Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

Volume XV, Number 123 | 4th Waxing of Wagaung 1369 ME | Friday, 17 August, 2007

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Indonesian President

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug— On the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia which falls on 17 August 2007, a message of felicitations has been sent from Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, to His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia.—*MNA*

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends message of felicitations to Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug— On the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia which falls on 17 August 2007, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Yusuf Kalla, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia.—*MNA*

General Thura Shwe Mann receives Political Commissar of Jinan Military Region Command of PLA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence received a Chinese delegation led by Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, at 1.30 pm yesterday.

Also present at the call were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear Admiral Nyan Tun, Chief of Staff

(See page 8)

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

***General Thura Shwe Mann receives Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of the PLA and party at Bayintnaung Yeiktha.*—MNA**

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 17 August, 2007

Grow more trees to make country lush and green

Ceremonies to grow trees are being held the length and breadth of the nation during the rainy season.

As trees are being grown every year across the nation, the respective regions are now covered with forest and trees making the whole country lush and green. This also amounts to conservation of forest.

The trees being grown in the nation include such valuable ones as teak, ironwood tree, gum-kino, Thitya (*Shoera abtusa)*, and so on. Watershed plantations have been established in the arid zones of Central Myanmar. Furthermore, firewood plantations have been set up in rural regions.

Tamarind, neem, acacia, palm tree, etc grow well in arid zones with a little rains while mango, coconut, durain, jack fruit, betel nut, mangosteen, seasonal crops, etc as well as flowery and shade trees thrive in regions where there are more rains.

Growing trees gives virtues in the very present life, and it is a good legacy for posterity.

At a time when efforts are being made for environmental conservation the entire national people are urged to engage in extended cultivation of trees for greening and beautifying their regions.

NLD turning a blind eye to nation-building endeavours pushing State and people under foreign subjugation

21 members of Gyobingauk and Thegon Township NLDs quit

YANGON, 16 Aug — Twenty members including Daw Khin Aye San, U Nyein, U Than Aung, U Bo Kyway, U Kan Thein, U San Win, U Aye Cho and U Win Myint Thein from Gyobingauk Township National League for Democracy of Bago Division (West) and member U Aye Cho of Thegon Township NLD resigned from the party of their own volition, sending their resignation letters to NLD Headquarters and the local authorities on 2 August.

In their resignation letters sent to Gyobingauk and Thegon Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommissions, they said that the NLD was committing evil acts in collusion with external and internal destructive elements to harm the State and the people by using various ways and means and moreover, it was trying to push the State and the people under foreign subjugation after turning a blind eye to nation-building endeavours of the State. That was why they resigned from the party of their own volition, they said. — *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**

Foreign Minister sends message of felicitations to Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug— On the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia which falls on 17 August 2007, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr N Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. — *MNA*

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed Superintending Engineer U Khin Maung Hse of Bridge Construction Project Special Group (7) of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction as Managing Director of the same organization on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

MNA

Cash donated to Natmaw Monastic Education School in Myeik

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence met servicemen and families at Dawei Station and presented exercise books and stationery for the children of servicemen of Coastal Region Command Headquarters and Myeik Station through officials concerned on 14 August.

Next, he cordially greeted military officers, other ranks and families at the station and proceeded to Natmaw Monastic Education School in Myeik. He inspected academic tasks at the school and fulfilled the requirements. A total of 2,619 students are pursuing education in primary and middle levels at the school.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo visits Natmaw Monastic Education School in Myeik. —MNA

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo donated K 3.6 million, rice, edible oil, alms and exercise books to Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma-jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Ñanissara.

After that, wellwishers donated K 11.8 million to the funds of the school through the Sayadaw.

After giving necessary instructions, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected Jivitadana traditional medicine clinic of the monastery.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo together with Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo looked into development of Myeik and left for Yangon by air.

MNA

Officials speedily carry out relief work

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — The water level of Hlaing river rose to critical marks in Myitkyoe Village of Hmawby Township on 14 August and as a result some 113 households from Myitkyo, Amaukwe and Thayettaw villages were taken shelter in Myaungdaka model village, Hmawby Township. Officials provided necessary relief assistance to flood victims.

Another seven households each from Phayakon Village and Thanetkon Village were evacuated because the water level rose to danger marks in Aphyauk Dam in Taikkyi Township and some villages were in flood on 13 August.

Tabuhla, Aphyauk, Tawkhayan, Khuhnitkyaik and Thayetchaung dams still remain around the danger level. Over 200 households from Bawle village-tract were evacuated and the village basic education high school was temporarily closed because the water level of Bawle river rose to danger marks. Some village-tracts of Htantabin Township of Yangon Division were in flood. Moreover, 50 households from Hleseik, Tawlati and Nyaungwaing villages, 537 from Methamein village, 123 from Apyinyekyaw village and patients warded at Methamein Station Hospital were also transferred to safe places and village schools were temporarily closed.

Seventy houses were in flood in Htanpinkon Village of Minhla Township of Bago Division (West) and 35 households were evacuated. A total of 290 houses were flooded in Wingataw, Kywechan, Thechaunggyi and Byattada villages of Thayetchaung Township of Taninthayi Division and the flood victims were taken shelter in safe places and local authorities provided necessary assistance to them.

Landslide recently occurred at Kawkareik-Myawady road in Kayin State. Officials speedily repaired the damaged road and it returned to normal on 10 August. A tornado hit Petakhweyelekyun Village of Myanaung Township of Ayeyawady Division at about 9 pm on 12 August and some 75 corrugated iron sheets of the village primary school were damaged. Some schools were temporarily closed due to floods in Pathein and Maubin Districts.

The water level of Athtaran River rose to critical marks and some road sections were flooded in Kyaikmaraw Township of Mon State. Some school were temporarily closed starting from 14 August.

The water level around Hpa-an of Kayin State rose to 10 centimeters above the danger level due to floods of Thanlwin River on 13 August.

MNA

"The State" means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution

U Khin Maung Swe, a representative of Delegate Group of Workers.

MNA

U Sein Aung, a representative of Delegate Group of Workers.

MNA

YANGON, 16 Aug—*The following is the suggestions of Delegate Group of Workers on matters concerning the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.*

I wish health and happiness for all the esteemed Chairman and members of the Panel of Chairmen, the esteemed Chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Commission, the esteemed Chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, the esteemed Chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Management Committee, and delegates.

I am U Khin Maung Swe, a representative of Delegate Group of Workers of Dawbon Township, Yangon Division. Together with me, U Sein Aung, a representative of Delegate Group of Workers of Salingyi Township, Sagaing Division will present the proposal paper of our group concerning the amendment, addition and revocation of the adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles.

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session of the National Convention held at 9 am on 6 August 2007, the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee presented a comprehensive clarification of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that should be amended, added and repealed as necessary.

In his clarifications, the Work Committee Chairman said, "Now, the National Convention has successfully adopted the chapter-wise fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that are to be included in formulating the Constitution. The National Convention delegates have unanimously adopted the said fundamental principles and detailed basic principles taking time in holding discussions on them from various angles. Hence, they are the principles that should be actually based in writing the Constitution. The National Convention Convening Work Committee will now explain the matter concerning the amendment, the repeal, the transfer, the omission and the addition of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles as necessary after assessing them to be in accord with the time and situation, for the adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles to be in proper contextual order, to define the adopted objectives and detailed basic principles more clearly and to draft the Constitution more precisely and clearly."

The Panel of Chairmen of our group explained the Work Committee Chairman's clarifications at 1 pm on 6 August 2007 for the group to present suggestions on the matter. With keen interest, the delegates of the group compiled the paper after holding serious discussions. The panel of chairmen sought the approval of the delegates of the group at a meeting held at 9 am on 9 August 2007.

Mr Chairman,

We of the Delegate Group of Workers have unanimously agreed to the Work Committee Chairman's clarifications concerning the matter for ensuring a contextual uniformity in drafting the Constitution, to prevent occurrence of disputes in the future and to have a clearer meaning. We of the group present our paper as follows:

Mr Chairman,

The para (3) of the Chapter—General Provisions, which says **"The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws"** has already been adopted. A detailed basic principle that will protect the State against lawsuit while taking advantage of its failure to implement the task in accord with said principles as time and situation is not ripe yet.

We agree to adopt the detailed basic principles as follows:

"The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws. The application of these principles in legislation and administration shall be the care of the State but shall not be enforceable in any court or law."

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention adopted the detailed basic principles including the para (50) which states "In this Chapter **"The State" means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution."** for the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens". According to the statement, it is as if that the term "State" contained in the detailed basic principle concerns only with the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens".

Thus, the para (50) of the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens"—"In this Chapter **"The State" means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution."**— should be amended as follows:

"In this Chapter and the Chapter on State Fundamental Principles, "The State" means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution."

Mr Chairman,

The National Convention adopted the detailed basic principles for the formation of judiciary. In connection with the qualifications of the Chief Justice of the Union and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, the para (3) (c) (iii) states "have been an advocate of a High Court of at least 20 years' standings". In connection with the qualifications of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Region or State Chief Justice and judges of the High Court of the Region or State, the para 11 (c) (ii) states **"a person who has served as advocate for 15 years".** It should be stated **"at least 15 years".**

In this regard, the detailed basic principle 11 (c) (ii) **"a person who has served as advocate for 15 years"** should be amended as **"a person who has served as advocate for at least 15 years".**

Mr Chairman,

The Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" that was adopted at the plenary session of the National Convention includes the subpara (d) of the para 2 which states "flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system"; the para 3 which states, "the State practises genuine multiparty democracy system" and para 28 which states "the State shall enact necessary law for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system". But subpara (a) of para 2 of the adopted detailed basic principles for the chapter "Political Parties" states "A political party shall: (a) accept and practise discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy." To be able to ensure a contextual uniformity, the term "discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy" should be used.

We agree to use "discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy" instead of genuine multiparty democracy in para 2 subpara (d), para 3 and para 28 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles".

Mr Chairman,

The National Convention adopted the following State Fundamental Principles in connection with judiciary

(a) the judicial power of the State is distributed among Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw (Supreme Court), Region Taya Hluttaw (Region High Court), State Taya Hluttaw (State High Court) and law courts of different levels including law courts of self-administered areas;

(b) in the Pyidaungsu is constituted one Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw. Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw is the supreme law court of State;

(c) Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw has powers to issue writs.

But from paras1 to 9 of the Formation of Judiciary and paras 1, 2 and 8 of Sharing of the Judicial Power, use the term "Supreme Court of the Union" to clearly express the difference between the term "Supreme Court of the Union" and the term "High Court" of the Region or State. In our view, to have a uniformed context and to prevent occurrence of disputes in the future, the term "Supreme Court of the Union" should be used.

In this regard, the term Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw in the subparas (a), (b) and (c) of para 9 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" should be substituted with the term "Supreme Court of the Union".

Mr Chairman,

The National Convention adopted the detailed basic principles for the formation of executive including subpara (h) of para 22 which states "The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit in the State Constitution in appointing Region or State Ministers, the okkahta of the self-administered division or self-administered zone or Hluttaw representatives elected to undertake the affairs of national races." Actually, it should be used "shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit".

Hence, the expression "may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit" of the subpara (h) para 22 should be substituted with the expression "shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit".

Mr Chairman,

The National Convention adopted detailed basic principles for the formation of executive. In the detailed basic principles, para 22 states as follows:

(l) "(i) The Region or State Chief Minister shall be responsible to the President of the State

(See page 4)

"The State" means a body or a person that…

(from page 3)

(ii) The Region or State Minister shall be responsible to the Region or State Chief Minister concerned and through the Chief Minister, to the President of the State."

The subpara (f) of para (28) states, "The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned, to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned.

The subpara (e) of para 31 states, "The Auditor-General of the Region or State is responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned, to the Pyidaungsu Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned.

In our view, subpara (f) para 28 and subpara (e) para 31 should be amended as follows:

Subpara (f) of para (28) **"The Advocate-General of the Region or State is**

(i) responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

(ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned"

The subpara (e) of para (31) "**The Auditor-General of the Region or State is**

(i) responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

(ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned"

U Sein Aung, a representative of Delegate Group of Workers of Salingyi Township, Sagaing Division, will read the remaining part of the paper.

Esteemed Mr Chairman and members and delegates, I am U Sein Aung, a representative of Delegate Group of Workers of Salingyi Township, Sagaing Division. I will present the remaining part of the paper.

Mr Chairman,

Concerning the formation of Pyithu Hluttaw, the following detailed basic was adopted:

"Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services."

Hluttaw representatives should be elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population. When the number of townships goes over 330, a newly formed township should be joined with one of the townships adjacent to it to designate a Pyithu Hluttaw constituency. The 330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will be elected one each from every such designated constituency.

We are in support of making the following addition to ensure an enduring detailed basic principle concerning the formation of the Pyithu Hluttaw:

"Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population from constituencies designated in accord with the law after combining a newly formed township with one of the suitable townships adjacent to it if the total number of townships exceeds 330

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services."

If the abovementioned detailed basic is adopted the usage "the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population" should be substituted with the usage " the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population".

Mr Chairman,

Concerning the Amyotha Hluttaw, the following detailed basic principle was adopted:

"Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of Union territories."

The word "the respective" should be added to the word "Union territories" for the usage to be more precise.

In our view, the abovementioned detailed basic principle should be amended as follows:

"Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories.

(c) In forming the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the subparas (a) and (b), the words "the respective Union territories" mean Union territories designated by this Constitution and Union territories proclaimed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after enacting laws concerning the matter to elect Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are inclusive in the state or division or the region or state they are included in."

Mr Chairman,

The following detailed basic principle was adopted in connection with the designation of Union territories:

5. Designation of Union territories—

"(a) Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

(b) Cocogyun Township which has a special situation is designated as Union territory and placed under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(c) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws."

Internationally, the city where the office of the central government is based is designated as the capital of the State. And in some countries, the capitals are placed under direct administration of the President or the Union. Now, the government of the Union of Myanmar and the offices of the central governments are based in Nay Pyi Taw. So, the capital of the State is Nay Pyi Taw. And the municipal area of Nay Pyi Taw, which has become the Capital of the State, should be designated as a Union territory placed under the direct administration of the president. The designation of Yangon and Cocogyun Township as Union territories should be revoked.

As regards the designation of Union territories, the detailed basic principle:

"(a) Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

(b) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws" should be adopted.

Mr Chairman,

The term "Capital Yangon" prescribed in the detailed basic principles on administration of Capital Yangon, a Union territory, prescribed in para 35 and the detailed basic principles on designation of the status of the Chairman and members of Yangon Council prescribed in para 36 of the detailed basic principles adopted at the plenary session held from 28 to 30 March 1996, should be replaced with the term "Nay Pyi Taw", and the term "Chairman of Yangon Council" prescribed in sub-para (c) 6 of para 16 of detailed basic principle for Formation of Financial Commission with the term "Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council".

Mr Chairman,

In laying down the detailed basic principles for the sharing of judicial power, sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 says, "With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocogyun Township". After designating Capital Nay Pyi Taw as a Union territory and revoking the designation of Yangon and Cocogyun Township as Union territories, it will need to amend the detailed basic principle, as appropriate.

Hence, sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 "With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocogyun Township" should be amended as "With regard to the judicial matter, Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw".

Mr Chairman,

When basic principles were laid down for the chapter "State Fundamental Principles" of the 15 Chapters to be included in the State Constitution, an exception was prescribed under the 104 basic principles as follows:

"After laying down the principles to serve as base for formulating state fundamental principles, it will be carried on as follows:

— **of those basic principles, relevant ones are to be taken as basic in discussing basic principles in respective chapters,**

— **of those basic principles,**

— **those that should be mentioned in the preamble of the State Constitution should be mentioned also in that preamble,**

— **principles concerning the State are to be mentioned separately in the chapter heading "The State",**

— **likewise, principles concerning respective chapters are to be transferred to respective chapters, when discussions are held for those respective chapters,**

— **principles concerning the chapter "State fundamental principle" are to be retained in the chapter on State fundamental principles."**

When detailed basic principles were laid down according to the chapter headings, the principles relevant to respective chapters were transferred as detailed basic principles. It is assumed that of the detailed basic principles transferred to respective chapters, some principles should continue to be prescribed in the Chapter 'State Fundamental Principles'. We also consider that some of detailed basic principles have been transferred to respective chapters, and they no longer need to be mentioned in the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles". Therefore, they are not prescribed.

We unanimously agree to the Work Committee Chairman's clarification, "I would like to seek the approval of the NC to make necessary amendments to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted according to the minutes of the NC in drafting the State Constitution".

MNA

The Auditor-General of the Region or State is responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

Daw Khin Mar Yee reads out suggestions of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia.

MNA

YANGON, 16 Aug—*The following is the suggestions of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia on matters concerning the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.*

Esteemed chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Commission, the chairman and members of the Work Committee, the chairman and members of the Management Committee, and delegates, may you be blessed with physical and mental well-being. I am National Convention delegate Daw Khin Mar Yee of the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia.

Mr Chairman,

Now, basic principles and detailed basic principles for 15 chapters have been adopted successfully due to Union Spirit and unity of the representatives of the eight National Convention delegate groups and the goodwill of the State and the people.

Mr Chairman,

The State Constitution will soon be drafted with the basic principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted. An artist has to examine and put finishing touches to his semi-finished painting so that it becomes more attractive. Likewise, we delegates have to review the basic principles and detailed basic principles we have adopted through discussions. The forthcoming State Constitution is to be based on these adopted basic principles and detailed basic principles.

When we conducted reviews about the basic principles and detailed basic principles, we perceived that as the Work Committee chairman explained at the plenary session on 6 August 2007, it is required to amend, repeal, transfer or add suitable words to some principles, and omit some principles that no longer need to be prescribed.

We also reviewed the basic principles and detailed basic principles thoroughly to make sure that there is contextual uniformity among them, they become more specific and comprehensible, and the State Constitution can be drafted clearly and precisely. Now, I would like to present our group's opinions.

Mr Chairman,

One hundred and four fundamental principles were laid down for the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" to be included in the State Constitution. Based on these fundamental principles, detailed basic principles were laid down for the remaining chapters. The basic principles are to be followed by the State as guidelines in general. The State will have to carry out legislative and executive duties in accordance with these basic principles taking into consideration the prevailing situations of the nation. If there is a lawsuit filed against the government taking advantage of the fact that the government has not completed the procedures because the opportunity is not ripe yet. In order to avert such undesirable situation, there must be a detailed basic principle to protect the State. Therefore, the expression **"The application of these principles shall be the care of the State but not be enforceable in any court of law"** should be added to the para 3 of Chapter "General Provisions": **"The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws"** and it should be adopted as a detailed basic principle.

Mr Chairman,

The term "State" is defined in the 50th para of the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens". This point should be amended as **"In this Chapter and Chapter 1 'State Fundamental Principles', the term "State" means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution as the context may require".**

In connection with the qualifications of the Chief Justice of the Union and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, the para (3) (c) (iii) states "have been an advocate of a High Court of at least 20 years' standings". The statement was to highlight the minimum years of service in this regard. With respect to the qualifications of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Region or State Chief Justice and judges of the High Court of the Region or State, the para 11 (c) (ii) states "a person who has served as advocate for 15 years". The stipulation does not state the word "at least". In drafting the Constitution, it should be stated "at least 15 years" to ensure a harmonious context and to avert possible future disputes. So, the words **"at least"** should be added to the point. And "**a person who has served as advocate for at least 15 years"** should be adopted as a detailed basic principle.

Of the basic principles for the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles", sub-para (d) of the para 2 states "flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system"; the para 3 states, "the State practises genuine multiparty democracy system" and para 28 which states "the State shall enact necessary law for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system". Sub-para (a) of para 2 of the adopted detailed basic principles for the chapter "Political Parties" states "A political party shall accept and practise discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy." These points carry a word **"discipline-flourishing".** The democracy Myanmar will practise in the future should be a discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy system. Therefore, the term prescribed in para 2 sub-para (d), para 3 and para 28 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" should be **"discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy".**

Mr Chairman,

The term "Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw" (Supreme Court of the Union) was prescribed in the sub-paras 1, 2 and 3 of para (i) concerning judiciary. However, it is prescribed as "Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttawgyoke" in paras from 1 to 9 of Formation of Judiciary, and in paras 1, 2 and 8 of the sharing of judicial power. It is needed to ensure contextual uniformity and to avert possible disputes in future. Therefore, the term "Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw" in the sub-paras (a), (b) and (c) of para 9 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" should be substituted with the term **"Supreme Court of the Union".**

Sub-para (g) of para 34 for the formation of the executive states "The Okkahta of the self-administered division or self-administered zone is Minister in the region or state concerned. As such, provisions in the Constitution applying to the Ministers of the region or state will also apply to the self-administered division Okkahta or self-administered zone Okkahta. Sub-para (e) of para 22 states, "The Region or State Chief Minister shall submit the names approved by the Region or State Hluttaw, that of Okkahta of the self administered division or self-administered zone and that of Hluttaw representatives elected to undertake the affairs of national races for appointment as Region or State Ministers".

So, such persons will be automatically appointed Minister of the respective Region or State. They may meet all the qualifications of a Hluttaw representative but can be younger than 35, the minimum age limit for Region or State Minister. However, sub-para (h) of para 22 states "The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit". So, this also means the President of the State will not exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit if he does not want to. So, in order to make comprehensible the essence of the expression and to avoid possible dispute on the State Constitution in future, sub-para (h) of para 22 should be amended as **"shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit".**

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session held to adopt detailed basic principles for the formation of executive, the Work Committee explained that the expressions in sub-para (f) of para 28 and sub-para (c) of para 31 do not seem clear nor comprehensible. To ensure clear and comprehensible expressions in drafting the State Constitution,

(a) "The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible:

(1) to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned,

(2) to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned", should be adopted as sub-para (f) of para 28, and

"The Auditor-General of the Region or State is responsible:

(1) to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned,

(2) to the Pyidaungsu Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned", as sub-para (e) of para 31.

Now, I would like to discuss the Work Committee chairman's clarification to formation of Pyithu Hluttaws.

The Pyithu Hluttaw is termed as the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population, so the election of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will have to be based on population. If the Constitution has a principle saying that election should be based on population, it will be not possible to elect one representative each from every township. If the election of the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives is based on population, Regions will be able to elect 237 representatives and they will have 31 more representatives; and the States will be able to elect only 93 representatives and they will have 31 less representatives. If the election of the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives is based on population and township, Regions will be able to elect 206 representatives and the States, 124 which is plus 31. So, it is needed to amend the principle by which designating number of representatives is based on local population that can help states enjoy better ratio of hluttaw members, and on townships. When the number of townships is more than 330 due to national development, the number of hluttaw members will be over 330. If so, the new township should be combined with a suitable adjacent township to form a constituency. According to the adopted detailed basic principle, population-based constituencies have been designated for the formation of the Pyithu Hluttaw and not more than 330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives must

(See page 6)

The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws

YANGON, 16 Aug—*The following is the suggestions of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel on matters concerning the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.*

Mr Chairman and delegates,

I wish health and happiness for all the esteemed Chairman and members of the Panel of Chairmen, the esteemed Chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Commission, the esteemed Chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, the esteemed Chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Management Committee, and delegates.

I am U Aung Kyaw Soe, a representative of the Delegate Group of State Service Personnel of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue.

U Aung Kyaw Soe reads out suggestions of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel.
MNA

At the plenary session held on 6 August 2007, the Work Committee Chairman explained the matter concerning the amendment, addition and repeal of the adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles. We studied the Work Committee Chairman's clarifications in all seriousness. In his clarifications, the Work Committee Chairman said, "I will now explain the matter concerning the amendment, the repeal, the transfer, the omission and the addition of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles as necessary after assessing them to be in accord with the time and situation, for the adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles to be in proper contextual order, to define the adopted objectives and detailed basic principles more clearly and to draft the Constitution more precisely and clearly." The world at present is ever changing. So, we also need to make changes to always adapt ourselves to the advancing time and situation. Hence, the Work Committee Chairman's clarifications

(See page 7)

The Auditor-General of the Region or State…

(from page 5)

be elected. Thus, concerning the formation of the Pyithu Hluttaw:

"Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population from constituencies designated in accord with the law after combining a newly formed township with one of the suitable townships adjacent to it if the total number of townships exceeds 330

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services."

Mr Chairman,

Regarding the formation of the Amyotha Hluttaw, it is said that a detailed basic principle has been adopted that Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone totalling 224; that The expression "inclusive of Union territories" means areas that were included in the present states and divisions but have been designated as Union territories and the areas proclaimed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as Union territories because of their significant characteristics after the promulgation of this Constitution. The word "the respective" should be added to the word "Union territories" for the usage to be more precise. Therefore, the points:

"Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone,

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories,

(c) In forming the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the sub-paras (a) and (b) the words "the respective Union territories" mean Union territories designated by this Constitution and Union territories proclaimed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after enacting laws concerning the matter to elect Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are inclusive in the state or division or the region or state they are included in" should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Mr Chairman,

Regarding the designation of Union territories, it is stated that Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, and Cocogyun Township which has a special situation are designated as Union territories and placed under direct administration of the President of the Union, and if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws". And a detailed basic principle has also been adopted that the capital of the State is **"Nay Pyi Taw"**. Therefore, need arises to revoke the designation of Yangon as a Union territory, to designate the municipal area of Nay Pyi Taw, the Capital of the State, should be designated as a Union territory, and to revoke the designation of Cocogyun Township as a Union territory. In this regard, Nay Pyi Taw has been designated as the capital of the nation. So, the point should be adopted as a detailed basic principle after making an amendment.

I would like to discuss that Yangon, previous capital, has fine traditions and is an economic hub of the nation. Moreover, it has significant situations on national security and defence. So, as the Work Committee explained, Yangon is no longer the capital of the nation, but remains as a commercial city. We are in support of this point.

Under an adopted detailed basic principle, Nay Pyi Taw has been designated as the capital of the nation. So, I would like to suggest that the term capital "Yangon" should be replaced with the term "Nay Pyi Taw", and the term "Chairman of Yangon Council", with the term **"Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council".**

Mr Chairman,

Of the detailed basic principles for the sharing of judicial power, sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 says, "With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocogyun Township". Now, the designation of Yangon and Cocogyun Township has been repealed, and Nay Pyi Taw has been designated as the capital. So, that expression should be amended as **"With regard to the judicial matter, Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw".**

The Work Committee chairman explained that 104 fundamental principles were laid down for the chapter "State Fundamental Principles" of the 15 chapters to be included in the State Constitution; that an exception was prescribed to carry on in that regard; that according the points prescribed in the exception, some detailed basic principles were transferred to suitable chapters; that of them, some fundamental principles should still be prescribed, and some should not be contained in the chapter "State Fundamental Principles"; that the points are 15 in total, and two points were transferred to the Chapter "The Head of State", 11 points, to the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens", and two points, to the Chapter "General Provisions". Since the laying down of the 104 fundamental principles as detailed basic principles, some had been transferred to relevant chapters. So, we consider that these points should no longer be prescribed in the chapter "State Fundamental Principles". So, I would like to make a suggestion that it no longer needs to prescribe these points in the chapter "State Fundamental Principles". Therefore, we assume these points no longer need to be prescribed in the chapter.

At the plenary session held on 3 March 2005, detailed basic principles for the sharing of legislative power were adopted. In this regard, the expression in sub-para 5 of para 15 is the same as that in para 5 of the Chapter "General Provisions" adopted on 2 August 2007. It says "The existing laws are still in force until they are revoked or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and unless they are in contrary to the Constitution". The two detailed basic principles are exactly the same in word and in essence. I would say that it is appropriate that sub-para 5 of para 5 is no longer prescribed.

Mr Chairman,

I have presented our group's views about the basic principles and detailed basic principles that should be amended, repealed, transferred, added with suitable words, or omitted.

The State Constitution is drafted with the basic principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted. So, the expressions prescribed in the constitution are legal terms. Official language of the Union of Myanmar is Myanmar language. So, the expression, terms, dictation and word order are to be in conformity with Myanmar language.

In conclusion, we members of the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia support the point that in drafting the State Constitution in accordance with the basic principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted, necessary amendments should be made to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles.—*MNA*

The State fundamental principles are the...

(from page 6)

are realistic and objective. So we compiled our suggestions after seriously reviewing his clarifications. We submitted our collection of suggestions at the group meeting held on 8 August 2007 and unanimously approved them.

Mr Chairman,

As regards a detailed basic principle to protect the State against lawsuit, the Work Committee Chairman said, "The State will carry out the legislative and executive functions in accord with the fundamental principles. In doing so, the State will implement the functions in accord with the nation's prevailing situation and time. The running of the legislative and administrative machinery may face disturbances and obstacles if a lawsuit is filed against the State while taking advantage of its failure to implement the task in accord with said principles as time and situation is not ripe yet. In our view, it is necessary to adopt a detailed basic principle that will protect the State. The section 32 of the Chapter IV of the 1947 Constitution stated "The principles set forth in this Chapter are intended for the general guidance of the State. The application of these principles in legislation and administration shall be the care of the State but shall not be enforceable in any court or law". A similar statement is also stipulated in the constitutions of some neighbouring nations."

The State will have to carry out the said functions in accord with the time and situation after objectively studying the current prevailing condition. Actually, it is necessary to adopt a detailed basic principle that will protect the State from such acts.

In our view, the expression **"The application of these principles in legislation and administration shall be the care of the State but shall not be enforceable in any court or law"** should be added to the said detailed basic principle para (3) of the Chapter—General Provisions, which says **"The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws."**

Mr Chairman,

The National Convention adopted the detailed basic principles including the para (50) which states "In this Chapter **"The State" means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution."** for the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens". According to the statement, it is as if that the term "State" contained in the detailed basic principle concerns only with the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens". The term "State" can be found in the Chapter I "State Fundamental Principles" for many times. In our assumption, an addition should be made to the para 50 for the detailed basic principle to cover the interpretation and definition of the term "State" of the given chapter. There may be occasions in which the legislative power and executive power are exercised by an organization or by a person. We find that the clarifications of the Work Committee Chairman ensure contextual order and clearer definition for the adopted detailed basic principles and prevent occurrence of disputes in the future.

In our view, the para (50) of the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens"—"In this Chapter "The State" means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution." should be amended as follows:

"In this Chapter and the Chapter on State Fundamental Principles, "The State" means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution."

Mr Chairman,

In connection with the qualifications of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Region or State Chief Justice and judges of the High Court of the Region or State, the para 11 (c) (ii) states "a person who has served as advocate for 15 years". It is like fixing the period at 15 years. In connection with the qualifications of the Chief Justice of the Union and Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, the para (3) (c) (iii) states "have been an advocate of a High Court of at least 20 years' standings". The statement was to indicate the least required period for the said matter.

In drafting the Constitution, it should be stated "at least 15 years" to ensure a harmonious context, to prevent against occurrence of disputes in the future and to express the least required period. The detailed basic principle 11 (c) (ii) "a person who has served as advocate for 15 years" should be amended as "a person who has served as advocate for at least 15 years".

Mr Chairman,

The Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" that was adopted at the plenary session of the National Convention includes the subpara (d) of the para 2 which states "flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system"; the para 3 which states, "the State practises genuine multiparty democracy system" and para 28 which states "the State shall enact necessary law for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system". But subpara (a) of para 2 of the adopted detailed basic principles for the chapter "Political Parties" states "A political party shall: (a) accept and practise discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy." It emphasizes in all seriousness that the democracy Myanmar will practise in the future is a discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy system. To be able to ensure a contextual uniformity, the term "discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy" should be used.

We agree to use "discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy" instead of genuine multiparty democracy in para 2 subpara (d), para 3 and para 28 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles".

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 16 September 1993 adopted the following State Fundamental Principles in connection with judiciary

(a) the judicial power of the State is distributed among Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw (Supreme Court), Region Taya Hluttaw (Region High Court), State Taya Hluttaw (State High Court) and law courts of different levels including law courts of self-administered areas;

(b) in the Pyidaungsu is constituted one Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw. Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw is the supreme law court of State;

(c) Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw has powers to issue writs.

It should be to clearly express the difference between the term "Supreme Court of the Union" and the term "High Court" of the Region or State. The paras1 to 9 of the Formation of Judiciary and paras 1, 2 and 8 of Sharing of the Judicial Power, use the term "Supreme Court of the Union. In our view, to have a uniformed context and to prevent occurrence of disputes in the future, the term "Supreme Court of the Union" should be used.

In our view, the term Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw in the subparas (a), (b) and (c) of para 9 of the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" should be substituted with the term "Supreme Court of the Union".

Mr Chairman,

According to subpara (h) of para 22, the okkahta of the self-administered division or self-administered zone or Hluttaw representative elected to undertake the affairs of national races should be automatically appointed Minister of the respective Region or State. The okkahta of the self-administered division or self-administered zone or Hluttaw representative elected to undertake the affairs of national races may meet all the qualifications of a Hluttaw representative but can be younger than 35, the minimum age limit for Region or State Minister.

As the para states "The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit", he may or may not exercise relaxation on age limit. To be able to clearly express the essence and aim of the given detailed basic principle and to prevent constitutional disputes in the future, it should be used "shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit".

In this regard, the expression "may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit" of the subpara (h) para 22 should be substituted with the expression "shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit."

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 29 March 1996, adopted detailed basic principles for the formation of executive. In the detailed basic principles, para 22 states as follows:

(l) (i) The Region or State Chief Minister shall be responsible to the President of the State

(ii) The Region or State Minister shall be responsible to the Region or State Chief Minister concerned and through the Chief Minister, to the President of the State.

The subpara (f) of para (28) states, "The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned, to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned.

The subpara (e) of para 31 states, "The Auditor-General of the Region or State is responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned, to the Pyidaungsu Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned. To have a proper contextual order and clearer meaning the expression should be in accord with their original meaning and essence.

The subpara (f) para 28 and subpara (e) para 31 should be amended as follows:

Subpara (f) of para (28) "The Advocate-General of the Region or State is

(i) responsible to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

(ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

The subpara (e) of para (31) The Auditor-General of the Region or State is

(i) responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

(ii) responsible to the Pyidaungsu Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned

Mr Chairman,

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 28 March 1996 adopted the following detailed basic principle.

"Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services."

As the Pyithu Hluttaw is termed as the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population, the election of Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will have to be based on population. If the Constitution has a principle saying that election should be based on population, it will be not possible to elect one

(See page 10)

General Thura Shwe Mann receives …

(from page 1)

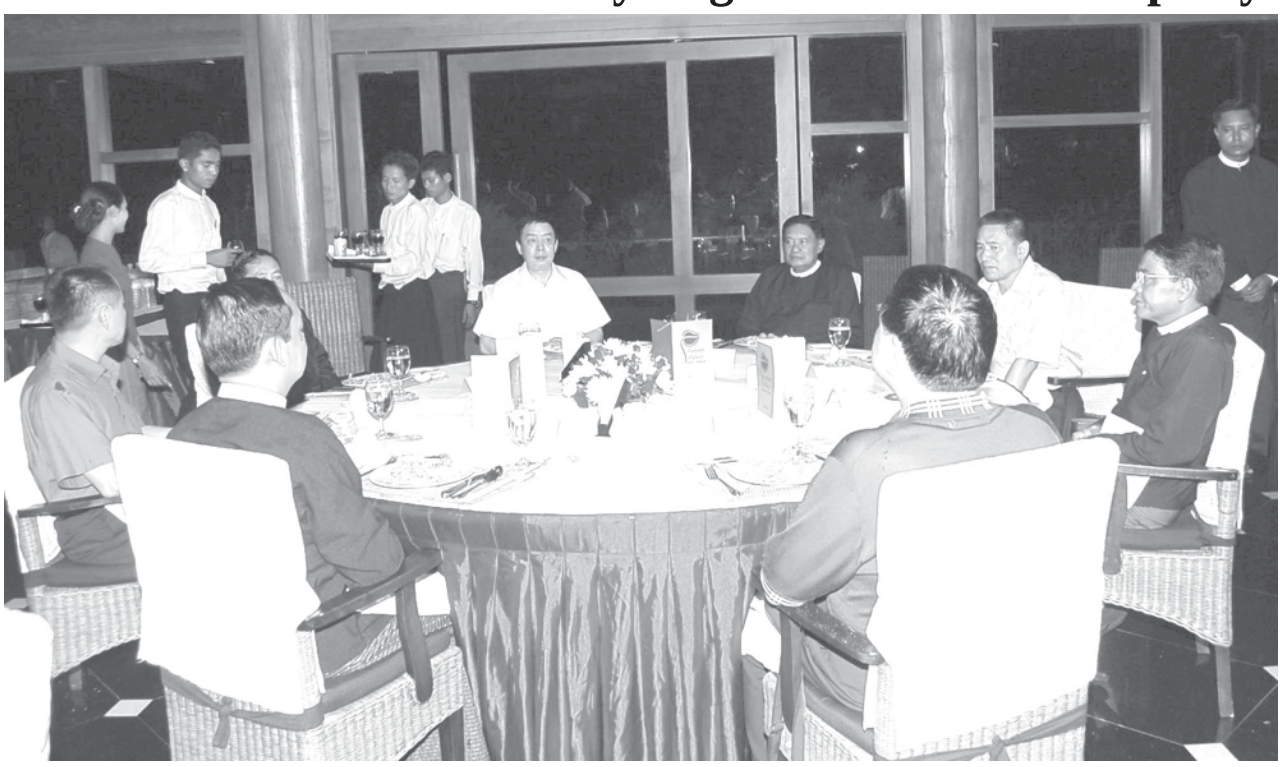
(Air) Brig-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun and senior military officers.

The Chinese delegation was accompanied by Chinese Military Attaché Senior Colonel Fan Lian Feng. — *MNA*

General Thura Shwe Mann welcomes Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win hosts dinner in honour of Political Commissar of Jinan Military Region Command and party



***Lt-Gen Kyaw Win hosts a dinner in honour of Chinese delegation led by Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command in Nay Pyi Taw.* — MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence hosted a dinner to the Chinese delegation led by Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China at Golden Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone, here, yesterday evening.

Also present at the dinner were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Chief of Staff (Air) Brig-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Vice-Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun, senior military officers and Chinese Military Attaché Senior Colonel Fan Lian Feng. — *MNA*

***Lt-Gen Kyaw Win shakes hands with Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.* — MNA**

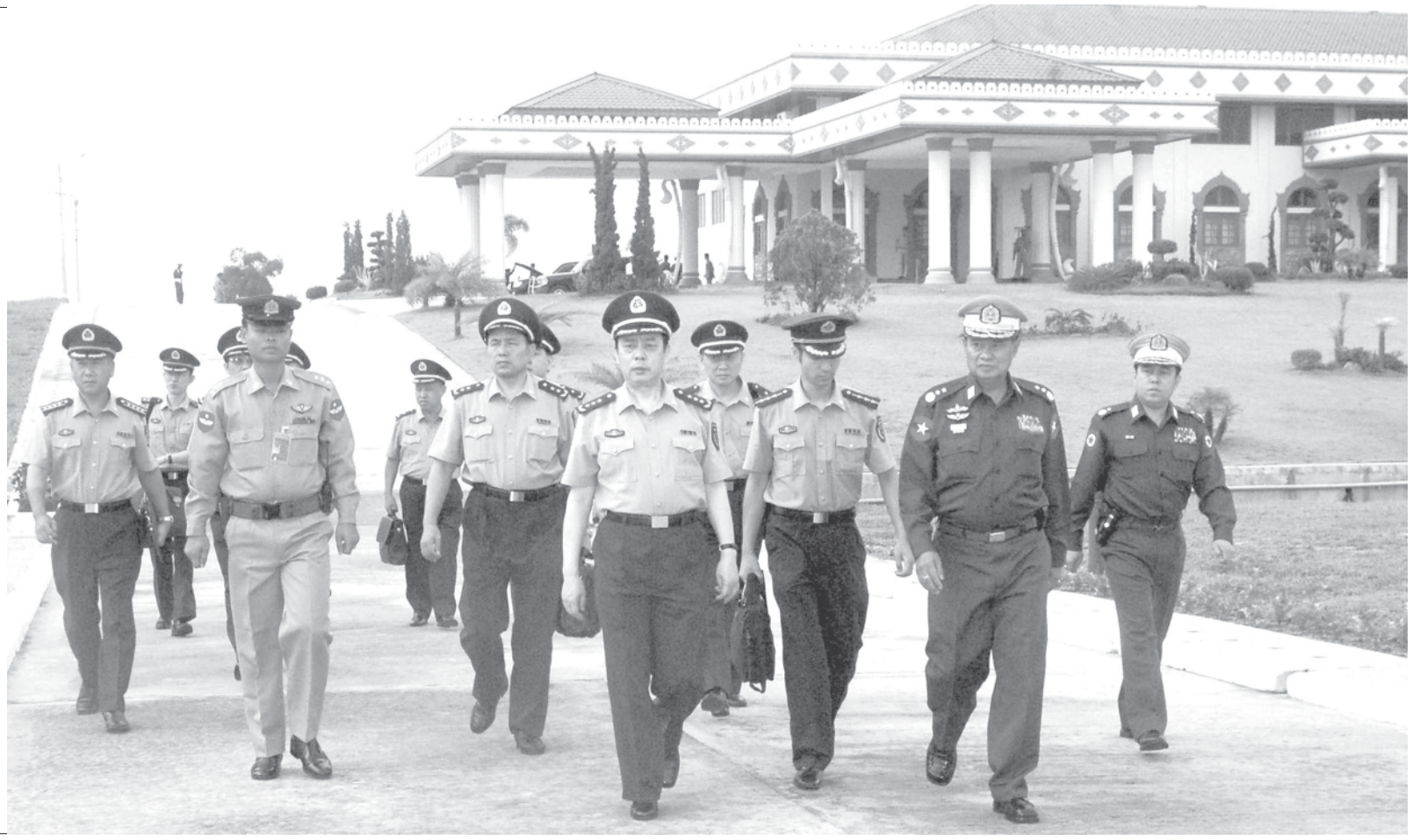
Lt-Gen Kyaw Win sees off Chinese Political Commissar

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence saw off Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport this morning before departure for Mandalay.

The delegation was also seen off at the Airport by Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and senior military officers.— *MNA*

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win sees off Chinese delegation led by Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA



Political Commissar of Jinan Military Region Command of PRC and party arrive

YANGON, 16 Aug — At the invitation of Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, a Chinese delegation led by Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China arrived, here, by air on 14 August.

They were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, senior military officers, Chinese Military Attaché to the Union of Myanmar Senior Colonel Fan Lian Feng and members.

The Chinese guests visited Shwedagon Pagoda in the evening. The Chinese General offered flowers, water, lights and joss-sticks to the Pagoda and made cash donation.

Next, they paid homage to the Jade Buddha Image at the south-west corner of the Pagoda and viewed the religious buildings.

Later, they also visited Kandawgyi Natural Gardens in Bahan Township.

MNA

Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong pays homage to Buddha Image at Shwedagon Pagoda. — MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win welcomes Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Short course for upgrading marine products and jetties concludes

YANGON, 16 Aug— A short course for upgrading marine products and jetties, organized by Development and Research Division of Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Myanmar Man Group General Trading Company Limited and Sanpya Shwengar Company concluded at the meeting hall of the company in Kyimyindine Township on 14 August.

Present on the occasion were departmental heads, officials of Myanmar Fisheries Federation, Myanmar Marine Products Producers Association and Myanmar Sea Fish Entrepreneurs Association, managing directors, presidents of Myanmar Man Group General Trading Company Limited and Sanpya Shwengar Company, instructors of Fisheries Institute, officials of Central Fish Market of Yangon City Development Committee, fish and prawn entrepreneurs of Central Fish Market and trainees.

First, Director-General of Fisheries Department U Khin Maung Aye made a concluding speech on the occasion and adviser U Wan Maung to Myanmar Man Group General Trading Company Limited spoke words of thanks.

Next, managing director-2 U Thant Zin of Myanmar Man Group General Trading Company Limited and managing director U Aung Myo Thant of Sanpya Shwengar Company donated K 200,000 for Fisheries Institute through Director-General U Khin Maung Aye and Deputy Director-General U Khin Ko Lay.

Afterwards, the Director-General presented completion certificates to the trainees. After that trainee U Kyaw Kyaw Win expressed thanks. The course was opened with the purpose of keeping fish jetties and fishing boats clean, producing wholesome marine products and providing quality fish and prawn to consumers and to generate foreign exchanges. A total of 114 trainees attended the two-day course lectured by instructors of Fisheries Institute.

After the ceremony, the Director-General and party inspected fishing related items and fishing boats at jetty No 6 of Myanmar Man Group General Trading Company Limited. — *MNA*

Director-General of Fisheries Department U Khin Maung Aye presents a certificate to a trainee. — MNA

Tasks for proper flow of drains supervised in Mohnyin

Employees of Mohnyin Township DAC participate in dredging a drain in Mohnyin.

H

YANGON, 21 July — Mohnyin Township Development Affairs Committee organized the sanitation and beautifying of the town, proper flow of drains and maintenance of roads.

On 21 July, Assistant Engineer U Zaw Myo Htwe and Executive Officer U Min Zaw of the Township DAC supervised sanitation and dredging of drains being carried out by workers along Maha Bandoola Road.

H

The State fundamental principles are the...

(from page 7)

representative each from every township.

National races are residing in the townships of the Union of Myanmar. Population of some townships is large and some is small. National races are collectively living in almost all the townships. Hence, if the designation of the township-wise constituencies and election is based on population, we will be able to allow a large number of national races to take part in the Pyithu Hluttaw as representatives. We agree to the designation of constituencies township-wise to elect Hluttaw representatives.

More townships will have to be formed as necessary to be in conformity with the task of implementing projects such as security, management, education, health projects when the nation is achieving more agriculture and industrial development than now. When the number of townships goes over 330, a newly formed township should be joined with one of the townships adjacent to it to designate a Pyithu Hluttaw constituency. The 330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives will be elected one each from every such designated constituency.

We agree to make the following addition to ensure an enduring detailed basic principle concerning the formation of the Pyithu Hluttaw:

"Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population from constituencies designated in accord with the law after combining a newly formed township with one of the suitable townships adjacent to it if the total number of townships exceeds 330

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services."

If the abovementioned detailed basic is adopted the usage "the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population" should be substituted with the usage " the Hluttaw formed with Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of township as well as on the basis of population".

Mr Chairman,

Concerning the formation of Amyotha Hluttaw, it is stated as follows:

"Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of Union territories."

The expression "inclusive of Union territories" means areas that were included in the present states and divisions but have been designated as Union territories and the areas proclaimed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as Union territories because of their significant characteristics after the promulgation of this Constitution. The word "the respective" should be added to the word "Union territories" for the usage to be more precise.

The abovementioned detailed basic principle should be amended as follows:

"Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories.

(c) In forming the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the subparas (a) and (b), the words "the respective Union territories" mean Union territories designated by this Constitution and Union territories proclaimed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after enacting laws concerning the matter to elect Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are inclusive in the state or division or the region or state they are included in."

Mr Chairman,

Regarding the designation of Union territories, the National Convention plenary session held on 9 April 1994 laid down detailed basic principles:

5. Designation of Union territories—

"(a) Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

(b) Cocogyun Township which has a special situation is designated as Union territory and placed under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(c) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws."

Internationally, the city where the office of the central government is based is designated as the capital of the State. And in some countries, the capitals are placed under direct administration of the President or the Union. Now, the government of the Union of Myanmar and the offices of the central governments are based in Nay Pyi Taw. The National Convention held on 3 August 2007 adopted the detailed basic principle, which says that Nay Pyi Taw is the capital.

The designation of Yangon as a Union territory under the direct administration of the president should be revoked. And the municipal area of Nay Pyi Taw, which has become the Capital of the State, should be designated as a Union territory placed under the direct administration of the president. The designation of Cocogyun Township as Union territories should be revoked.

In our view, the detailed basic principle:

"(a) Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

(b) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws" should be adopted.

Mr Chairman,

We also agree that the term "Capital Yangon" prescribed in the detailed basic principles on administration of Capital Yangon, a Union territory, prescribed in para 35 and the detailed basic principles on designation of the status of the Chairman and members of Yangon Council prescribed in para 36 of the detailed basic principles adopted at the plenary session held from 28 to 30 March 1996, should be replaced with the term "Nay Pyi Taw", and the term "Chairman of Yangon Council" prescribed in sub-para (c) 6 of para 16 of detailed basic principle for Formation of Financial Commission with the term "Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council".

Moreover, sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 "With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocogyun Township" should be amended as "With regard to the judicial matter, Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw".

The Work Committee Chairman explained that of the State Fundamental Principles, the two principles transferred to the Chapter "Head of State", the 11 points transferred to the Chapter "General Provisions", and the two points transferred to the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens" will not be stated any more in the Chapter " State Fundamental Principles". His explanation is appropriate and is in accord with the exception of the 104 fundamental principles. We agree to his explanation.

We also agree to the Work Committee Chairman's clarification, "The plenary session of the National Convention held on 2 August 2007 adopted detailed basic principles for the Chapter "Transitory Provisions". In this regard, para 5 says, "The existing laws are still in force until they are revoked or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and unless they are in contrary to the Constitution". The two detailed basic principles are exactly the same, in word and in essence. I consider that it is more appropriate that the detailed basic principle should be prescribed in the Chapter "Transitory Provisions". Therefore, I would say that detailed basic principle para 15, sub-para 5 in the sharing of legislative power no longer needs to be prescribed, and it will be revoked" as it is appropriate.

Mr Chairman,

Now, we have presented our suggestions in connection with the Work Committee Chairman's clarifications. After the completion of necessary amendments, additions and repeals, the National Convention will conclude successfully. The next step is to draft the Constitution in accord with the adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles.

In drafting the State Constitution in accordance with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted, necessary amendments should be made to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles.

Hence, there should be an agreement, saying, "The NC shall make necessary amendments to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted according to the minutes of the NC in drafting the State Constitution.

As we of the group are State service personnel, we made ardent efforts to compile suggestions in view of serving the interest of the nation and the people. We find that the amendments, additions and repeals should be made after holding discussions and coordination for the Constitution to be free from loopholes and weaknesses.

MNA

The application of these principles in legislation and administration shall be the care of the State but shall not be enforceable in any court or law

YANGON, 16 Aug—*The following is the suggestions of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons on matters concerning the amendments, the additions, the repeals and the transfer out of the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that have been adopted by National Convention.*

Esteemed chairman and members of the panel of chairmen, the chairman and members of the National Convention Convening Commission, the chairman and members of the Work Committee, the chairman and members of the Management Committee, the chairmen and members of the subcommittees, and delegates, may you be blessed with physical and mental well-being.

I am National Convention delegate U Hmaing of the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons. I am from Kayah State Special Region (1).

Today, we can be proud of the success the nation has achieved. It has been nearly 19 years our country has been in the absence of a new State Constitution. When the new State Constitution is in force, the people can enjoy the fundamental rights of freedom, equality and justice.

Collecting similar suggestions and adjusting different views and suggestions are keys to success in this regard.

The Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons consists of representatives from 27 groups including special regions, and personally-invited representatives.

Since 1993, we have attended the National Convention that is necessary for introducing the discipline-flourishing genuine democracy system.

So far, the National Convention has successfully adopted chapter-wise headings, State fundamental principles, and detailed basic principles for 15 chapters. All members of our group took time and held discussions in various sectors in compiling our proposal paper.

As a result, several of our suggestions are adopted as detailed basic principles in some chapters.

Mr Chairman,

At the plenary session held on 6 August 2007, the Work Committee chairman explained the basic principles and detailed basic principles that should be amended, repealed, transferred, added or omitted, as appropriate so that they conform with the prevailing situations, there is contextual uniformity in them, the initial aims and essence of the principles become clearer and more comprehensible, and the State Constitution can be drafted more specifically.

We held discussions about the explanation at the meeting of our group on 7 August 2007, and coordinated at the meeting of the proposal paper-compiling group.

In that regard, the representatives presented their support for the 15 points the Work Committee chairman had explained, and another point. Then, the presentation was compiled into a proposal paper and sought the approval of all representatives at the meeting of our group on 9 August 2007.

These points are:

1. Para 3 of Chapter "General Provision"

"The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws." should be added with the expression:

"The application of these principles in legislation and administration shall be the care of the State but shall not be enforceable in any court or law".

2. In the 50th point of Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens",

"In this Chapter, the term "State" means a body that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution as the context may require" should be:

"In this Chapter and Chapter 1 'State Fundamental Principles', the term "State" means a body or a person that exercises legislative and executive powers according to this Constitution as the context may require".

3. Regarding the qualifications set for the judges of the High Court of the Region or State in Formation of Legislature, para 11 (c) (ii) — "a person who has served as advocate for 15 years" — should be amended as "a person who has served as advocate for at least 15 years".

4. The expression "genuine multiparty democracy system" prescribed in sub-para 4 of para (b), para (c) and para (28) should be added as "discipline-flourishing genuine multiparty democracy system".

5. The expression "Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw" prescribed in sub-paras 1, 2 and 3 of para (i) in Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" should be amended as "Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttawgyoke".

6. The expression "The President of the State may exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit" prescribed in sub-para (h) of para 22 of Formation of Executive should be "The President of the State shall exercise relaxation of stipulation on age limit".

7. Sub-para (c) of para 31 says, "The Auditor-General of the Region or State shall be responsible to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned, to the Union Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned".

In the above-mentioned detailed basic principles, the terms and expressions in connection with Region or State are clear and easy to understand. They should be used in drafting the Constitution to ensure a contextual uniformity and to have a clear definition.

Therefore, the expressions prescribed in sub-para (f) of para 28 should be adopted as detailed basic principles. They are:

"The Advocate-General of the Region or State is responsible:

(1) to the President of the State through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned,

(2) to the Union Attorney-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned", and sub-para (e) of para 31:

"The Auditor-General of the Region or State is responsible:

(1) to the President through the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned,

(2) to the Union Auditor-General and to the Chief Minister of the Region or State concerned".

8. Regarding formation of Pyithu Hluttaw, the points:

"Pyithu Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 440 Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(a) Not more than 330 Hluttaw representatives elected on the basis of population,

(b) Not more than 110 Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated in accord with law by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services" should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

In this regard, I would like to make a suggestion that the expression "Hluttaw elected on the basis of population" should be amended as "Hluttaw elected on the basis of townships or population".

9. Regarding Formation of Amyotha Hluttaw, the points:

"Amyotha Hluttaw shall be formed with a maximum of 224 Hluttaw representatives, as follows:

(a) 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives elected in equal numbers of 12 from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories, and including one representative from each self-administered division or self-administered zone,

U Hmaing of the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons.

MNA

(b) 56 Tatmadaw member Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in accord with law at the rate of four representatives from each region or state inclusive of the respective Union territories,

(c) In forming the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the sub-paras (a) and (b) the words "the respective Union territories" mean Union territories designated by this Constitution and Union territories proclaimed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after enacting laws concerning the matter to elect Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are inclusive in the state or division or the region or state they are included in" should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

10. Regarding the designation of Union territories, the detailed basic principles:

5. Designation of Union territories,

"(a) Yangon City, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

(b) Cocogyun Township which has a special situation is designated as Union territory and placed under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(c) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws" were laid down. They should be amended as:

5. Designation of Union territories,

"(a) Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union.

(b) if need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence, security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be so designated as Union territories after enacting laws".

11. If it is agreed to designate Nay Pyi Taw, the Capital of the Union of Myanmar, as a Union territory placed under direct administration of the President, detailed basic principles to be adopted for Nay Pyi Taw should be the same, as that for Yangon Council.

The term "Yangon" prescribed in the detailed basic principles on administration of Capital Yangon, a Union territory, prescribed in para 35 and in the detailed basic principles on designation of the status of the Chairman and members of Yangon Council prescribed in para 36 should be replaced with the term "Nay Pyi Taw".

(See page 12)

The application of these principles in legislation…

(from page 11)

12. The term "Chairman of Yangon Council" prescribed in sub-para (C) 6 of para 16 of detailed basic principle for Formation of Financial Commission should be replaced with the term "Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council".

13. The expression prescribed in sub-para 4 (a) of para 6 "With regard to the judicial matter, Yangon Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Yangon City and Cocogyun Township" should be amended as "With regard to the judicial matter, Mandalay Region High Court is the high court of the courts situated in Nay Pyi Taw".

14. When basic principles were laid down for the chapter "State Fundamental Principles" of the 15 Chapters to be included in the State Constitution, an exception was prescribed under the 104 basic principles as follows:

"After laying down the principles to serve as base for formulating state fundamental principles, it will be carried on as follows:

- **of those basic principles, relevant ones are to be taken as basic in discussing basic principles in respective chapters,**
- **of those basic principles,**
- **those that should be mentioned in the preamble of the State Constitution should be mentioned also in that preamble,**
- **principles concerning the State are to be mentioned separately in the chapter heading "The State",**
- **likewise, principles concerning respective chapters are to be transferred to respective chapters, when discussions are held for those respective chapters,**
- **principles concerning the chapter "State fundamental principle" are to be retained in the chapter on State fundamental principles".**

When detailed basic principles were laid down according to the chapter headings, the principles relevant to respective chapters were transferred as detailed basic principles. It is assumed that of the detailed basic principles transferred to respective chapters, some principles should continue to be prescribed in the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles" but some should no longer be prescribed in the chapter.

I would also like to present the basic principles that are no longer prescribed because they do not need to be prescribed as detailed basic principles. They are:

The principles transferred to the Chapter "The Head of State"—

1. The Head of State is the President of the Union.

2. The President of the Union shall be elected by the presidential electoral college.

The principles transferred to the Chapter "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens"—

3. All persons who have either one of the following requirements are citizens of the Union of Myanmar. All persons born of parents both of whom are nationals of the Union of Myanmar. Persons who are vested with citizenship according to existing laws on the date this Constitution comes into force. Citizenship, naturalization and revocation of citizenship shall be prescribed by the law.

4. Every citizen is under a duty to uphold Non-disintegration of the Union; Non-disintegration of national solidarity; and Perpetuation of sovereignty.

5. Every citizen is under a duty to abide by the provisions of the Constitution.

6. Every citizen is under a duty to undergo military training in accord with the provisions of the law and to serve in the armed forces to defend the State.

7. The above right shall not include any economic, financial, political or other secular activities that may be associated with religious practice.

8. The freedom so guaranteed shall not prohibit the State from enacting laws for the purpose of social welfare and reform.

9. The State recognizes the special position of Buddhism as the faith professed by the great majority of the citizens of the State.

10. The State also recognizes Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Animism as religions existing in the Union on the date of the coming into force of the State Constitution.

11. The State shall render assistance and protect as far as it can the religions it recognizes.

12. The abuse of religion for political purposes is forbidden. And any act which is intended or is likely to promote feelings of hatred, enmity or discord between racial or religious communities or sects is contrary to the State Constitution. A law may be adopted to punish such actions.

13. The State shall help national businessmen have access to technologies, investments, machinery, and raw materials.

The principles transferred to the Chapter "General Provisions"—

14. Myanmar language is the official language.

15. The State fundamental principles are the guidelines to be followed by the legislative Hluttaws in enacting laws and interpreting provisions of the State Constitution and of other laws.

I consider that these detailed basic principles have been transferred to respective chapters, and they no longer need to be mentioned in the Chapter "State Fundamental Principles". Therefore, they are not prescribed.

Mr Chairman,

15. The plenary session of the National Convention held on 3 March 2005 laid down detailed basic principles for the sharing of legislative power. In this regard, para 15, sub-para 5 says, "The existing laws are still in force until they are revoked or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and unless they are in contrary to the Constitution".

The plenary session of the National Convention held on 2 August 2007 adopted detailed basic principles for the Chapter "Transitory Provisions". In this regard, para 5 says, "The existing laws are still in force until they are revoked or amended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and unless they are in contrary to the Constitution".

The two detailed basic principles are exactly the same, in word and in essence. I consider that it is more appropriate that the detailed basic principle should be prescribed in the Chapter "Transitory Provisions". In the 1947 constitution, Section 226, para 1, which is similar to the detailed basic principle in meaning is prescribed in the Chapter "Transitory Provisions".

Therefore, I would say detailed basic principle para 15, sub-para 5 in the sharing of legislative power no longer needs to be prescribed, and it should be revoked.

Mr Chairman,

If the National Convention approves and adopts the detailed basic principles I have presented, it will successfully complete the adopting of basic principles and detailed basic principles of the 15 chapters to be included in the State Constitution. When the National Convention completes successfully, it will need to implement the second step and third step of the State's seven-step Road Map "After the successful holding of the National Convention, step by step implementation of the process necessary for the emergence of a genuine and disciplined democratic system" and "Drafting of a new constitution in accordance with basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention".

In drafting the State Constitution in accordance with the basic principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted, necessary amendments should be made to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles.

I would like to make a suggestion that the National Convention should approve the amendments to the terms, dictation and word orders without having any adverse effects to the aims and essence of the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted according to the minutes of the NC in drafting the State Constitution.

Esteemed Mr Chairman,

The State Constitution is as important as lifeblood for the country concerned. It can create a prosperous future of the nation in the political, economic and social affairs.

The backbone is of importance for a human body. Likewise, the State Constitution is important for a country. A human body can stand firmly only with a strong backbone. Similarly, a nation will be strong only when it has a State Constitution.

The State Constitution not only boosts the sustainable development of a nation but also guarantees a bright future of its people. The people can place their reliance on it.

Almost all countries have their State constitutions. A State Constitution must indicate the conditions and development and backwardness of the nation concerned. And it must be the one that can fulfill the wishes of the people.

The State Constitution is a necessity for a nation. Our country has practised two State constitutions. However, they are not reliable enough. They did not reflect the life of the people, nor could they improve the living conditions of the people. The 1947 constitution lasted till to 1962, and 1974 constitution, to 1988. The Tatmadaw took the leadership role in protecting the motherland. So, the nation has not collapsed and stood tall with sovereignty in the world.

If there is a question "Does your country need a firm and reliable State Constitution?", I will say "Yes".

In accordance with the historical necessity, for emergence of an enduring State Constitution for sustainable development of the nation, the Tatmadaw government is convening the National Convention with the representatives of people from all walks of life, exerting goodwill and facing a variety of difficulties.

The delegates are away from their homes for a long period to attend the National Convention and make good suggestions through the experiences and knowledge they have gained.

Now, the points to amend, add or repeal basic principles and detailed basic principles for the chapters have been collected. So, it can be said that the basic principles for the State Constitution have been compiled.

Throughout the National Convention, the representatives of people from all strata of life, various national races, and townships have held discussions and made suggestions.

The basic principles and detailed basic principles are compiled for the State Constitution, taking lessons and avoiding the defects and loopholes and choosing suitable ones from the 1947 constitution, the 1974 constitution and the constitutions in force of many other countries.

In conclusion, I would say the people will soon enjoy the fruits of the National Convention that is nearing completion.

MNA

ADVERTISEMENTS

TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE

SANSUI ACOUSTICS RESEARCH CORPORATION, a company organized under the laws of British Virgin Islands, and having its principal office at Off-shore Incorporations Centre, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, P. O. Box 957 is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trademark:-

Sansui

Reg. Nos. 2438/1989 & 4/6439/2003

Used in respect of :-

"Electrical and electronic apparatus, machinery and instruments, namely, audio and video apparatus – receivers, amplifiers, tuners, speaker systems, record players, tape decks, headphones, microphones, cartridges antennas, audio timers, audio racks, pick-ups, codes, wireless communication apparatus, video tape recorders, video displayers, video cameras, video projectors, and parts and fittings thereof and all other goods in International Class 9.

Any unauthorised use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

Tin Ohnmar Tun
B.A(LAW) LL.B,LL.M(UK)
P.O. Box 109,Ph:723043
(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
Dated.17 August,2007

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Notice is hereby given that **"NTN" CORPORATION** of No.3-17,I-Chome, Kyoma-chibori, NishiKu,OsakaShi, Osaka-Fu, Japan is the sole owner and proprietor of the Trade Mark " **N.T.N** " the representation of which is herewith shown : -

NTN

Reg : No.(IV) - 601 of 1979

The said Trade Mark is used in respect of the following goods : -

"Bearings, Textile and Spinning Machines, and all kinds of Machines, manufactured, sold or exported by the said Company in Japan, Myanmar and other countries."

Any imitation, fraudulent or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

U OHN MAUNG B.Sc.,B.L
Advocate & Notary Public,
No.3, 34th Street, Yangon.

128 kilos of drug recovered from heroin factory in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 15 Aug—Pakistani authorities Monday recovered 128 kilos of drug from a heroin factory in northwestern area of Jamrud, state-run *APP* news agency reported. After receiving a tip-off, political authorities of Pakistan's Khyber tribal region raided a house in Wazirdund area, the *Associated Press of Pakistan* (APP) wire service reported.

Different equipment including blenders, mixer were also seized in the raid, added the report.

MNA/Xinhua

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Shiseido Company Ltd., a company organized and existing under the laws of Japan, of 7-5-5, Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

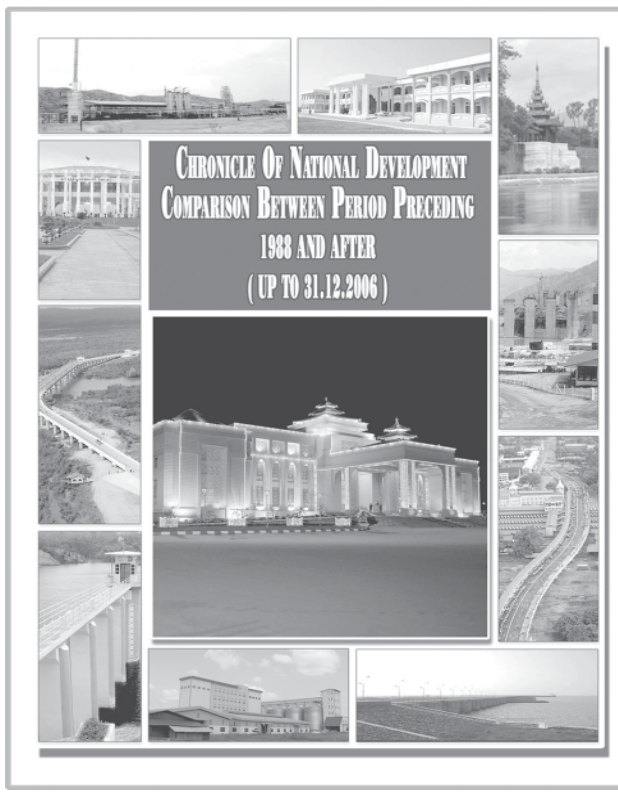
SHISEIDO

Reg. No. 4329/2001

in respect of "Street or shop-front dissemination of advertising matter, Demonstration of goods, Direct mail advertising, Commercial sales information supply, Sales promotion for cosmetics. Health care, Manicuring, Pet grooming, Plastic surgery, Beauty salons, Hairdressing salons, Turkish baths, Information supply for Beauty and Hairdressing salons in homepages by Internet".

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

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for **Shiseido Company Ltd.**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 17 August 2007



CHRONICLE OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

COMPARISON BETWEEN PERIOD PRECEDING 1988 AND AFTER (UP TO 31 - 12 - 2006)

* This book features firm evidences,correct data and figures and documentary photos.
* This book reflects the success in building the infrastructure according to the political, economic and social objectives for the brighter future of the State.
* Illustrated with charts and colourful photos.
* Published by the Ministry of Information.

Now On Sale USD 3.00

Available at

- Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon ☎ 01-381448, 249031
- Sarpay Beikman Book Shop, No-55, Thabyaygon Market, Nay Pyi Taw
- News and Periodicals Enterprise Book Shop, 212, Theinbyu Street, Yangon ☎ 294306
- Hotels, Supermarkets and Shopping Malls in Yangon.

The New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက် အငယ်တန်းသတင်းထောက်ရာထူးနေရာ ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲကျင်းပမည်

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း The New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်တွင် အငယ်တန်းသတင်းထောက် လစာနှုန်းကျပ် (၃၉၀၀၀-၁၀၀၀-၄၄၀၀၀) ရာထူး (၁၀) နေရာ၌ ဖြည့်စွက်ခန့်ထားရေးအတွက် ရေးဖြေစာမေးပွဲကို ရန်ကုန်မြို့ဗိုလ်တထောင်မြို့နယ် ကမ်းနားလမ်းအမှတ် (၂၂/၃၀) ရှိ နယူးလိုက်အော့ဖ်မြန်မာ သတင်းစာတိုက် အဆောက်အအုံ (အပေါ်ဆုံးထပ်)၌ (၆-၉-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့တွင် ကျင်းပမည် ဖြစ်သည်။

(၃-၉-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့မှစ၍ The New Light of Myanmar စိမံရေးရာဌာနတွင် နိုင်ငံသားစိစစ်ရေးကတ်ပြား ပြသ၍ ဖြေဆိုခွင့်ကတ်ပြားများ ထုတ်ယူရမည်ဖြစ်သည်။ လာရောက် ဖြေဆိုချိန်တွင် (က) ဘွဲ့လက်မှတ်မိတ္တူ (ခ) နိုင်ငံသား စိစစ်ရေးကတ်ပြားမိတ္တူ (ဂ) ဖြေဆိုခွင့်ကတ်ပြား တို့ကိုတစ်ပါတည်းယူဆောင်လာရမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုနှင့်အညီ ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်လာရမည် ဖြစ်သည်။

ဖြေဆိုရမည့် အစီအစဉ်မှာ (၆-၉-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့ နံနက် (၉) နာရီမှ (၁၁) နာရီအထိ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ၊ မွန်းတည့်(၁၂) နာရီမှ မွန်းလွဲ(၂) နာရီအထိ မြန်မာစာနှင့်အထွေထွေဗဟုသုတ (ပြည်းတွင်း/ပြည်ပ) ဘာသာရပ်များ ဖြစ်သည်။

လျှောက်ထားသူများအနက် ဖြေဆိုခွင့်ရရှိသူများထံသို့ စာတိုက်မှတစ်ဆင့် အကြောင်းကြားစာများ ပေးပို့ထားပြီးဖြစ်၍ သိရှိလိုသည်များကို နယူးလိုက်အော့ဖ်မြန်မာသတင်းစာတိုက်၊ စိမံရေးရာဌာန ဖုန်း ၀၁-၃၉၂၂၂၅၊ ၀၁-၃၉၂၂၂၆ သို့ ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းမေးမြန်းနိုင်သည်။

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း

China studies humble potato as way to beat drought

BEIJING, 15 Aug—Chinese farming experts are considering planting potatoes instead of rice and wheat as a way to beat crippling drought each year, state media said on Tuesday. But the government would have to provide subsidies to persuade farmers to make the switch, they said. "The potato is more drought-resistant than rice and wheat, which suits China better as 60 per cent of the country's arable land is dry," Qu Dongyu, a potato farming specialist with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, was quoted by *Xinhua* news agency as saying.

MNA/Reuters

Four giant panda cubs born in one day in China

CHENGDU, 15 Aug—A giant panda in captivity gave birth to two cubs on Monday, bringing the number of new-born cubs to four in just one day.

Fourteen-year-old Eryatou delivered a female cub weighing 218.5 grammes at about 7 pm at the Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding Centre, Sichuan Province, in southwest China.

The arrival of a second female cub, weighing just 98.5 grammes, at around 11 pm took breeders by surprise.

Eryatou has been able to feed both cubs so far, a rare feat given that most pandas are only able to care for one cub at a time.

MNA/Xinhua

Polly Pocket Pollywood Limo-Scene is shown in the office of Talbots Toyland in San Mateo, on 14 Aug, 2007. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Chelsea beat Reading, Man Utd held at Portsmouth

LONDON, 16 Aug — Chelsea hit back in the second half to beat Reading 2-1 on Wednesday but champions Manchester United stumbled to their second successive draw when they were held 1-1 at Portsmouth and had Cristiano Ronaldo sent off.

Manchester City, with their first home goal since January 1, beat Derby County 1-0, Fulham beat Bolton Wanderers 2-1, Wigan Athletic beat Middlesbrough 1-0 and Sunderland snatched a last-minute equalizer to draw 2-2 at Birmingham City. Reading earned a point from a goalless draw at Old Trafford last Sunday but on home soil had a real go at Chelsea.

They took the lead on the half hour through Andre Bikey after goalkeeper Petr Cech had failed to gather a high ball but paid a heavy price for missing further chances. Jose Mourinho made two changes at halftime and it paid immediate dividends as Chelsea equalized through Frank Lampard in the 47th minute and took the lead with a nicely-curled effort by Didier Drogba two minutes later.— *MNA/Reuters*

Manchester City's Rolando Bianchi (L) challenges Claude Davis of Derby County during their Premier League match in Manchester. Manchester City won 1-0.
INTERNET

Second half goals hand Arsenal 2-0 win over Sparta Prague

PRAGUE, 16 Aug — Second half goals by Francesc Fabregas and Alexander Hleb gave Arsenal a comfortable 2-0 win over Sparta Prague in the first leg of their Champions League third qualifying round tie on Wednesday.

The Gunners were lucky to see a feisty first half end scoreless after Jan Rezek's volley from close in glanced off goalkeeper Jens Lehman before squarely hitting the post.

Arsenal began to push forward in the second half but had few good scoring chances until Gael Clichy pounced on a sloppy pass by Pavel Horvath inside Sparta territory.

The speedy Frenchman cut past one defender and turned a second before laying the ball off to his right where Fabregas clinically finished from just inside the penalty area in the 72nd minute.

Fabregas then showed his pedigree at the other end in the 82nd minute, robbing Martin Abraham of a glorious chance from close in.—*MNA/Reuters*

Voronin gives Liverpool crucial win at Toulouse

TOULOUSE (France), 16 Aug — Andriy Voronin scored his first goal in competition for Liverpool as the five-times European champions made an important step towards the Champions League group stage with a 1-0 victory at Toulouse on Wednesday. The Ukraine striker, who joined the Merseyside as a free agent from Bayer Leverkusen during the close season, struck two minutes from the interval with a clinical 25-metre drive.

The second leg will be played at Anfield in a fortnight's time. Liverpool, who won their Premier League opener 2-1 at Aston Villa last weekend, started the game with Spain striker Fernando Torres on the bench.— *MNA/Reuters*

Serbia's Ana Ivanovic returns a shot against China's Zi Yan during their match at the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Toronto, on 15 Aug, 2007.
INTERNET

Los Angeles Galaxy captain David Beckham (L) goes up to head the ball against DC United's Luciano Emilio in the first half of their SuperLiga semi-final soccer match in Carson, California on 15 Aug, 2007.
INTERNET

Navas shines in Sevilla's 2-0 win at home to AEK

SEVILLE (Spain), 16 Aug — Sevilla took a step towards a first ever place in the group phase of the Champions League with a classy 2-0 win at home to AEK Athens on Wednesday.

Young winger Jesus Navas stole the show at the Sanchez Pizjuan, setting up second-half goals for strikers Luis Fabiano and Frederic Kanoute with brilliant runs on the right to leave the UEFA Cup holders firmly in control of the third qualifying round tie.

The build-up to the game was dominated by the possible departure of Sevilla's dynamic fullback Daniel Alves who refused to play in the match as he awaits a hoped-for move to Chelsea.

His teammates appeared unaffected by the distraction and Navas led the way with some sparkling football on the right wing.— *MNA/Reuters*

Japan challenger Anri Nakagawa (L) stumbles after getting a punch from Thai champion Samson Sor Siriporn as referee Franz Marti of Switzerland looks on during the women's WBC light-flyweight title bout in Bangkok on 15 Aug, 2007. Samson won the bout.—
INTERNET

Ferrero upsets sixth seed Gonzalez in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, 16 Aug — Former world number one Juan Carlos Ferrero upset sixth seed Fernando Gonzalez 6-2, 7-6 to reach the third round of the Cincinnati Masters on Wednesday.

The Spaniard, runner-up last year, cruised through the first set and won the second-set tiebreak 9-7, clinching victory on his sixth match point to set up a meeting with American ninth seed James Blake or German Nicolas Kiefer.

Croatian 11th seed Ivan Ljubicic suffered a surprise defeat 6-4, 6-4 to Spaniard Nicolas Almagro. Former world number one Lleyton Hewitt eased into the third round when eighth seed Richard Gasquet retired midway through the second set because of blisters on his playing hand. The Australian was leading 6-1, 3-2 when Gasquet quit. Hewitt will next face Croat Mario Ancic or Austrian Juergen Melzer. — *MNA/Reuters*

Exhausted Djokovic puts Moya loss down to experience

CINCINNATI, 16 Aug — An exhausted Novak Djokovic said he had simply run out of energy as he was beaten 6-4, 6-1 by former world number one Carlos Moya in the second round of the Cincinnati Masters on Wednesday.

The fourth seed, who beat Andy Roddick, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer to win the Montreal Masters last weekend, was second-best throughout as Moya wrapped up a convincing victory.— *MNA/Reuters*

Indonesia's Taufik Hidayat returns a net play against India's Anup Sridhar during a men's singles match at the World Badminton Championships in Kuala Lumpur on 15 Aug, 2007.
INTERNET

Werder strike late for 2-1 win over Dinamo Zagreb

BERLIN, 16 Aug — Werder Bremen needed a long-range blast from Daniel Jensen four minutes from time to seal a 2-1 win over Dinamo Zagreb at the Weserstadion in the first leg of their Champions League third round qualifier on Wednesday.

Bosko Balaban had given the Croatian champions a deserved lead at the end of the first half, touching in from six metres to convert Mario Mandzukic's ball in from the right.

That acted as a spur for the Germans, who came out with a new attitude at the start of the second half.

Substitute Hugo Almeida struck the equalizer almost immediately when he raced through and scored on the rebound, after the keeper had blocked his first effort.

The visitors had plenty of chances to go ahead themselves before a thumping late effort from Danish international Jensen gave Werder a slim advantage to take to the away leg on August 29.

MNA/Reuters

"Reuters" poll shows Bush, Congress get poor grades

WASHINGTON, 16 Aug— Most US voters remain deeply unhappy with President George W Bush and Congress and give them negative marks for their handling of economic and foreign policy, according to a *Reuters*/Zogby poll released on Wednesday.

The poll found nearly two-thirds of Americans believe the country is on the wrong track and give Bush's job performance a bad grade. An even bigger majority of 83 per cent say the Democratic-controlled Congress is only doing a fair or poor job.

"The American people are in a foul mood right now and there is no sign of improvement," said pollster John Zogby. "They may be going on vacation this month, but they are coming back to the same old thing."

The bleak assessment of Bush and Congress, similar to their ratings last month, could be a danger signal for both parties heading into the November 2008 election campaign.

"Americans could simply be in an anti-incumbent and anti-institutional mood," Zogby said. "Right now, nobody gets good marks."

The national survey of 1,020 likely voters, taken 9 August through 11 August, found 67 per cent ranked Bush's performance as fair or poor, with just 32 per cent ranking it as excellent or good.

That is down slightly from the 34 per cent who gave him positive marks last month, but still above his low rating of 30 per cent in March amid continued chaos in Iraq and partisan gridlock in Washington.

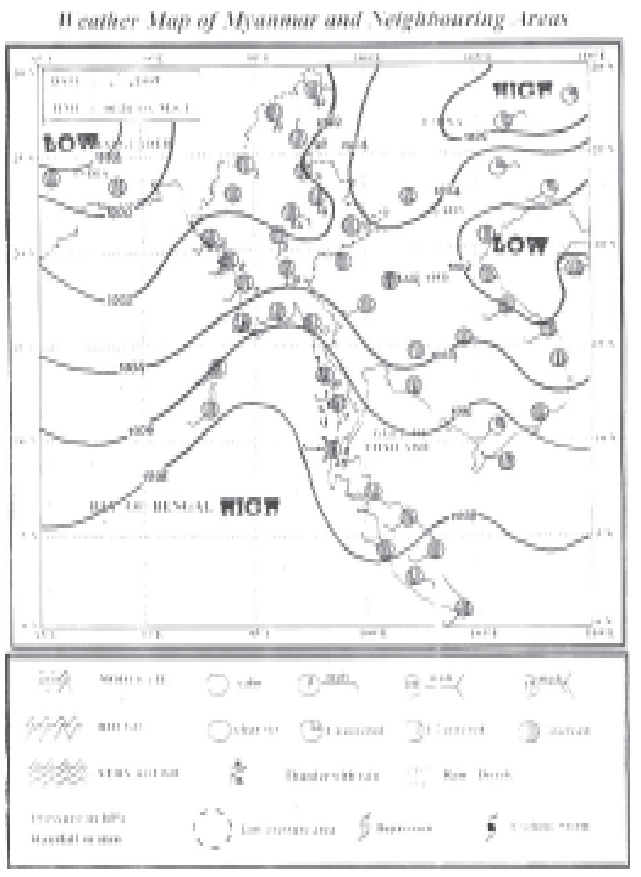
The dismal ratings for Congress have worsened since Democrats won power in the 2006 elections. Fifteen per cent rate the performance of Congress as excellent or good, worse than the 23 per cent who gave the Republican-led Congress positive marks in its final days last October.

Americans also have little faith in US economic and foreign policies, with 64 per cent giving economic policy negative marks and 74 per cent giving foreign policy a bad grade.

The poll showed 64 per cent of Americans think the country is on the wrong track, and only 24 per cent think it is headed in the right direction.

While a quarter of the poll's respondents are at least somewhat uneasy about their job security, 59 per cent rank their personal financial situation as either excellent or good.

MNA/Reuters



The Viking warship replica, Havhingsten af Glendalough (the Sea Stallion of Glendalough), makes its way from Dublin Bay into Dublin Port, Ireland on 14 Aug, 2007.—XINHUA

TV Myanmar

Friday, 17 August
View on today

7:00 am
1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မဟာ ရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am
5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am
6. The mirror images of the musical oldies

8:25 am
7. ပန်းလှိုင်တံတား

8:30 am
8. International news

8:45 am
9. English for Everyday Use

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm
3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm
4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ –ဒုတိယနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒ၊ ရုက္ခဗေဒ အထူးပြုများ) (ရုက္ခဗေဒ)

5:00 pm
5. Song of national races

5:15 pm
6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

5:30 pm
7. "အမွန်မြတ်ဆုံးလက်ဆောင်" (နေရဲလင်း၊ နှင်းဥ၊ မေနံ့သာခင်၊ စောနိုင်(ရှမ်းပြည်)၊ ဒေါ်တင်တင်လှ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မောင်မောင်မြင့်)

5:45 pm
8. Songs yesteryears

6:00 pm
9. Evening news

6:30 pm
10. Weather report

6:35 pm
11. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေဥာဏ်ရှင်

7:10 pm
12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဒုတိယအရွယ်၏ ချစ်မေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း–၁၃)

8:00 pm
13. News
14. International news
15. Weather report
16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စိတ်ကူးလေး တဝဲလည်လည်"(အပိုင်း–၈)
17. The next day's programme

Radio Myanmar

Friday, 17 August
Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news
8:35 am Music:
-Love U more
8:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music:
-Roller- coaster
8:50 am National news/ Slogan
9:00 am Music:
-Run away
9:05 am International news
9:10 am Music:
-Jenny
1:30 pm News / Slogan
1:40 pm Lunch time music:
-Being lonely
-Good times
-In your eyes
9:00 pm WOM
9:15 pm Article
9:25 pm Music at your request
-Everything you do
-When I'm missing you
-Don't you know
9:45 pm News /Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

WEATHER

Thursday, 16 August, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin State and Magway Division, scattered in Kayah and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State and Ayeyawady Division and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawkareik (5.63) inches, Mogok (5.56) inches, Putao (2.56) inches, Kawthoung (1.97) inches, Hkamti (1.89) inches and Katha (1.85) inches.

Maximum temperature on 15-8-2007 was 88ºF. Minimun temperature on 16-8-2007 was 77ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 16-8-2007 was 89%. Total sunshine hours on 15-8-2007 was (3.6) hours approx.

Rainfall on 16-8-2007 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (0.12) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (90.51) inches at Mingaladon, (92.72) inches at Kaba-Aye and (93.15) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (16:30) hours MST on 15-8-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17-8-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon, Kayin States and Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Kchin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, scattered in Shan and Chin States, Mandalay, lower Sagaing and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of decrease of rain in eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 17-8-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 17-8-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers . Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 17-8-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

***R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 392369**

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Prime Minister sends message of felicitations to Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug— On the occasion of the 62nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia which falls on 17 August 2007, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia. —*MNA*

Political Commissar of Jinan Military Region Command of PRC arrives Nay Pyi Taw.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win welcomes Political Commissar of Jinan Military Region Command of PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence welcomed a Chinese delegation led by Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China at Nay Pyi Taw Airport yesterday morning.

Also present at the airport to welcome the Chinese delegation were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and senior military officers. — *MNA*

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence welcomes Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. — MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence receives Chinese mily delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence received a goodwill delegation led by Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong of Jinan Military Region Command of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China at Shwenandaw Hotel here yesterday.

Also present at the call were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear Admiral Nyan Tun, Chief of Staff (Air) Brig-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Deputy Chief of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun and Military Attaché of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar Senior Colonel Fan Lian Feng.

MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry Defence receives Political Commissar General Liu Dongdong in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA