PM General Khin Nyunt visits Shanghai
Tours Pudong Industrial Zone, Shanghai Science & Technology Museum, Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre

YANGON, 21 July — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived at Shanghai Science and Technology Museum in Pudong Industrial Zone at 9.30 am on 15 July. They were welcomed there by Shanghai Pudong New Area People’s Government Vice Mayor Mr Endi Zhang and officials.

In the museum, Vice Mayor Mr Endi Zhang reported to the Prime Minister on the location and area of the industrial zone. He said that the zone’s main economy at first was production, but it is now science and technology, explaining the zone’s GDP growth, establishment of Pudong Industrial Zone with Lujiazui Finance and Trade Zone, Jinqiao Export and Processing Zone, Waigaoqiao Free Trade Zone and Zhangjiang Hi-Tech Park, zone-wise production through modern technology, research and services, local and foreign investment, building of infrastructure as priority task for development of the industrial zone and measures being taken for harmonious development of the economy and the social and cultural sectors.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt thanked the Mayor for comprehensive explanations concerning the development of Pudong Industrial Zone. He said that buildings in the region obviously reflect its development. He added that he met with the leaders of the People’s Republic of China during his goodwill visit and cordially discussed sectoral cooperation and promotion of bilateral friendly relationship. He invited industrialists and interested persons to participate in China-Myanmar cooperation sector. Next, he noted (See page 8)
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Thursday, 22 July, 2004**

Towards stronger Sino-Myanmar friendship & economic cooperation

Leaders of the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China have always tried to promote the mutual friendship by paying reciprocal visits.

General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, during his official visit to China, went on a study tour of industrial zones in Beijing and a Hubei Province with a view to strengthening friendship and boosting cooperation in various fields, especially economy, trade and industry.

On the morning of 13 July, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party visited the Zhongguancun Science Park and, Dr Xia Yingqi, Vice-Chairman of the Zhongguancun Science Park Administrative Committee briefed the Prime Minister on the background history and development of the industrial zone, operations of research centres and high-tech companies, flow of foreign investment and training of technicians. After studying manufacturing industries and research centres in the industrial zone, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that an industrial zone is being established near Yangon and invited Chinese companies and investors to come and study so that they can work together with Myanmar industrialists.

On 14 July, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Khin Shwe and party visited the Three Gorges Dam Exhibition Centre and General Manager Mr Li Yongan of the Three Gorges Dam Project briefed the Prime Minister on the drawing of modern designs by local technicians with the use of advanced technologies. The General Manager said that the Three Gorges Dam was going to be the largest in the world and would supply electricity to the regions in the eastern and northern parts of China. He also explained development measures being carried out for the social and economic sectors of the region where the dam is being constructed, the building of temporary and permanent waterways and the construction of hydro power plants.

Governor of Hubei Province Mr Lou Quiguan also called on Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and they discussed matters on boosting cooperation in economy and hydro power projects between Myanmar and Hubei Province and measures to be taken for promoting friendship between the two nations.

We believe that Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt’s visit to China will deepen mutual friendship and raise the momentum of economic cooperation between the two nations.

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Laotian Deputy FM calls on Minister U Win Aung

YANGON, 22 July — Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Phongsavath Boupha called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 11 am today. At the call were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Ambassadors to LPDR U Tin Oo, Director-General of Political Department U Thaung Tin and officials. In the evening, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win hosted a dinner in honour of the Laotian delegation.

**Talks on MWAF given**

YANGON, 21 July — Talks on salient points of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation took place at Thida Hall of Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Mayangon Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Vice-President of MWAF Prof Dr Daw May May Yi, Daw Khin Lay Thei, Daw Than Nwe and Daw Khin Khin Win, Patron of Yangon Division Organization for Women’s Affairs Daw Khin Thet Hay, officials of MWAF, advisers to Rehabilitation and Resettlement of MWAF Daw Khin Aye, wife of the Minister for SWRR, Daw Khin Nwe Nwe, wife of the Deputy Minister for SWRR, Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Sein Thu Aung and wife Daw Khin Htay Myint; heads of departments and their wives; staff and their families totalling about 500.

After prof Dr Daw May May Yi had given talks, adviser to Rehabilitation and Resettlement of MWAF Daw Khin Aye, wife of the Minister of SWRR presented K 100,000 donated by the Ministry of SWRR to the former.

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**Workshop on China-ASEAN Expo-2004**

YANGON, 21 July — A workshop on China-ASEAN Expo-2004 organized by the Ministry of Commerce and China-ASEAN Expo-2004 organizing committee, was held this morning at Traders’ Hotel here.

Director-General of the Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye explained matters on preparation to participate in the Expo and exhibitions of Myanmar. Next, General-Secretary Mr Gong Xun of the China-ASEAN Expo Secretariat briefed on arrangements and assistance for the Expo. Mr Gong Xun replied the queries raised by those present. Under the agreement of ASEAN-China Summit held in Bartli, Indonesia, in 2003, China-ASEAN Expo-2004 is to be held at Nanning International Convention & Exhibition Centre in Nanning, Guangxi Autonomous Region, China, from 3 to 7 October.

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Commercial Attaché of the Chinese Embassy Mr Tang Hai and responsible officials attended the opening of the workshop.

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Dr Chira Hongladarom of Thailand speaks on the occasion.

**Soccer tournament opened**

YANGON, 21 July — The soccer tournament for championship shield of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was opened with ceremony at 3:30 pm yesterday at Ground Training Base in Meiktila. Present on the occasion were No 59 LCD Commander Col Tin Oo Lwin, Ground Training Base Commander Col Thura Khin Maung Win, senior military officers, guests and others. — MNA

**Cycling race on 7 August**

YANGON, 21 July — Under the aegis of the Ministry of Sports and arrangments of Myanmar Cycling Federation and Shwe Than Lwin Co, the cycling race (2004) will be held at 5:30 am on 7 August.

In Yangon-Bago-Yangon cycling race comprises men’s 160-kilometre event and women’s 80-kilometre event. K 500,000 will be presented to the first prize winner, K 400,000 for second prize, K 300,000 for third prize, K 200,000 for fourth prize, K 100,000 for fifth prize and K 50,000 each for five consolation prizes. Enthusiasts can participate by getting enlisted at MCF General Secretary U Myint Han not later than 1 August. — MNA

**National Basketball C'ship continues**

YANGON, 21 July — National Basketball Championship for 2004 jointly organized by the Myanmar Basketball Federation and Mikko Coca- Cola Mix continued today at Aung San Gymnasium.

In men’s senior quarter final division, Gar Gar (A) Team beat Navy Team 61-51 points and Yangon Command Team beat Shadow Team 81-55 points. The Central Command Team defeated Gar Gar (B) Team by 91-59 points. The tournament continues on 22 July.

In all three divisions, K 100,000 will be presented for the first prize, K 50,000 for the second and K 30,000 for the third respectively. — MNA

**People’s Desire**

Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views

Oppose those trying to jeopardize the 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

**Seminar on Globalization held**

YANGON, 21 July — The Seminar on Globalization (Tourism, Globalization and Sufficiency Economy Theory in Myanmar), jointly organized by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Foundation for International Human Resources Development of Thailand, was held at Sedona Hotel, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, UMFCCI Vice-President U Aung Lwin, Foundation for International Human Resources Development of Thailand General Secretary and Projects President Dr Ratanachaeng and Thai Ambassador Mr Souphon Dhirakaosal gave speeches.

Also present at the meeting were officials of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Immigration and Population, Yangon City Development Committee, the UMFCCI, Yangon University and Myanmar Traders Association. The Seminar will be held up to 23 July. — MNA

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India, Sri Lanka to promote closer ties

New Delhi, 20 July—India and Sri Lanka agreed Monday to speed up the proposed defence cooperation agreement and expand economic cooperation.

"Both sides agreed to expedite the (defence) agreement," the Indo-Asian News Service quoted Sri Lankan sources as saying following talks between Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and his visiting Sri Lankan counterpart Mahinda Rajapakse.

"Enhancing economic cooperation between the two nations and speeding up negotiations on the next step of the bilateral free trade pact Free Trade Agreement II were discussed during the talks," the sources said.

The defence cooperation agreement and the security situation in Sri Lanka featured prominently in the talks between Rajapakse and National Security Adviser J N Dixit.

The pact envisages training Sri Lankan military personnel in India.

The decision came after Tiger Airways, one of the no-frills carriers in the island state, agreed to operate from the new terminal, which will have an initial handling capacity of 160,000 passengers a year.

The terminal for low-cost airlines at Changi Airport by early 2006, according to a statement by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore to build air

Source: MNA/Xinhua

Singapore to build air terminal for low-cost airlines

SINGAPORE, 21 July — Singapore will build Asia's first air terminal for low-cost airlines at Changi Airport by early 2006, according to a statement by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) on Tuesday.

The decision came after Tiger Airways, one of the no-frills carriers in the island state, agreed to operate from the new terminal, which will have an initial handling capacity of 2.7 million passengers a year, about one-tenth of the traffic in the existing terminal.

Unlike the two existing terminals at Changi Airport, the new 45 million Singapore dollars (about 26.4 million US dollars) budget terminal will be more Spartan.

In the new facility, which is about the size of three football fields, there will be no escalators, aerobridges or holding rooms, and passengers will have to take a shuttle bus to the airplane.

Source: MNA/Xinhua

Fischer says Germany will definitely not send troops to Iraq

BERLIN, 20 July — German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, said in an interview to The Hindu in Chennai on Monday. He made it clear that the decision not to "send troops" was a definite one, consistent with Germany's opposition to the war. The decision would not change even if a request came from the 'Prime Minister' of the interim government, Iyad Allawi. However, Germany was "willing to move forward after the war" and provide help to the transfer of sovereignty and democratization processes in Iraq in other ways.

Mr Fischer was responding to a series of questions on Iraq, relations with the United States and other major powers, the future of Europe, and the prospects of enhancing the Indo-German bilateral relationship.

"We shouldn't be pessimistic," Mr Fischer told The Hindu about what lay in store for Iraq and its region. "The situation is complicated, no question about that! But we should really move forward to the elections... this offers a real opportunity in a very, very dangerous situation."

Elaborating his views on dealing with "our American friends," the German Foreign Minister emphasized that "we should engage" with them, above all on "the future of the 21st century." He did not believe in "an approach that there is a definite one, consistent with Germany's opposition to the war."

He suggested that those countries that disagreed with the position taken by the United States should not try to establish a counter-balancing bloc but should instead try and persuade Washington to work through the UN system.

Source: MNA/Xinhua

China, Namibia vow to strengthen cooperation

BEIJING, 21 July — Chinese President Hu Jintao met visiting Namibian President Sam Nujoma here Tuesday. Both leaders vowed to strengthen cooperation in various fields between the two countries.

Hu said China is willing to expand bilateral economic cooperation and the Chinese Government encourages Chinese businesses to invest in Namibia.

China and Namibia established diplomatic relations in 1990. The trade volume between the two countries reached 74.57 million US dollars last year, up 52 percent compared with 2002.

Nujoma said Namibia will improve the domestic investment environment to attract more Chinese investment, especially in high value-added industries and tourism.

Hu said China, with its deep tradition of friendship with Namibia, supported the country’s struggle for national independence before its independence.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties 14 years ago, leaders of both countries have kept close contact and bilateral cooperation in economic, cultural and educational fields has been fruitful, Hu said.

China expects to further increase exchanges between leaders, governments, parliaments and political parties of the two countries, and expand bilateral cooperation in trade, investment, culture and education and other fields, Hu said.

Expressing appreciation for China's assistance to Namibia in its fight for independence and reconstruction, Nujoma said he hopes the two countries will take advantage of the sound bilateral political ties to develop reciprocal cooperation in various fields.

Source: MNA/Xinhua

Gunmen shoot dead interim governor of Iraq's Basra Province

BAGHDAD, 21 July — Gunmen shot dead the interim governor of southern Iraq’s Basra province, taking the country’s second-largest city and source of most of its oil exports, a UK military spokesman said.

Hazen al-Ainachi, coordinator for the Basra Provincial Council, and two other men were shot dead in the attack at 7.55 am Iraqi time Monday night. Lieutenant Mike Cannon said by telephone from Basra. Another person was injured in the attack.

Cannon said, without giving more details. Another man, al-Ainachi, 59, was killed as he left his home in the Juhaila neighbourhood in the centre of Basra to go to work. Agence France-Presse quoted a source as saying following talks between Indian Prime Minister Ayad Allawi and Nujoma.

The killing is the second assassination of an Iraqi public official in three days. Issam Jassem Kadhem, a Ministry of Defence official, was shot dead late Sunday near his home in Baghdad, AFP reported.

On Saturday, Iraq’s justice minister escaped a bomb attack in Baghdad that killed at least four people and wounded three, AFP said, citing government and hospital officials.

Basra is a majority Shi'ite Muslim city. The Shiites, mainly opposedOuter leader, Saddam Hussein. — Internet

Source: MNA/Xinhua

900th US soldier killed since war began in Iraq

Baghdad, 21 July — On Wednesday, a 1st Infantry Division soldier became the 900th US military death in Iraq since the beginning of the war in March 2003. The soldier was killed by a roadside bomb while on patrol in a Bradley fighting vehicle in Duluiyah, 45 miles north of Baghdad.

Two Marines had been killed in separate incidents Tuesday while conducting "security and stability operations." One soldier was killed on Monday, and a second died on Monday of wounds. Before the five deaths, the Pentagon’s official count of the dead had stood at 891.

The guerrillas’ Web statement also told Arab and Islamic governments not to send troops.

"We are warning you for the last time: We will hit with an iron fist all those supporting the Americans or (interim) Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi or his cronies."

Allawi had asked some Muslim countries to contribute troops, but so far none has come forward. Violence is a likely factor. Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said he would not even send a planned medical team until "the situation is a little more stable."

Iraq’s fledgling interim government relies heavily on the 160,000 coalition troops to fight the 15-month-old insurgency, which has used car bombings, assassinations, sabotage and other violence to try to create chaos and drive out foreign forces.

Violence continued on Tuesday, with a roadside bomb attack on a vehicle near the city of Baqouba, north of Baghdad, killed four civilians and wounded two others, said Emad Kamil Rahim, a local hospital official.

Source: MNA/Xinhua

The situation is com-

S estados are livin-

US Army soldiers arrive at the scene of a roadside bomb explosion in Baghdad's district of al-Doura, on 20 July, 2004. At least two Iraqi policemen were injured when an improvised explosive device went off as their convoy was driving past. — Bernat

Source: MNA/Xinhua

The 警察 was killed by a roadside bomb while on patrol in a Bradley fighting vehicle in Duluiyah, 45 miles north of Baghdad.

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Source: MNA/Xinhua
**Iraq to seek help in talks with neighbours**

CAIRO, 20 July — Iraq was expected to complain to its neighbours during a regional meeting Wednesday that they are doing too little to help it stop violence and may even be fomenting trouble.

The long, porous border between Iraq, Washington, which still leads some 160,000 multinational troops in Iraq, has attracted the Iraqis of meddling in Iraq in hopes of turning the country, with its Shiite Muslim majority, into a Shiite theocracy like Iran. Iraqis deny such charges, but are worried about the continued military and political influence in the United States of Iraq, a longtime foe.

Iraq’s Minister of Defence Hazem Shalan al-Khuzaei was quoted in Tuesday’s London-based Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper as saying Iraq has evidence neighbours were interfering in the country’s internal affairs. He singled out Iran, but gave no details.

“If they do not stop this we will move it to their own streets,” he said in another interview, with the Gulf-based Al-Arabiya television.

Egyptian Minister Ahmed About Gheit said during their meetings in Cairo, Iraq’s neighbours will “reaffirm their commitment to the principle of non-interference in Iraq’s internal affairs.”

Neighbouring countries have their concerns, too.

**Military says US marine killed in action in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, 20 July — A US marine was killed in action in Iraq’s rebel central-western Al-Anbar Province, the US military said.

A member of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force “was killed today in the Al-Anbar Province while conducting security and stability operations,” the military said in a statement.

Al-Anbar is home to some of the most notorious tsunami tidal wave warning (30 miles) west of Baghdad.

The city has been the target of recent US air strikes against suspected hideouts of al-Qaeda linked militant Mousab al-Zarqawi that have killed scores of people.

According to the latest Defence Department figures, 661 US troops have been killed in action in Iraq since the start of the US-led war in March 2003.

**Iraq militants free Filipino truck driver**

BAGHDAD, 20 July — Militants freed a Filipino truck driver Tuesday after the Philippines government gave in to demands to withdraw troops from Iraq to prevent the beheading of the 46-year-old father of eight who had been held captive for two weeks.

 Apparently emboldened by their success, insurgents promptly took aim at Japan, threatening in a Web site message to send “lines of cars laden with explosives” to kill its troops in Iraq if they did not leave. Japan rejected the demand.

More than 60 foreigners have been taken hostage in recent months, and there were fears that the action by the Philippines government would lead to more kidnappings and prompt members of the US-led coalition to think twice about sending, or keeping, their soldiers in Iraq.

“The Filipino withdrawal tells the insurgents that they can continue to chip away at this coalition and make it a coalition of two (Britain and the United States),” said Richard Shultz, a professor of security studies at Tufts University.

In Baghdad, Filipino hostage Angelo dela Cruz was dropped off in front of the United Arab Emirates Embassy on Tuesday, a day after his government withdrew the last of the 51 troops they had stationed here.

“Angelo has become a Filipino ‘everyman,’ a symbol of the hardworking Filipino seeking hope and opportunity,” Philippines President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said during a nationally televised address.

“Angelo was spared, and we rejoice,” she said with a smile.

Dela Cruz’s family, and much of the Philippines, cheered his release.

**Earthquake hits N-E Japan**

TORUO, 20 July — An earthquake registering an estimated magnitude of 5.1 on the Richter Scale shook northeastern Japan early Tuesday morning, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage from the 5.58 a.m. (2058 GMT) quake and no tsunami warning was issued.

**China’s largest railway transport city sets record in freight**

HOMOYU, 20 July — Railroads transported a record 6.87 million tons of goods through the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region city of Manzhouli, China’s largest railway transport city, in the first half of this year, up 46 per cent over the same period last year.

An official with the Manzhouli Customs House attributed the record railway transport volume to a series of new measures taken to improve Customs services.

The Customs house has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with 30 Chinese businesses to foster an environment in which all parties combine their efforts to improve Customs services.

It has also reformed the Custom clearances procedures on the import and export of timber and oil which involve large freight volume and little risk.

As a result, Manzhouli imported 3.33 million cubic metres of timber and 1.14 million tons of crude oil in the first six months of this year, representing a year-on-year increase of 24 per cent and 124 per cent respectively.

The time for handling each batch of goods was also reduced from 19 hours to eight hours on average.

Manzhouli handles 60 per cent of the volume of freight between China and Russia.
Jordan, Iraq vow to enhance bilateral relations

AMMAN, 20 July — Jordanian Prime Minister Faisal al-Fayed and his visiting Iraqi counterpart Iyad Allawi pledged on Monday to enhance bilateral relations.

Fayed said Jordan has always been and is still supporting the Iraqi people, their right of independence and territorial integrity, the Petra news agency reported.

“We stand by the Iraqis and their choices to live in peace, stability and prosperity,” Fayed said.

“We see this first visit by Iraqi Prime Minister and his delegation to Jordan as a gesture that emphasizes the Iraqi Government’s commitment to strengthen relations with Jordan,” the Prime Minister added.

For his part, Allawi said his visit to Jordan, the first leg of an Arab tour, is clear evidence of Iraq’s determination to go ahead in building strong relations with the Arab world.

Iraqi population reaches about 27 million

BAGHDAD, 20 July — Official sources announced Monday that it is estimated that the Iraqi population reached about 27 million, local newspaper Al Taqaddim reported.

Abdul Zahra Al Hindawi, the director of information in the Ministry of Planning and Co-operative Development, said that the last census was held in October, 1997, showing the population in Iraq was 25 million.

The preparatory body for the national census would depend on the new estimate to choose eight representatives for every 50,000 people.

The national conference due to be held by the end of July will include 1,000 members who would be added to the representatives of governorates, parties, syndicates, unions, organizations, civil society institutions, and the heads of classes.

The percentage of women in the conference should not be less than 25, and the conference will elect an interministerial council of 100 members to deal with the legislative affairs before direct general elections are held in January 2005.

Halliburton subpoenaed over unit’s Iran work

HOUSTON, 20 July — A US grand jury issued a subpoena to Halliburton Co seeking information about its Cayman Islands unit’s work in Iran, where it is illegal for US companies to operate, Halliburton said on Monday.

The oilfield services company, formerly headed by US Vice-President Dick Cheney, also said a subpoena was issued to a former employee as part of a separate ongoing investigation into whether it overcharged for fuel under its contracts in Iraq.

Halliburton said the investigation of its subsidiary’s work in Iran had been transferred to the US Department of Justice from the Treasury Department, which first initiated an inquiry in 2001.

“In July 2004, Halliburton received from an Assistant US Attorney for the Southern District of Texas a grand jury subpoena requesting the production of documents. We intend to cooperate with the government’s investigation,” Halliburton said in a filing to the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

Bush, Blair should know Iraq intelligence’s weakness

LONDON, 20 July — Former US chief weapons inspector David Kay said Sunday that British Prime Minister Tony Blair and US President George W Bush should have been aware before the Iraq war that the weak intelligence on Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction (WMD) could not prove Saddam Hussein posed a danger to the West.

“WMD was only one (factor for the war) and I think in their mind, not really the most important one,” he said.

“And so the doubts about the evidence on weapons of mass destruction was not as serious to them as it seemed to be to the rest of the world,” Kay said.

Kay resigned in January. His conclusion then that Iraq did not have stockpiles of WMD brought serious problems for both Bush and Blair, underwriting their main justification for war.

Teheran’s new airport to re-open in early August

TEHERAN, 20 July — Teheran’s new airport will re-open next month, Roads and Transport Minister Ahmad Khorram was quoted as saying on Monday, after Iran’s military shut it down on its opening day in May.

Revolutionary Guard vehicles poured onto the runway and closed the airport down after the first of six scheduled international flights landed on May 8, the airport’s first day of operations.

Khorram said government plans to hand over the running of the site to Turkish-led consortium TAV had created security concerns.

“Imam Khomeini International Airport will become operational in early- to mid-August after confirmation by the International Civil Aviation Organization,” the official IRNA news agency quoted Khorram as saying during a visit to the airport.

Khorram did not explain why the airport was now permitted to re-open, but said the private sector would still run its day-to-day operations.

UN says extreme poverty spreading in Sub-Saharan Africa

VIENNA, 20 July — Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in the world where the proportion of people living in extreme poverty has continued to grow for 20 years, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) said.

In its annual Industrial Development Report released on Tuesday, UNIDO described the region as “the last frontier in the fight against abject poverty” and said the international community and the countries concerned needed to step up efforts to promote economic growth there.

The rate of absolute poverty — people living on one dollar a day or less — in Sub-Saharan Africa is nearing 50 per cent.

“While between 1981 and 2001 the number of people living in absolute poverty fell worldwide from 40 per cent to 21 per cent of the total population, in Sub-Saharan Africa it increased from 42 per cent to 47 per cent,” UNIDO Director-General Carlos Magarinos said.

In order to halve the number of people living in poverty in the region by 2015 as the UN aims to, incomes would have to stop shrinking as they did in the 1980s and 1990s and gross domestic product (GDP) per capita would need to grow on average more than 4 per cent annually, UNIDO said.

Foreign aid would help countries reach very basic health, education and infrastructure standards, which in turn would aid economic growth. But the best way to tackle poverty, UNIDO said, was to promote economic growth by developing trade and industry.

The United Nations has set itself a series of global “Millennium Development Goals” (MDGs) to achieve by 2015 that include halving absolute poverty compared to 1990, halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and establishing universal primary education.

“The accelerated economic growth that is necessary to achieve the MDGs and, just as importantly, to sustain them over time, can only be driven by the private sector,” UNIDO said.

Governments need to tackle deep-rooted problems in economic structure and governance which contributed to African manufacturing losing market share, it said.

Economic diversification and agricultural reform were also important.
Agreements signed between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China

MoU signed between the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs of the Union of Myanmar and the Ministry of Information Industry of the People's Republic of China in the field of Information and Communications.

Deputy Minister for F & R Col Hla Thein Swe and Chinese Vice Minister of Commerce Mr Yu Guangzhou sign Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation, Exchange of Notes on Project of International Convention Centre, Exchange of Notes on Master Plan for Hydropower Projects in Myanmar, Exchange of Notes on Master Plan for Thanlyin-Kyauktan Industrial Zone and Exchange of Notes for provision and shipment of rails.— MNA

Debt Rescheduling Agreement was signed by Deputy Minister for Finance & Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe and China Export & Credit Insurance Corporation President Mr Tang Ruoxin. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe and China Export & Credit Insurance Corporation President Mr Tang Ruoxin sign Debt Rescheduling Agreement in the presence of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao. — MNA
Agreements signed between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China

(1) Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the People’s Republic of China
(2) Exchange of Notes on the Project of International Convention Centre
(3) Exchange of Notes on the Master Plan for Hydropower Projects in Myanmar
(4) Exchange of Notes on the Master Plan for Thanlyin-Kyauktan Industrial Zone
(5) Exchange of Notes extending 50 million RMB Yuan interest-free loan for the provision and shipment of rails for the Myanmar Government
(6) MoU between the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs of the Union of Myanmar and the Ministry of Information Industry of the People’s Republic of China in the field of Information and Communications
(7) Agreement on the Financing Plan for No 4 Urea Fertilizer Factory at Taikkyi between the Export-Import Bank of China and the Ministry of Finance & Revenue of the Union of Myanmar
(8) Debt Rescheduling Agreement between China Export & Credit Insurance Corporation and the Ministry of Finance & Revenue of the Union of Myanmar
(9) Supply Contract for Myanma National Telecommunication Network Construction Project between Myanma Posts and Telecommunications and ZTE Corporation
(10) Tagaung Taung Nickle Mineral Exploration and Feasibility Study Agreement between No 3 Mining Enterprise and China Non-ferrous Metal Mining & Construction Co Ltd
(11) MoU between the Ministry of Industry-1 of the Union of Myanmar and China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation for Extension of 200 TPD Pulp Plant (Thabaung) and Proposed 500 TPD Plant (Rakhine)

MoU for Extension of Pulp Plants was signed by U Kyaw Myint, Director-General of Directorate of Industries and Mr Yang Changheng, Chairman of China Metallurgical Construction (Group) Corporation

Tagaung Taung Nickle Mineral Exploration and Feasibility Study Agreement was signed by Managing Director U Khin Oo of Myanma Gems Enterprise and President of China Non-ferrous Metal Mining & Construction Co Ltd Mr Zhang Jian

Supply Contract for Myanma National Telecommunication Network Construction Project was signed by MPT General Manager U Tha Oo and Chairman of ZTE Corporation Mr Hou Weigui

General Manager U Tha Oo of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications and Chairman of ZTE Corporation Mr Hou Weigui sign Supply Contract for Myanma National Telecommunication Network Construction Project. — MNA
PM General Khin Nyunt ...

(from page 1)

that Myanmar and China agreed on boosting cooperation in agriculture, industrial, communication, energy and electricity sectors. And, he invited interested persons from Pudong Industrial Zone to join special industrial zones to be established in Myanmar.

Next, the Prime Minister and party proceeded to Alcatel Shanghai Bell Co Ltd. They were welcomed there by Executive Vice-President Mr Chen Wei Dong and officials.

At the briefing hall, Executive Vice-President Mr Chen Wei Dong briefed Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party on operating of Chinese communication technological workshops by Alcatel Shanghai Bell Co Ltd in various countries, Director Mr Gu Xiaodong on matters related to modern electronic equipment produced by Alcatel Shanghai Bell Co Ltd. The Prime Minister and party connected among them with the use of 3G Mobile Phones produced by the company. Next, the Prime Minister signed in the visitors’ book.

On arrival at the museum in Lujiazui Central Green Park, the Prime Minister and party heard reports on civil construction tasks presented by Lujiazui Finance and Trade Zone Development Company Deputy General Manager Mr Shun Xiang Xu with use of scale model of Shanghai Lujiazui Centre Financial District Planning.

At 2.30 pm, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party arrived at Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre in Shanghai where they were welcomed by Urban Planning Exhibition Centre Head Mr Qiu Xing Ao and officials. The Prime Minister and party viewed scale models of magnificent buildings in Shanghai region, historical photos on cumulative development of Shanghai, layout of the buildings in Shanghai, model scale for emergence of Shanghai in 2020, the future airport design of Shanghai, the deepsea port of Shanghai, equipment of the municipal department, graphs showing development of Shanghai, the scale model of the layout of buildings of Pudong Industrial Zone when developed in future and the scale model of the underground electric train which can run 400 km per hour. Officials conducted them round the exhibition.

Shanghai Mayor Mr Han Zheng hosts dinner in honour of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party at Jin Jiang Grand Hall in Shanghai on 15 July.— MNA

PM General Khin Nyunt invited interested persons from Pudong Industrial Zone to join special industrial zones to be established in Myanmar.

Agreements, Exchange of Notes and Memoranda of Understanding on agriculture, industrial, mines, energy, electric power and communication sectors signed between the two countries.

PM General Khin Nyunt called on Chinese leaders and discusses sectoral cooperation, promotion of bilateral friendly relationship.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt visited ancient Shanghai-style restaurants and shops. They also observed sale at the shops in Yuyuan Garden. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party went to Yuyuan Garden and visited ancient structures built by a minister of royal palace, stone garden and ancient artifacts. They were conducted round by officials. Members of Myanmar delegation arrived back at Jin Jiang Tower Hotel in Shanghai.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt met Mayor of Shanghai Mr Han Zheng at Jin Jiang Grand Hall in Shanghai. Present at the call were member of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Maung Bo, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, the director-general at the Prime Minister’s Office, heads of the departments, Vice-Mayor of Shanghai Mr Tang Dong Jie, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jingjun and the senior officials. At the meeting, Mayor of Shanghai Mr Han Zheng said Shanghai is a major seaport of China and its economic progress is significant. He also reported on economic development in 15 years and living standard of the people of Shanghai.

Prime Minister said that he learnt the rapid development of Shanghai day after day. That was why he came to visit there. During his visit, he said he met President of the PRC Mr Hu Jintao, Premier Wen Jiabao, member of Political Bureau of Chinese Communist Party Mr Juo Gan and Chairman of the National People’s Congress of China Mr Wu Bangguo in Beijing and discussed strengthening of bilateral goodwill relations and cooperation on every sector in a friendly atmosphere. He stressed the importance of bilateral relations and cooperation. He said he and the ministers, the deputy ministers and departmental officials came there in order to implement the tasks. During the visit, altogether 11 Agreements, Exchange of Notes and Memorandum of Understanding on agriculture, industrial, mines, energy, electric power and communication sectors between the two countries. In order to make more foreign investment, a special zone will be established near Yangon. So he invited companies and organizations in Shanghai to study the zone. He wished Shanghai for more progress.

(See page 9)
PM General Khin Nyunt visits Shanghai …
(from page 8)

Next, Mayor of Shanghai Mr Han Zheng hosted dinner in honour of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and members at Jin Jiang Grand Hall.

After the dinner, members of the delegation arrived back at Jin Jiang Tower Hotel.

On 15 July, President of July

They were welcomed by President of Shanghai Women’s Federation Ms Meng Yankun and officials. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party cordially met with President of Shanghai Women’s Federation Ms Meng Yankun and party at the meeting hall. Ms Meng Yankun expressed the Federation’s honour and pleasure to have the opportunity to welcome Dr responsibilities, services for Myanmar women, future work programmes, inviting Ms Meng Yankun to visit Myanmar at an appropriate time.

Ms Meng Yankun and Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe exchanged souvenirs. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party visited infant care centre, child nutrition centre, beauty parlour, and gymnasium. Ms Meng Yankun hosted luncheon in Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets Mayor of Shanghai Mr Han Zheng at Jin Jiang Grand Hall in Shanghai on 15 July. — mna.

Vice-Mayor of Shanghai Pudong New Area People’s Government Mr Endi Zhang reports Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on matters relating the Pudong Industrial Zone on 15 July. — mna.

Co-operation in aviation & navigation discussed

Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Daw Khin Lay Myint, wife of member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Daw San Yone, wife of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Daw Nwe Nwe Han, wife of Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thein Lwin, Mrs Wang Jean, wife of Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jinjun and Daw Kyi Kyi Oo, wife of Myanmar Military Attaché Col Sein George, arrived at Shanghai Women’s Federation on 15 July. They were welcomed by President of Shanghai Women’s Federation Ms Meng Yankun and party. She explained the organizational set-up of the Federation, its functions representing the eight million womenfolk, economic and social developments, progress of its functions and weaknesses.

In her discussions, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe expressed pleasure for the warm and cordial welcome of the Federation, saying, she is the President of both the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Federation building. She explained the organizational set-up of the MWAF, functions and responsibilities, services for Myanmar women, future work programmes, inviting Ms Meng Yankun to visit Myanmar at an appropriate time.

Ms Meng Yankun and Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe exchanged souvenirs. Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party visited infant care centre, child nutrition centre, beauty parlour, and gymnasium. Ms Meng Yankun hosted luncheon in Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt meets Mayor of Shanghai Mr Han Zheng at Jin Jiang Grand Hall in Shanghai on 15 July. — mna.

Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut at Jin Jiang Tower Hotel in Shanghai at 1 pm on 15 July. During the cordial meeting, the Chinese officials expressed interest to invest in Myanmar’s industrial, transport, electricity and oil and gas exploration sectors.

Similarly, President of Zhejiang Orient Engineering Co Ltd Mr Hua Auguo and party, and Deputy Director of Zhejiang Provincial Department of Agriculture vice-Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Mr Kyaw San Win was also present. Discussions were centred on bilateral cooperation in agricultural and irrigation sectors.

Likewise, President of China Worldbest Group Co Ltd Mr Liang Cheng and party, and President of Jiangsu Pengfei Group Co Ltd Mr Wang Jia An and party called on Minister U Aung Thang at Jin Jiang Tower Hotel in Shanghai on 15 July.

Co-operation in industrial sector, communication sector, mining sector, rail transport sector discussed

Co-operation in industrial sector, communication sector, mining sector, rail transportation sector discussed

Co-operation in aviation & navigation discussed

Byedel power projects discussed

President of Dalian Locomotive and Rolling Stock Co Ltd Mr Tan Changshu and party; General Manager Mr Li Jinjun of Overseas Marketing Department of Jifang Locomotive and Rolling Stock Co Ltd and officials; at State Guest House of PRC in Beijing on 13 July. They discussed bilateral cooperation in rail transportation.

President of Jsing Daring Biotechnologies Group Mr Yang Yingzhi and party called on Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, President for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, President for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut at Jin Jiang Tower Hotel in Shanghai on 15 July. — mna.

Co-operation in industrial sector, communication sector, mining sector, rail transport sector discussed

Co-operation in aviation & navigation discussed

Byedel power projects discussed

President of Jsing Daring Biotechnologies Group Mr Yang Yingzhi and party called on Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut at Jin Jiang Tower Hotel in Shanghai on 15 July. — mna.

Zingang Locomotive Work Mr Zhang Gui Ming and party, President of Dalian Locomotive and Rolling Stock Co Ltd Mr Tan Changshu and party; General Manager Mr Li Jinjun of Overseas Marketing Department of Jifang Locomotive and Rolling Stock Co Ltd and officials; at State Guest House of PRC in Beijing on 13 July. They discussed bilateral cooperation in rail transportation.

President of Jsing Daring Biotechnologies Group Mr Yang Yingzhi and party called on Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, President for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, President for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut at Jin Jiang Tower Hotel in Shanghai on 15 July. — mna.
Historians agree that the origin of all the narcotic drugs and psychostrophic substances is the West. Opium poppy, coca and marijuana are natural plants. Naturally, opium, derived from poppy pods, and leaves of coca and marijuana have intoxicating effects. Heroin derived from opium, and cocaine derived from coca leaves have higher degree of such effects. Opium was used by affluent class in Egypt some 5,000 years ago.

Poppy grew naturally in the Mediterranean region. Ancient Greek physicians knew that opium could kill pain. It was used as a potent pain killer.

English and Germans produced morphine from opium. Its potency is ten times greater than that of opium, and the potency of heroin is ten times greater than that of morphine. Bayer company of Germany produced hundreds of brands of opium-based medicines, and many people got addicted to narcotic drugs and opium after consumption of the company’s drugs. Coca is native to Central America. The poppy, after knowing its potency, produced cocaine from coca leaves. Marijuana naturally grows in many countries of the West, Africa and Arab countries.

The British, Dutch and Portuguese colonialists carried poppy pods to the East. They made oriental people addicted to drugs and to become hopeless persons who could not defend their countries against colonial invasions.

At the same time, the colonialists gained much profits from opium trade. Opium War broke out in China as Chinese people could not tolerate the opium trade in their country.

Colonialists, especially the British, grew poppy for opium in the Golden Triangle region and Golden Crescent region. The profits from opium trade had filled the British treasury. At the same time, the colonialists opened opium dens in the occupied countries.

The British set up opium fields in the border areas of Myanmar, which was included in the Golden Triangle region. The ones that made opium trade continue to flourish were Kuomintang renegade troops. And the one that taught the Kuomintang to produce heroin is the CIA. Marijuana spread to America, European countries, Arab countries, India and some Asian countries. People fell into marijuana addiction as it can improve the flavour of many dishes. Most of the narcotic drugs and psychostrophic agents are manufactured in USA.

The countries that have introduced stimulant drugs, called Yaba in Thailand, to Asia are no other than the countries of the West. They have introduced the stimulant drugs to countries including Myanmar that are trying to wipe out the narcotic drugs, the evil legacy of the colonialist.

The place where narcotic drugs including heroin and stimulant tablets are being manufactured and used in large quantities is the West. The West has started the problem of narcotic drugs and is using it as a political weapon to attack others, with a lot of excuses.

While the West is using drugs as a weapon for its domination policies, the oriental countries including Myanmar are achieving success in implementing long-term, short-term and alternative crop projects one after another in rooting out the problem of drugs.

Seized narcotic drugs were destroyed for the 18th time in Yangon under the sponsorship of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control. TV Myanmar broadcast the ceremony that was attended by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and diplomats of foreign missions and officials of UN agencies. Myanmar has destroyed the narcotic drugs for 32 times when the ceremonies held in the places including borders areas are added.

A UNODC report said that Myanmar reduced 24 per cent of the opium production in 2003, and its opium production in the year was 810 metric tons. The report issued by the US for the same year said that Myanmar was able to reduce 39 per cent of its opium output to just 484 metric tons.

Decline in the seizure of stimulant tablets in Myanmar indicates the fact that the stimulant tablets trafficking business is becoming smaller in the country. Myanmar has never produced any stimulant drugs or related equipment. They are smuggled into Myanmar from other countries. Myanmar seized over 180,000 litres of chemical liquid in 2001; over 290,000 litres in 2002; over 39,000 litres in 2003; and over 14,000 litres up to April in 2004.

Myanmar is cooperating with her neighbours, regional countries and international organizations in actively eliminating the narcotic drugs as a national task.

The seizure of illegal Phensedyl was 74 litres in 2003; and only 32 litres up to May in 2004. It can be said a positive sign. At the 18th destruction ceremony, narcotic drugs and precursor chemicals were destroyed in the presence of diplomats and officials of UN missions. The drugs that were destroyed on that day were: 710-497 kilos of opium; 353.754 kilos of heroin; 99.25 kilos of marijuana; 2,643,800 stimulant pills; 59,865 kilos of stimulant powder; 232,535 kilos of ephedrine powder; and 1,101 Diazepam pills.

The drugs destroyed on that day had a street value of more than US $ 247 million. The present value of drugs which have been destroyed since the first to the 18th ceremony is more than US $ 14,452 million or over US $ 14 billion.

Although it gets no foreign assistance, Myanmar will continue to wipe out the problem of narcotic drugs, which is evil legacy of the colonialists, as a national task and a duty of global family. We were happy to see the colonialist evil legacy gone together with the black smokes coming out from the burning narcotic drugs at the 18th ceremony.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe pay official visit to People’s Republic of China

Implementation of e-Government …
(from page 16)
e-National Task Force U Pyone Maung Maung, on forming of Certification Authority and Myanmar Electronic Trust with respect to Online Security.

Regional development tasks in Yangon North District

There are 5,915 acres of vegetable patches, over 1.2 million broilers and layers and breeding ponds with 1.3 million of fish in Nyaunghnmapin Vegetable & Poultry Farming Zone.

Yangon, 21 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe this afternoon inspected regional development tasks and farming work in Yangon North District.

First, the commander and party went to construction site of Barlar Bridge-2 in Hlegu Township and inspected the construction work and tarring of ring road, and gave instructions. An engineer reported to Maj-Gen Myint Swe on progress of construction work and tarring of 12-mile long ring road.

The reinforced bridge is 65 feet long and its clearance is 9 feet. On completion, the bridge can withstand 60 tons of load.

Next, the commander also inspected digging of canals near the ring road with the use of machinery and urged the officials on timely completion of work.

Afterwards, they proceeded to Nyaunghnmapin Village to inspect the construction work and tarring of ring road, and gave instructions. An engineer reported to Maj-Gen Myint Swe on progress of construction work and tarring of 12-mile long ring road.

The reinforced bridge is 65 feet long and its clearance is 9 feet. On completion, the bridge can withstand 60 tons of load.

After hearing the reports there, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended to the needs and urged the departmental officials to give assistance to the farmers.

There are 5,915 acres of vegetable and crop cultivation in the zone. Over 1.2 million of broilers and layers have been raised and total of 1.3 million of fish have also been cultured. — MNA

Chinese officials express interest to invest in Myanmar’s industrial, transport, electricity and oil and gas exploration sectors, and discuss bilateral cooperation in rail transportation, agricultural and irrigation sectors.

Myanmar delegation leaves for Thailand

Yangon, 21 July— The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by Deputy Managing Director of Public Works (Works) U Sai Thein Maung, Deputay Chief Engineer (Building) (Lower Myanmar) U Ye Myint Swe, Deputy Chief Engineer (Building) (Upper Myanmar) U Kyaw Lwin and Deputy Director U Kyaw Lin Khine, left for Thailand this morning to study placing and fixing of concrete bridge columns, using road recycling machine and concrete-aid, land preparations, geotextile factory and foundation tasks for construction of International Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok.

The delegation was seen off by Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Ministers for Construction U Tint Swe and Brig-Gen Myint Thein, heads of department and relatives at Yangon International Airport.

MNA
**NEWS OF THE WORLD**

**Karel De Gucht becomes Belgium’s foreign minister**

B RUSSELS, July 20 — Flemish Liberal Karel De Gucht has been named as Belgium’s next foreign minister, replacing outspoken Louis Michel who is moving to the European Commission.

Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt announced the appointment, part of a wider Cabinet reshuffle, to the king late on Sunday. De Gucht, 50, is set to be sworn in on Tuesday.

A former member of the European Parliament, he has been president of Verhofstadt’s Flemish Liberal VLD Party since 1999. Michel, foreign minister since 1999, will replace Socialist Philippe Busquin as the country’s European Commissioner.

**WTO chief warns against failure at trade talks**

G ENEVA, July 20 — World Trade Organization (WTO) chief Supachai Panitchpakdi warned on Monday that “all of us would be poorer” if a last-ditch bid to save troubled trade talks failed to meet an end-July deadline.

As trade envoys met to give a first response to a draft deal drawn up by him and fellow chief mediator, Japan’s ambassador Shotoo Oshima, Supachai said that member states must make every effort to reach an accord.

“Failure this month means the continuation of an unsatisfactory status quo (in global trade relations), certainly for the remainder of this year and next and possibly for years to come,” he said in a statement.

Such a setback could undermine confidence in the multilateral trading system and possibly lead countries to turn their backs on the WTO altogether and seek other means of ruling-making in trade.

“All of us would be poorer for such an outcome,” he said.

**German consortium to construct Kenya-Sudan railway**

Nairobi, July 20 — A German consortium will undertake the construction of a 3,000-kilometre railway line linking Kenya and southern Sudan, Kenya’s newspaper East African Standard reported Monday.

Kenyan Planning and National Development Minister Anyang Nyong was quoted as saying that the 237-billion-shilling (2.96 billion US dollars) project would begin soon and the German investor has visited Kenya to inspect the project after his recent tour of Germany.

Nyong’s announcement came shortly after the consortium, led by a leading German railway construction firm, Thormaehlen Schweisstechnik AG, presented a proposal to the Kenyan Government in pursuit of the concessioning of the Kenya and Uganda railways.

**CONDOLENCE**

We offer our sincere condolences to the bereaved family of the deceased U Tin Hla Than, Dy. General Manager, MTE. Please accept our deepest sympathy.

Comrades from the 10th batch B.Sc (Forestry)

**SAARC urged to shift from words to action in eco integration**

K AISHABAD, July 20 — The foreign secretaries of the seven South Asian countries met here Sunday to discuss a big agenda aimed at fighting poverty, increased trade, greater economic integration and optimal use of energy resources.

Briefing reporters about the proceedings of the 30th session of the Standing Committee of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), which comprises foreign secretaries of the seven member states, Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman Masood Khan said the SAARC foreign secretaries “emphasized that they want to see the organization in motion and mark a shift from words to action, from meetings to projects”.

He said Sunday’s deliberations were guided by the collective vision and decisions of SAARC leaders who met at the 12th SAARC Summit held in Islamabad in January.

“There was a lot of emphasis on efficient and effective implementation of SAARC programmes,” Masood added.

The SAARC Standing Committee meeting, attended by Pakistani Foreign Secretary Riaz Khokhar, would review the South Asian Free Trade Agreement signed at the 12th SAARC Summit, poverty alleviation, energy, environment, investment, standardization and cooperation in the areas of Customs, transport and statistics.

Masood said the standing committee discussed the need for fostering greater regional connectivity in the field of energy and “there was consensus that poverty alleviation was the overarching goal for SAARC and there was a need to implement what is being said”.

The two-day meeting of foreign secretaries was followed by the SAARC foreign ministers meeting from July 20th to 21st, aimed at boosting economic, commercial and social cooperation in the region.

**Syria, Lebanon to launch joint air company**

DAMASCUS, July 20 — Syria and Lebanon would set up a joint air company under a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed on Monday to promote direct flights between the two countries, the state-run SANA news agency reported.

The move was also aimed at attracting greater tourism and promoting the interests of the two peoples, peace, stability and development in the region, said Syrian foreign minister Viegas.

Nyong’s announcement came shortly after the consortium, led by a leading German railway construction firm, Thormaehlen Schweisstechnik AG, presented a proposal to the Kenyan Government in pursuit of the concessioning of the Kenya and Uganda railways.

**Iraqi president signs new law on drug planes**

Baghdad, July 20 — Iraq’s President Saddam Hussein signed a new law Monday to combat drug planes after being given the death sentence for execution.

The anti-drug law approved by the Iraqi government on Sunday ordered all foreign airlines flying into Iraq to have special devices installed to detect drugs in their cargo and to sign a declaration not to transport any drugs.

The new law, which is the first of its kind in Iraq, was approved by the Iraqi parliament on May 15 for use in the war on drugs.

**Brazil set to shoot down drug planes**

BRAZIL (Brazil), July 20 — Brazil is set to shoot down aircraft suspected of smuggling drugs across its jungles in 90 days, now that it issued a controversial new law on Monday after a diplomatic row.

President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva’s signature on the law, which was approved by Congress in 1998, has prompted Washington to warn that it could curtail anti-drug cooperation with Bra-
**Foreign-funded enterprises important part in China’s economy**

SHENYANG, 20 July — Foreign-funded enterprises have become an important part of China’s economy, a ranking Chinese official said at a cooperation and exchange convention of overseas Chinese enterprises in Shenyang, capital of northeastern China’s province of Liaoning.

China has made great achievements in drawing foreign capital since its opened itself to the outside world 20 years ago, said Liao Xiaoxi, Vice-Minister of Commerce on Sunday.

According to Liao, foreign-invested enterprises have contributed 27.2 per cent of China’s total industrial added value in 2003. Thirty-one per cent of the country’s industrial production in the year was produced by foreign-funded enterprises; 55 per cent of exports are from those enterprises.

China reported a rapid growth of foreign investment in the first half of this year. From January to June, 21,000 new foreign-invested enterprises were authorized by the Chinese Government. They had a contractual investment of 72.7 billion US dollars and an actual investment of 33.88 billion US dollars. This was 43 per cent and 12 per cent higher than the same period of 2003 respectively, acknowledged Liao.

By the end of this June, China boasts more than 480,000 foreign-funded enterprises with foreign capital of 353.7 billion US dollars.

“China’s different regions plays a comparatively balanced role in attracting foreign capital. The northeastern part is still the main region attracting foreign investment, with 85 per cent of the total foreign investment in China. While no distinctive change has taken place in attracting foreign investment.

So far, more than 600 research and development centres have been set up in China. — MNA/Keinha

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**Indonesia being tested over Malacca Strait**

JAKARTA, 20 July — Indonesia must demonstrate its ability to guard the Strait of Malacca and thus keep international forces out of one of the world’s most important shipping lanes, the US Navy chief has said.

In an interview published on Monday, Admiral Bernard Kent Sondakh said some pirates were pushing the idea of international forces policing the narrow sea lane between Malaysia and Indonesia that carries more than a quarter of world trade.

“There is a grand strategy to paint a bad picture over our waters, as the Indonesian Navy is not strong and the crimes at sea are increasing,” Sondakh told in-fluen-tial newsweekly Tempo.

Indeed, if we can’t show the ability to guard the Strait of Malacca, the international forces may get in. Previously, the United States wanted to take part in securing the Strait of Malacca, ” said the four-star admiral. The interview comes a day before military commanders from Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia are set to launch a programme to coordinate patrols in the Strait of Malacca.

The Strait has drawn international attention after warnings from Singapore of the danger of an attack by militants who could turn a tanker into a floating bomb. According to the United States that its forces play a more active role in the security of the narrow waterway.

“A suicide bombing plot attacking a cruising tanker is almost impossible. Taking a bomb on board of a tanker 16 metres high is not an easy thing to do. Moreover, one needs around two tons of TNT to blow up a tanker,” he said. Last month, Indonesian and Malaysian naval chiefs agreed to create a task force made up of forces from each nation operating under their national commands. That sidestepped the issue of sovereignty that for-merly slowed cooperation on Strait security.

Each country would supply up to seven ships with 100 crew, Sondakh said at the time. Indonesia, a country of more than 17,000 islands spanning the equator, only has 112 ac-tive ships, many using out-dated technology. Indonesia and Malaysia have ruled out a role for outside ships and troops, despite independent groups that have stressed the limitations of the military equipment and forces of the littoral states. — MNA/Reuters

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**Australia stages international air combat exercise**

CANBERRA, 20 July — Australia, France, Singapore and Thailand began a joint air combat exercise over Australia’s tropical north on Monday as part of Canberra’s increasing efforts to strengthen international military ties.

The launch of the biennial exercise — named “Pitch Black 2004” — comes just after weeks ago Australia agreed to establish joint military training facilities in the north of the country with close ally the United States.

The United States and Britain were supposed to take part in “Exer-cise Pitch Black”, which runs until August 5, but withdrew after citing logistical because much of their Air Force was deployed else-where.

“Exercise Pitch Black is of great importance to Aus-tralia... because of the invaluable opportunity it gives us to strengthen ties with our international friends,” Air Marshal Houston said in a statement.

This is the first time Thai-land and France have taken part in the Australian-hosted exercise.

The operation involves more than 1,500 personnel

Studies say lose weight, stay active, prevent Alzheimer's

PHILADELPHIA, 20 July — Losing weight, eating more fruits and vegetables and exercising your brain and body sounds like a formula to prevent heart disease, but it is also a way to prevent Alzheimer’s, researchers said on Monday.

Adding more brain fuel to the body could prevent age-related decline, said Dr Marilyn Albert, chair of the Alzheimer’s Associa-tion’s medical and scientific

“Tin brain is much more plastic than we thought,” Albert added in an interview.

Eating more nutrients to renew and regenerate.... We have to tell the people that they need to think about their cog-nitive health in a way that they typically thought about their physical health.”

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**Nigerian state to restart polio immunization**

KANO (Nigeria), 20 July — Nigeria’s Kano State said it would restart polio immunizations on Tuesday after tests proved vaccines safe, ending fears its eight-month ban would allow the crip-pling virus to spread across Africa.

Kano State Governor Ibrahim Shekarau said “Our government has accepted the report from the experts. We are satisfied with the report and have directed the commencement of the polio vac-cination in the state,” he told reporters at a specially called meeting.

The state had been under local and international pres-sure to press ahead with the vaccines.

World Health Organiza-tion (WHO) officials said in June that Kano had pledged to restart vaccinations in July, but Kano State officials de-clared that a timetable had been set.

The WHO had said the rainy season would create ideal conditions for the virus to spread and could worsen the situation, unless the govern-ment acted fast.

It said that international travellers to northern Ni-geria, the epicentre of the virus, were at high risk and should ensure they were ade-quately protected against the disease.

The re-emergence of the virus in countries that had been polio-free has been a major setback to a WHO campaign to eradicate the disease — endemic in only six countries in 2003 — by the end of 2005.

Polio, which affects mainly children under five years, is caused by a virus that invades the nervous system and can cause total paralyzis or death.
Argentina's Juan Pablo Sorin (L) heads the ball in for a goal past Colombian goalie Luis Gonzalez claimed the second goal early in the second half as Argentina swept aside defending champions Colombia 3-0 in their Copa America semifinal match in Lima, Peru, on 20 July. Argentina won the match 3-0. — Reuters

Benfica's Tiago completes Chelsea medical
LONDON, 20 July— Benfica midfielder Tiago Mendes has completed a medical at Chelsea and is due to discuss personal terms on Tuesday, the English Premier League club said on their website on Monday. The 23-year-old Portuguese international should join Chelsea before Wednesday, when they fly to the United States on a pre-season tour. Tiago was in the Portugal squad at Euro 2004. — Reuters

Tevez strikes again as Argentina oust Colombia
LIMA, 21 July— Forward Carlos Tevez scored from a free kick for the second time in a row as Argentina swept aside defending champions Colombia 3-0 in their Copa America semifinal match in Lima, Peru, on 20 July. Argentina won the match 3-0. — Reuters

Chelsea, Marseille agree terms over Drogba
LONDON, 20 July— Chelsea and Olympique Marseille have agreed terms for the transfer of Ivory Coast striker Didier Drogba, the English Premier League club said on their web site on Monday. Chelsea are also on the verge of signing Benfica midfielder Tiago Mendes, who completed a medical at the London club on Monday. Chelsea also are in talks with Portuguese coach Jose Mourinho, who has already signed Dutch winger Arjen Robben, Czech goalkeeper Petr Cech, Portuguese full back Paulo Ferreira and Serbian and Montenegrin midfielder Mateja Kezman for next season. They finished runners-up to Arsenal in the Premier League last season and reached the Champions League semi-finals.

South Korea held by stubborn Jordan at Asian Cup
JINAN (China), 20 July— South Korea failed to break down a negative Jordan side and were held to a goalless draw in their opening Asian Cup match on Monday. The Koreans, semifinalists at the World Cup two years ago, dominated their Group B match in Jinan but could not find a way past inspired Jordan goalkeeper Amer Sabbah. Striker Alun Hwang- hwon came closest for South Korea in the 23rd minute with a dipping right-foot volley from 25 metres that Sabbah could not refuse Chelsea's offer — I hope I live up to their expectations,” Drogba was quoted as saying on the BBC web site. "I also had offers from Italian clubs, but going to Chelsea is an interesting challenge in my career and I'm glad to join them," he added. "When I arrived in Chelsea, they really showed that they wanted me, and that counts a lot. I will give my best for them now." Drogba, 26, cost Marseille six million euros (7.47 million US dollars) when he joined En Avant Guingamp a year ago. The Ivory Coast international scored 18 goals in 35 league games last season and 11 in a European campaign that took Marseille to the UEFA Cup final. He also scored the winner for Ivory Coast in a World Cup qualifier against Egypt last month. The club’s president Christophe Bouchot said he was reluctant to let the player leave, but that the offer was too good to turn down.

Roman businessman to bail out Lazio
ROMA, 20 July— Lazio look almost certain to be playing in Serie A next season after Roman businessman Claudio Lotito pumped 21 million euros (26.13 million US dollars) into the club, according to a source close to the situation. Lazio, one of three Italian clubs listed on the stock market, have been struggling financially since former majority owner, food group Cirio, was put into liquidation. Italian soccer clubs must make a down payment and give financial assurances to be allowed to register for the league championship. The club’s president Ugolino Longo was quoted as saying by ANSA news agency.

Asiatic Cup: Jordan v South Korea
JINAN, 20 July— Jordan coach Zico plays down Asian Cup chances
BRUNO, 20 July— Japan coach Zico has played down his side’s chances of retaining the Asian Cup title. The holders take on Oman in a difficult Group D opener on Thursday and the Brazilian said his players would afford the Gulf side every respect.

"You saw what Greece did in Portugal. In this tournament, there will be no easy games," said Zico on Monday. "We will need to be patient and make sure we keep our concentration tomorrow.

Tevez scored the winner against Peru with an exquisite free kick just three minutes into the second half with inspired performances from both the start as Argentina dominated the first half with shots from the edge of the area and Cristian Gonzalez was denied in the 24th minute when his header was off the line from under the crossbar by Andres Gonzalez. After Tevez's goal, Colombia goalkeeper Juan Carlos Henaq twice denied Argentina a second goal before halftime as he blocked shots from Luciano Figueroa and Delgado. But Argentina needed only five minutes of the second to increase their lead. Striker Luciano Figueroa broke down the left, pulled the ball back, the Colombia defence failed to cut the ball out and Gozon striped the ball into the goal for his second goal of the tournament. After Tevez's goal, Tevez and Juan Pablo Sorin were both close with shots from the edge of the area and Cristian Gonzalez was denied in the 24th minute when his header was off the line from under the crossbar by Andres Gonzalez. After Tevez's goal, Colombia goalkeeper Juan Carlos Henaq twice denied Argentina a second goal before halftime as he blocked shots from Luciano Figueroa and Delgado. But Argentina needed only five minutes of the second to increase their lead. Striker Luciano Figueroa broke down the Tevez and Juan Pablo Sorin were both close with shots from the edge of the area and Cristian Gonzalez was denied in the 24th minute when his header was off the line from under the crossbar by Andres Gonzalez. After Tevez's goal, Colombia goalkeeper Juan Carlos Henaq twice denied Argentina a second goal before halftime as he blocked shots from Luciano Figueroa and Delgado. But Argentina needed only five minutes of the second to increase their lead. Striker Luciano Figueroa broke down the left, pulled the ball back, the Colombia defence failed to cut the ball out and Gozon striped the ball into the goal for his second goal of the tournament. Argentina cruised through the remaining 40 minutes against a hopefully disappoointing Colombia, who never looked like getting back into the game, and Sorin completed the scoring with a diving header from a Mauro Rosales free kick.

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While Oman are not expected to emulate Greece’s unexpected success at Euro 2004 last month, when the 80-1 outsiders at the start of the tournament went on to beat Portugal in the final, they provided a severe test for Japan in a World Cup qualifier earlier this year. Oman were 2-0 down at half-time as Japan handed out a 5-0 beating.

Oman, who were forced to play with 10 men after defender Salmi was sent off for a second bookable offence in the 84th minute, dominated the first half with inspired performances from both the start as Argentina dominated the first half with shots from the edge of the area and Cristian Gonzalez was denied in the 24th minute when his header was off the line from under the crossbar by Andres Gonzalez. After Tevez's goal, Colombia goalkeeper Juan Carlos Henaq twice denied Argentina a second goal before halftime as he blocked shots from Luciano Figueroa and Delgado. But Argentina needed only five minutes of the second to increase their lead. Striker Luciano Figueroa broke down the left, pulled the ball back, the Colombia defence failed to cut the ball out and Gozon striped the ball into the goal for his second goal of the tournament. After Tevez's goal, Tevez and Juan Pablo Sorin were both close with shots from the edge of the area and Cristian Gonzalez was denied in the 24th minute when his header was off the line from under the crossbar by Andres Gonzalez. After Tevez's goal, Colombia goalkeeper Juan Carlos Henaq twice denied Argentina a second goal before halftime as he blocked shots from Luciano Figueroa and Delgado. But Argentina needed only five minutes of the second to increase their lead. Striker Luciano Figueroa broke down the left, pulled the ball back, the Colombia defence failed to cut the ball out and Gozon striped the ball into the goal for his second goal of the tournament. Argentina cruised through the remaining 40 minutes against a hopefully disappoointing Colombia, who never looked like getting back into the game, and Sorin completed the scoring with a diving header from a Mauro Rosales free kick.

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22-7-2004 (Thursday)

Programme Schedule

Morning Transmission (9:00 - 12:00)

9:00 Signature Tune
9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights “Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment”
9:06 A Section of Tanintha-yi’s Economy Marine Products
9:10 Headlines News
9:12 A Visit to Lwe National
9:15 National News
9:20 Grand Festival of Playing Cane-Ball
9:25 The Project of Greening around Kandawgyi Garden
9:30 National News
9:35 Ecstasy of Life
9:40 Song “Lovely Duck”
9:45 National News
9:50 Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Saltwaters (I)
9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights “Come and See Myanmar”

22-7-2004 (Thursday)
Evening Transmission (15:30 - 18:00)

15:30 Signature Tune

Greeting
15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights “Mingalabar”
15:36 A Section of Tanintha-yi’s Economy Marine Products
15:40 Headlines News
15:42 A Visit to Lwe National
15:45 National News
15:50 Grand Festival of Playing Cane-Ball
15:55 The Project of Greening around Kandawgyi Garden
16:00 National News
16:05 Ecstasy of Life
16:10 Song “Lovely Duck”
16:15 National News
16:20 Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Saltwaters (I)
16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights “Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment”
16:30 National News
16:35 Native of Pa-O Nationals (Kyauktalone)
16:40 Myanmar Tapestry Artist
16:45 National News
16:50 Conservation of Forest Resources in Myanmar
16:55 Dawei Water Fetching Dance
17:00 National News
17:05 Inlay Wild Bird Sanctuary
17:10 Myanmar Modern Song “Cherry Present”

17:12 Myanmar Traditional Food “Pone Ye Gyi”
17:15 National News
17:20 Lacquerware Museum
17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights “Come and See Myanmar”

Evening Transmission (19:30 - 23:00)

19:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights “Myanmar Panorama & Myanmar Sentiment”
19:36 Alms-Food ( Soon)
19:40 Headlines News
19:42 Pickled Fish from Shwe Kyin
19:45 National News
19:50 Exhibition Centre Introducing Hibakusha National Park
19:55 U Pein Bridge
20:00 National News
20:05 Myanmar Traditional Handwork of Casting
20:10 Song “Wonderful Country”

20:15 National News
20:20 Myanmar Modern Song “Ayeyawady”
20:30 National News
20:35 Unique Biodiversity of Indawgyi Lake (Part-VI)
20:40 National Races Village (Shan & Bamar)
20:45 National News
20:50 Reclamation & Cultivation in the Uplands
20:55 Scenic Beauty of Falum and Cultural Dance Nation

21:00 National News
21:05 Inlay Wild Bird Sanctuary
21:10 Myanmar Modern Song “Cherry Present”

21:12 Teddy Palm Arts
21:15 National News
21:20 Bagan Our Pride and Glory of the Past
21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights “Mingalabar”
21:35 A Section of Tanintha-yi’s Economy Marine Products

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21:42 A Visit to Lwe National
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22:05 Ecstasy of Life
22:10 Song “Lovely Duck”
22:15 National News
22:20 Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Saltwaters (I)
22:25 On Screen “Past Merit”
22:30 National News
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WEATHER

Wednesday, 21 July, 2004

Summery of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Shan, Kayah States, lower M.E.L.E. and Magway Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyauktopp (8.39 inches), Sittway (5.75 inches), Thandwe (5.71 inches), Maungdaw (5.04 inches), Gwa (3.62 inches), Ann (3.19 inches) and Ye (2.80 inches).

Maximum temperature on 20-7-2004 was 31.7°C (89°F). Minimum temperature on 21-7-2004 was 19.4°C (67°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 21-7-2004 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 20-7-2004 was (2.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 21-7-2004 was (2.05) inches at Yangon Airport, (1.97) inches at Kobe-Aye and (1.30) inches at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 153.6 mm (60.47 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1488 mm (57.95 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kobe-Aye) was 11 m/s from Southwest at 13:15 hours MST on 20-7-2004.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 22-7-2004: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, Magway, lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon States, upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (100%). State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas are likely to off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) m/s.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Decrease of rain are likely in southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbourhood area for 22-7-2004: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%). Forecast for Mandalay and neighbourhood area for 22-7-2004: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Warning (Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 21-7-2004)

The Ayeyawady River water levels at Aunglan and Pyay may rise 110 cm (about 4 feet) and reach their respective danger levels of (250) cm and (290) cm during the next (3) days commencing noon today.

Flood Bulletin (Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 21-7-2004)

The Ayeyawady River level at Chank reaches its danger level. It may continue to rise slightly and remain above its danger level during the next (3) days commencing noon today.
Implementation of e-Government clarified

YANGON, 21 July—The Committee on Implementation of e-Government Tasks explained tasks on e-Government at a ceremony held at Zeyathiri Beikman in Konmyntha here this evening, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the Council Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, the Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, members of the Board of Directors of the MICTDC, e-National Task Force, e-Government Work Committee, officials from Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Scientists Association and Myanmar Computer Industry Association and distinguished guests.

Col Tin Oo of the Ministry of Defence emceed the ceremony. Chairman of the Committee for Implementation of e-Government Tasks Chairman of e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw reported on conditions on forming of the e-Government Tasks Work Committee, seminars on e-Government and conducting of courses, progress in attending of the courses by respective ministries, major tasks of the Work Committee and conditions of e-Government Construction Tasks.

Next, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Implementation of e-Government Tasks Brig-Gen Thein Swe of the Ministry of Defence reported on progress in implementation of the tasks by the e-Government; Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Computer Federation U Tin Win Aung, conditions on G-MIS (Government Management Information System) and e-Procurement tasks regarding the e-Government; Joint-Secretary of the

(See page 11)

Upgrading of Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo co-ordinated

YANGON, 21 July — A coordination meeting of Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Environ of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) took place at Agriculture Museum of Myanmar Agriculture Service in Kandawgyi Gardens, this evening, with an address by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Environ of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Mayor, Deputy Ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments, members of Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Environ of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon).

First, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt heard reports on upgrading tasks of Environ of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) including Relaxation Zone, Recreation Zone, Education Zone and Central Forest Zone and tasks to be carried out presented by Chairman of Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Environ of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accomplishment of the respective zones and future tasks by design technician Mr John Inada and sectoral measures being taken for Environ of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) by those present.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt instructed officials to systematically undertake the accomplishment of upgrading tasks for Environ of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) and the meeting went into recess.

After the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspected Elephant Plaza in the Relaxation Zone and gave necessary instructions to officials and left there.