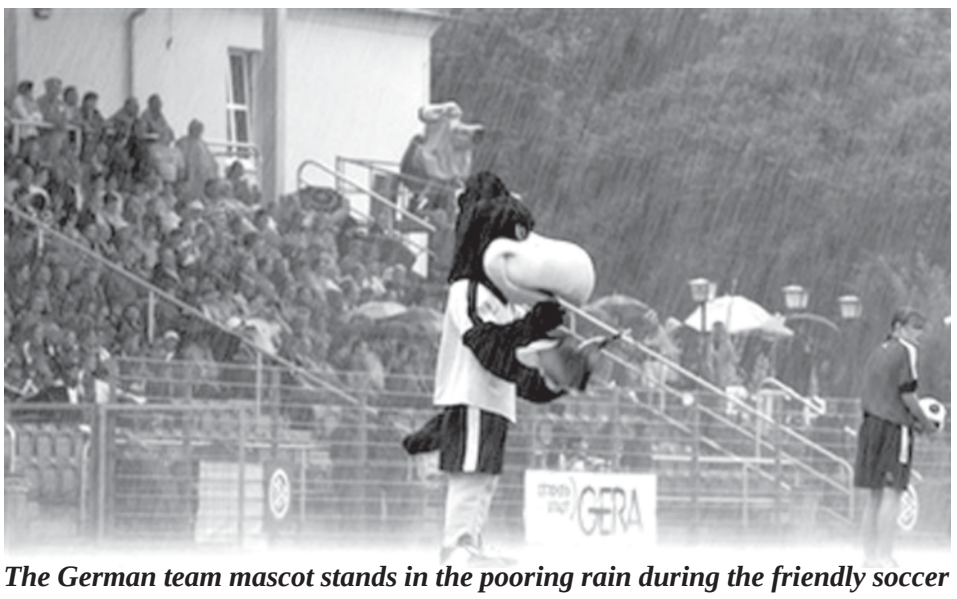
MNA/Reuters

Mahan, Casey, Sabbatini set pace, Woods lurks

AKRON (Ohio), 3 Aug — In-form American Hunter Mahan, Britain's Paul Casey and South African Rory Sabbatini grabbed a share of the lead at the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational on Thursday with Tiger Woods in hot pursuit. Mahan, Casey and Sabbatini fired matching three-under-par 67s to set the first-round pace in sweltering, slick conditions at Firestone Country Club.

Woods, hunting his sixth victory here in nine appearances, opened ominously with a 68 to share fourth place with fellow Americans Mark Calcavecchia, Boo Weekley and Arron Oberholser, Briton Lee Westwood and Australian Stuart Appleby.

MNA/Reuters



The German team mascot stands in the pooring rain during the friendly soccer match between Germany and the Czech Republic in Gera, Germany, on 2 Aug, 2007. The FIFA World Cup will start in China on 10 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET

Italy's Nesta retires from international game

MILAN, 2 Aug — AC Milan's Italy defender Alessandro Nesta has retired from the international game following in the footsteps of striker Francesco Totti.

"I'm not going to play for the national side anymore. My adventure in blue finishes here," Nesta told a news conference on Wednesday two weeks after Totti made the same announcement.

The 31-year-old Nesta has 78 Italy caps and played in three World Cups but his international career has recently been dogged by injury problems.

He was forced to miss last July's World Cup final victory over France because of a groin injury and has only featured for Italy once since October's 3-1 Group B victory over Georgia in Euro 2008 qualifying.

MNA/Reuters

Dara Torres waves to the crowd from the pool after winning the women's 100m freestyle event at the US Swimming National Championships in Indianapolis on 1 August, 2007.
INTERNET

Henin, Jankovic qualify for season-ending event

BRUSSELS, 3 Aug — Belgian world number one Justine Henin and Serbia's Jelena Jankovic are the first players to qualify for the season-ending WTA Tour championship in Madrid, organizers said on Thursday.

Henin, who took the title in Madrid last year, currently leads the WTA Tour, winning five titles so far this season while world number three Jankovic has claimed four titles to date in 2007.

"I am proud of the fact that for the second year in a row, I am the first to qualify as one of the elite players and can't wait to go back there and be a part of that special atmosphere," Henin said in a statement.

Jankovic is the first Serbian woman to qualify for the event which starts on 6 November. The top eight performers over a season qualify for the tournament, worth three million dollars in prize money.

MNA/Reuters

Stuart Appleby, from Australia, chips to the ninth green at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio, during the first round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament on 2 Aug, 2007. — INTERNET

Johansson downs defending champion Clement in Washington

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — Sweden's Thomas Johansson served his way into the third round of the 600,000-US-dollar Washington Classic with a 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory over fourth seed and defending champion Arnaud Clement on Wednesday.

The 32-year-old former Australian Open champion was blitzed in the opening set but discovered his serving touch to claim his fifth career victory in 10 matches against the Frenchman.

"After the first set, I thought to myself, 'It can't get any worse than this, it can only get better'," said Johansson, the world number 74. "I tried to go for it a little more in the second set."

In other second-round matches, sixth seed Mardy Fish of the United States lost to Germany's Michael Berrer 7-6, 6-4 while wild card John Isner of the United States stunned eighth seed Benjamin Becker of Germany 3-6, 7-5, 7-6.

Johansson managed to break Clement once in each of the final two sets but it was enough to secure the win and set up a third-round affair against Chile's Paul Capdeville.

Clement, ranked 30th in the world, was nursing a pulled stomach muscle but refused to use it as an excuse.

"I really didn't play too good in the first set but I thought, 'I can win this match,'" said the 29-year-old Clement. "But he just started to play better. — *MNA/Reuters*

Corinthians complete 10th game without win

RIO DE JANEIRO, 3 Aug — Corinthians completed their 10th successive match without a win in the Brazilian championship as they drew 2-2 at Atletico Paranaense while Palmeiras lost 2-1 at home to nine-man Sport Recife.

Corinthians were denied victory in Curitiba when Rogerinho scored an 89th minute equalizer for the hosts with a deflected shot.

Paranaense had taken the lead with a header from defender Rodolpho before halftime but Corinthians midfielder Willian then scored twice in seven minutes after the break.

Corinthians, one of Brazil's most popular clubs and champions in 2005, remained 16th in the 20-team table with 17 points from 15 games.

Their neighbours Palmeiras, struggling in mid-table, took an early lead against Sport on Wednesday night when Martinez scored from a free kick.

But, despite having midfielder Bilica sent off in the 15th minute, the visitors equalized through Cesar on the half hour.

MNA/Reuters

Australian granny, 94, becomes world's oldest Master

CANBERRA, 3 Aug — A 94-year-old Australian great-great-grandmother who quit school at 12 is said to have become the world's oldest person to earn a university masters degree.

Medical Science Masters Degree graduate Phyllis Turner, from Australia's Adelaide University, began studying for her postgra-duate degree at age 90 and received her award this week.

"I feel very very happy after five years of study, but sorry that I am just a little bit immobilized," Mrs Turner, who uses a walking stick, told Australian papers.

Degree supervisor Professor Maciej Henneberg said he had been amazed by Turner's energy and dedication to study.

"Mentally she was like any other student. You couldn't tell her thinking, her enthusiasm and her interests apart from somebody who was 25. She has a lively mind," he told *Reuters.*

"She used to wake up at 5 a.m. in the morning and think about something, and then ring to say she wanted to check on it."

Turner left primary school at 12 to help her mother look after her siblings after her father left the family.

She returned to study almost 60 years later, enrolling at the prestigious Adelaide University to study anthropology at age 70, winning honours in 2002 before moving on to her masters.

MNA/Reuters

A polar bear holds a block of ice containing watermelon at the Everland Amusement Park in Yongin, south of Seoul, on 2 Aug, 2007. The polar bear is given the special iced treats in the hot summer weather by the zoo keepers. — XINHUA

Radio Myanmar

Saturday, 4 July
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music:
-The answer to our life (Back Street Boys)
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music:
-If only you were here (Stephen Gately)
8:50 am National news/ Slogan
9:00 am Music:
-Sweet kisses (Jessica Simpson)
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music:
-The way to my heart (Mandy More)
1:30 pm News / Slogan
1:40 pm Music at your music request
-It's the way you make me feel (Steps)
-Baby don't you hurt me (Atomic Kitten)
9:00 pm ASEAN news Exchange news from ASEAN membercountries
9:20 pm Myanma Culture … Dr Khin Maung Nyunt
9:30 pm Souvenirs
-Tie a team (Sgt Barry Soder)
-I met you (The Searchers)
9:45 pm News /Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

TV Myanmar

Saturday, 4 July
View on today

7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်တော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓေမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓေအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ မဓုဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am
2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ မဓုဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သိရိနှာဘိဝံသ(ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am
3. To be healthy exerciese

7:30 am
4. Morning news

7:40 am
5. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am
7. ဝန်ဖိုက်ချောင်းတံတား

8:15 am
8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:20 am
9. Musical programme

8:30 am
10. International news

8:45 am
11. Grammar made easy

11:00 am
1. Martial song

11:15 am
2. Musical programme

11:30 am
3. News

11:40 am
4. Games for children

12:05 am
5. Round up of the week's TV local news

12:35 am
6. "ငွေကြေးကိစ္စမှန်သမျှ ဘဏ်ကိုသာအားကိုးကြ" (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ဖြိုးငွေစိုး၊ မင်းရာဇာ၊ သဇင်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း၊ ဖူးစုံ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မြင့်စိုး–ဝ/သ)

1:00 pm
7. ဘင်း(မ်)စတတ် (BIMSTEC) အကြောင်း သိကောင်းစရာ

1:15 pm
8. Musical programme

1:30 am
9. Dance of national races

1:45 am
10. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:00 am
11. နိုင်ငံစီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ (ရိုးရာလက်မှုရက်ကန်း မြစ်ခြေစောင်လုပ်ငန်း)

2:10 am
12. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:20 am
13. "ရှင်သန်ခြင်း" (မင်းဟိဏ်း၊ ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ ဖိုးဖြူ၊ ခင်စိုးပိုင်၊ ကြည်စိုး(IC)၊ သန်းသန်းစိုး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–အောင်မိုး–ပဲရစ်)

2:45 am
14. International news

4:15 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Song for uphold national spirit

4:30 pm
3. English for everyday use

4:45 pm
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ –ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)

5:00 pm
5. Musical programme

5:10 pm
6. မြို့တော်အေးမင်းအောင် ဆိုင်းအဖွဲ့ဖျော်ဖြေခန်း (အပိုင်း–၂)

5:20 pm
7. မူဟန်သွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

5:30 pm
8. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm
9. Evening news

6:30 pm
10. Weather report

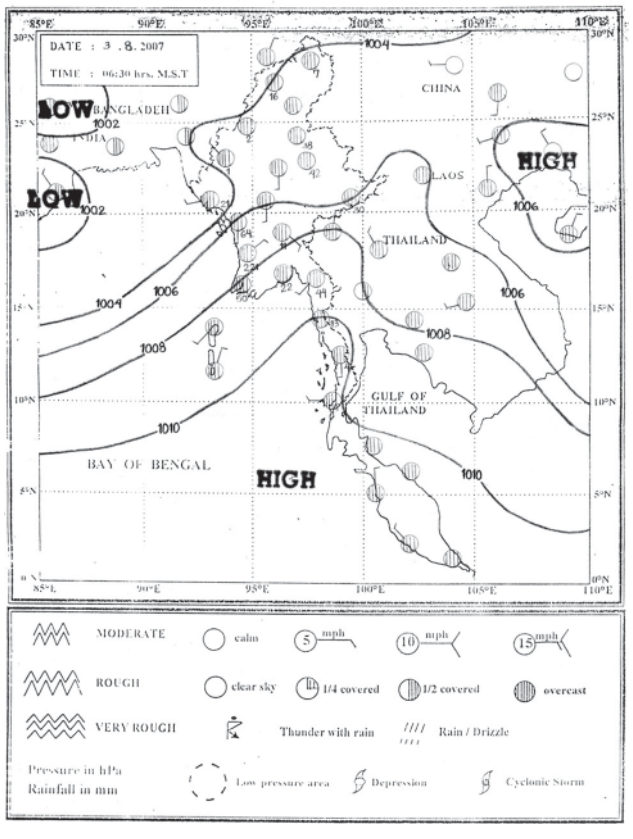
6:35 pm
11. အလှရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00 pm
12. စလင်းချောင်းတံတား

7:05 pm
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမားတော်"(အပိုင်း–၄၈)

8:00 pm
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာနှောင်ကြိုး" (အပိုင်း–၁၁)
18. The next day's programme

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 3 August, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.07) inch, Thandwe (9.02) inches, Thaton (2.95) inches, Katha (4.96) inches, Kyaukpyu (2.68) inches, Phyarpon (2.56) inches and Lashio (1.65) inches.

Maximum temperature on 2-8-2007 was 87ºF. Minimun temperature on 3-8-2007 was 70ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 3-8-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 2-8-2007 was (2.10) hours approx.

Rainfall on 3-8-2007 was (0.75) inch at Mingaladon, (0.90) inch at Kaba-Aye and (1.54) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (81.50) inches at Mingaladon, (83.54) inches at Kaba-Aye and (84.49) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (17:30) hours MST on 2-8-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 4-8-2007: Rain will be scattered in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin, Mon and Kayin States, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division, Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 4-8-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 4-8-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 4-8-2007: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for second weekend of August 2007: During the coming weekend, widespread rain in Yangon Division, isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.

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NCC Work Committee Chairman's clarification on detailed basic principles that should be adopted for Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" presented

Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe. MNA

YANGON, 3 Aug — *The following is the clarification of the National Convention Convening Work Committee on the detailed basic principles that should be adopted in the chapter "Amendment of the Constitution" to be included in drawing the State constitution at Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township yesterday.*

Mr Chairman and National Convention delegates,

I extend my warm greetings to you and may you be blessed with physical and mental well-being and auscipiousness.

At the plenary sessions held on 10 November 2006, the Work Committee chairman explained the detailed basic principles that should be adopted for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution". Regarding the Work Committee chairman's explanation, representatives of the delegate groups held group-wise discussions, compiled and read out proposal papers at the plenary sessions held from 21 to 29 December 2006. Of the proposals for the basic principles and detailed basic principles the NC had laid down, appropriate ones were submitted. Some of them are the ones that can benefit the nation and the people. So, regarding such kinds of proposals, the Work Committee sought the approval of the delegate groups through members of the panel of chairmen.

The Work Committee made a thorough study of the delegates' suggestions about the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution". The National Convention Convening Commission evaluated and adopted the suitable detailed basic principles the Work Committee had compiled. Now, I will explain the suitable detailed basic principles to be adopted for the Chapter "Amendment of the Constitution".

Esteemed NC delegates,

At the NC plenary session held on 10 November 2006, the Work Committee chairman regarding the Chapter 'Amendment of the Constitution' said, "The nation after adopting and promulgating the Constitution will have to make amendments as necessary depending on time and situation. When the amendments of the Constitutions of some nations are studied, there are two ways to amend a Constitution. The first method is to hold a referendum to make an amendment of some provisions of the Constitution after 75 per cent of all the members or two-thirds of the members have made a prior approval to amend them. The second method is to amend some provisions of the Constitution with the approval of 75 per cent of all members or two-thirds of the members. The Amendment of the Constitution has been prescribed in the Constitution as a separate Chapter. In the Union of Myanmar also, the topic has been provided as a separate Chapter in both the 1947 Constitution and the 1974 Constitution.

Then, the Work Committee chairman said, "Based on the study and appraisals, a collection of detailed basic principles that should be laid down for the Chapter Amendment of the Constitution is presented as follows:

1. **If there is wish to amend any of the provisions of this Constitution, the following methods shall be applied:**

(See page 4)

Detailed basic principles that should be adopted for Chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital" clarified

YANGON, 3 Aug — *The following is the clarification of the National Convention Convening Work Committee on the detailed basic principles that should be adopted in the chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital" to be included in drawing the State constitution at Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township yesterday.*

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary sessions held on 10 November 2006, the Work Committee chairman explained the detailed basic principles that should be adopted for the Chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital". Regarding the Work Committee chairman's explanation, the delegate groups:

- the Delegate Group of National Races;
- the Delegate Group of Peasants;
- the Delegate Group of Workers;
- the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelli gentsia;
- the Delegate Group of State Service Personnel;
- the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons; and
- the political parties from the Delegate Group of Political Parties:
- the National Unity Party;
- the Union Pa-O National Organization;
- the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party;
- the Mro (a) Khami National Solidarity Organi zation;
- the Lahu National Development Party;
- the Union Kayin League;
- the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party;
- the Wa National Development Party;, and -representatives of political parties from the Delegate Group of Representatives-Elect, and three Independent Representatives-Elect including Dr Hmu Htan, and six Independent Representatives-Elect including U Tin Win held group-wise discussions, and suggested that the detailed basic principles for the Chapter "State Flag, State Seal, National Anthem and the Capital" should be adopted. The are:

Regarding the State Flag;

"(1) The State Flag shall be prescribed as follows:

The Flag is marked with green, yellow and red stripes in a proportionate ratio. On the left end of the green stripe at the top of the Flag is a large white star directing upwards.

"(2) Law shall be promulgated concerning the State Flag."

"Explanation will be made on the detailed basic principle to be adopted in connection with the State Seal. In the 1947 Constitution there is no provision concerning the State Seal. The 1974 Constitution showed the picture of the State seal and stated, "The State Seal shall be as shown below."

Regarding the State Seal,

with the picture of the State Seal under it,

"The State Seal shall be as shown below."

Regarding the National Anthem,

"The present National Anthem shall be pre scribed as the National Anthem."

Regarding the Capital,

(See page 5)

Vice-Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Attorney-General U Aye Maung reads out the clarifications of Chairman of National Convention Convening Commission.

MNA

Flood possibility warning

According to the (06:30) hr MST observations today, the water levels of Ayeyawady river at Aunglan and Pyay are (2502) cm and (2855) cm respectively. The water levels may reach their respective danger levels of Aunglan and Pyay (2550) cm and (2900) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing this noon.