### 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

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## Not only Tatmadaw, but also entire nationalities including civil service personnel should keep in forefront Our Three Main National Causes

### Senior General Than Shwe visits Kawthoung

YANGON, 7 April — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected development of Kawthoung in Taninthayi Division on 5 and 6 April.

Accompanied by members of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Tha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, Senior

Based on Our Three Main National Causes, the strength of the three forces — the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw — should be combined to build a democratic nation. In this regard, all have the duty to develop and strengthen the political, economic and social sectors in all aspects region-wise to build a democratic state.

General Than Shwe left Myeik by air and arrived at Kawthoung in the afternoon.

On arrival at Kawthoung Airport, the Senior General and party were welcomed by Tactical Operation Commander Col Myint Tun, local authorities and officials.

In the evening, the Senior General and party observed progress in construction of Kawthoung ring road, and development undertakings of Shwepyitha, Ayeyeiknyein and Shwezinyaw wards along the road by car. They also inspected the environs of the (See page 8)

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Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Work in concert for success of seven-point Road Map

The Government of the Union of Myanmar is working towards peace, stability and development of the entire nation, enlisting the active cooperation of all the national people. The government is building all the necessary infrastructures for the harmonious development of all regions of the Union and at the same time fulfilling the requirements of various sectors for the improvement of people’s socio-economic life. And as regional authorities, departmental personnel and national people including social organizations always unite to lend themselves to all the nation-building endeavours, they have borne fruit.

Prime Minister Lt-General Soe Win and responsible personnel visited Mon and Kayin States from 1 to 3 April, inspecting the regional development work being carried out there and fulfilling the requirements. While in Hmainghwwe, Kayin State, the Prime Minister met with regional authorities, members of social organizations and townswolders. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that there had been favourable environment in all sectors and stressed that it was necessary for the entire national people to actively participate in the task of realizing the seven-point policy programme in order that a discipline-flourishing democracy will materialize. Kayin State is self-sufficient in food but it is necessary to produce paddy more. Moreover, it will be to the advantage of the people in the state if they grow and produce rubber and pepper and engage in livestock breeding on an extensive scale.

Those who, on behalf of the State, are responsible for administrative duties at different levels are to take care of security, lives and property of people. People, on their part, are required to cooperate with the government and the Tatmadaw for a peaceful and prosperous life. And as regional authorities, departmental personnel, social organizations and party of the People’s Republic of China at the Ministry of Mines this evening.

In his address, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo said that WHO member countries throughout the world observe the World Health Day on 7 April annually. On every World Health Day, one of the reasons of health problem of the global people was chosen as its motto. ‘Make Every Mother and Child Count’ was designated as the motto for this year. It is estimated that all the global people should pay attention to health of maternal and children for keeping the human society pleasant.

In building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the State Peace and Development Council has laid down and is accelerating implementation of political, economic and social objectives. In this regard, sectoral tasks of health facilities are being upgraded in accord with the objective that is ‘Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation’. With the efforts of the Ministry of Health and cooperation of other related departments, social organizations and people, achievements have been made in the health sector. Nowadays, it can be seen that progress have been made in the health care services due to cooperation among USAID, MWAFC, MCWA, RedCross and other social organizations.

At present, the Government is carrying out health care services for the entire people with momentum. Members of all families are to try their best for gaining health knowledge and should practise it. In conclusion, the deputy minister urged all to welcome brilliant future of mothers and children, who are resources of the entire human society.

World Health Day observed at IBC

Yangon, 7 April — A ceremony to mark the World Health Day was held at International Business Centre on Pyay Road, here, at 9 am today, with an address by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo. In his address, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo said that WHO member countries throughout the world observe the World Health Day on 7 April annually. On every World Health Day, one of the reasons of health problem of the global people was chosen as its motto. ‘Make Every Mother and Child Count’ was designated as the motto for this year. It is estimated that all the global people should pay attention to health of maternal and children for keeping the human society pleasant.

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New WHO SEA Resident Representative Dr Agostino Borra read out the message sent by WHO SEA Regional Director Dr Samlee Planbangchang. After the ceremony, the deputy minister and guests viewed round the exhibition to mark the World Health Day at IBC. This year’s motto of WHO is ‘Make Every Mother and Child Count’. Also present on the occasion were departmental heads under the ministry, medical superintendents, Resident Representative of WHO Dr Agostino Borra and officials of UN agencies, chairman and representatives of social organizations and guests. — MNA

Ministry of Mines, Chinese guests

Yangon, 7 April — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received President Mr Chen Fang of Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation and party of the People’s Republic of China at the Ministry of Mines this evening.

They cordially discussed cooperation in mining sector. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein and officials. — MNA

Course in Master of Business Administration (MBA) scheduled

Yangon, 7 April — A two-year course in Master of Business Administration (MBA) will be opened at Yangon Institute of Economics in June this year. Any University graduate wishing to attend the course may apply for admission. Application forms will be sold at Yangon Institute of Economics, Hlaing Campus, Padamya Building beginning 31 March and applications are to be sent there not later than 12 April.

Empo sells 1,198 jade, gem, pearl lots

Yangon, 7 April — Local and foreign merchants bought 1,198 lots of jade, gems and pearls at the 42nd Myanmar Gems Emporium which ended today.

The merchants including 892 of 317 companies of 15 foreign countries bought 1,034 jade lots from 2 to 4 April, 29 gem lots on 5 April and 135 pearl lots today.

A total of 461 merchants of 288 local companies also attended the exhibition to mark the World Health Day Ceremony. — MNA

Gems Mart here from 2 to 7 April.

Sales through tender and auction systems. — MNA
Regional highway to boost trade between Vietnam, Laos, Thailand

HANOI, 6 April — Asia Pulse - The East-West Economic Corridor (EWEC), or the trans-Asia highway, will bear the increasing volume of transported goods between Thailand, Laos and Vietnam and encourage co-operation between those countries, central Laos and northeastern Thailand, was proposed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in 1998. When complete, it will link Mawlamyine on the Andaman Sea in Myanmar to Da Nang in Vietnam by a 1,500km all-weather road. The rich resources of each country are expected to lead to beautiful trade. Northeast Thailand has great potential in the agricultural and consumer goods sectors, while central Laos is rich in agriculture, forestry, mineral and hydropower resources. Central Vietnam's strength lies in its industrial crops, forests and marine and mineral resources. ADB said it expects the volume of goods transported through the highway roughly to double between 2000 and 2010 and double again the following decade.

In Vietnam, the corridor will run from Tien Sa Port in Da Nang City through the central province of Thua Thien-Hue to Lao Bao Border Gate in Quang Tri. The Vietnam section includes the 180-km stretch of National Highway No 1A from Da Nang to Dong Ha and an 80km stretch of Highway No 9 from Dong Ha to the Lao Bao Border Gate. Vietnam has developed a number of infrastructure development projects of the highway's section in the country, including Highways No 9, the Hai Van Tunnel on National Highway No 1, Chan May Seaport in Thua Thien-Hue Province and Ky Ha Port in Quang Nam. — Internet

India, Germany to double trade by 2010

NEW DELHI, 6 April — India and Germany on Tuesday set a target of doubling bilateral trade to 12 billion euros (15.38 billion US dollars) by 2010 at the end of a two-day joint commission meeting held after five years, Indian Asian News Service reported.

Indian Finance Minister P Chidambaram said: “The goal of doubling bilateral trade to 12 billion euros by 2010 is attainable given that trade had crossed 6 billion euros last year and Indian exports are growing by 25 per cent annually and imports 37 per cent, while Germany’s exports to India are growing at 30 per cent”.

Addressing a news conference after the signing of a joint statement with German Economics Minister Clement, Chidambaram said: “The German minister showed Germany’s keenness to boost ties with India. Seeking more Indian investments into Germany, Clement said there were 60 Indian IT companies already operating in his country. This was besides the trade in traditional areas like textiles. The three countries can join hands in infrastructure development projects of the highway’s section in the country, including Highways No 9, the Hai Van Tunnel on National Highway No 1, Chan May Seaport in Thua Thien-Hue Province and Ky Ha Port in Quang Nam.”— Internet

Nepal’s tourist arrivals decline in March

KATHMANDU, 6 April — The total number of tourists visiting Nepal last month decreased by 35 per cent over the same period of last year, the Nepal Tourism Board said on Tuesday. Altogether 20,137 visitors from different parts of the world came to Nepal by air in March, down from the number of 31,198 tourists in the same month of 2004, the semi-government bureau said.

The number of Indian tourists arriving in Nepal went down by 49 per cent to 4,041 visitors from 7,928, while tourists from other countries also recorded an overall decrease of 31 per cent to 16,096 visitors from 23,270.

Tourist arrivals from Nepali tourist industry's traditional markets, namely the United States, Germany, France and Japan recorded decreases of 39 per cent, 6 per cent, 49 per cent and 50 per cent respectively. — MNA/Xinhua

Uzbek President meets Indian PM

NEW DELHI, 6 April — Uzbek President Islam Karimov met Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh here on Tuesday and signed agreements on cooperation in banking, tourism, education, culture and military infrastructure.

Both sides also held delegation-level talks and discussed a range of bilateral issues, specially the need for a sustained energy dialogue between the two countries.

This is the third visit of Uzbek President to India since the country broke away from the erstwhile Soviet Union and declared itself independent along with other Central Asian republics in 1991.

India sees the Central Asian region as its extended neighbourhood and as an alternative source for its growing energy needs. Uzbekistan is rich not only in oil and gas but also in other mineral resources like gold and uranium. It is the seventh largest producer of gold in the world with the fourth largest reserves, 10th largest uranium producer and has a highly developed copper industry.

It also has a strong agriculture base and is the fifth largest producer and second largest exporter of cotton in the world. — MNA/Xinhua

1,543 US troops killed since beginning of Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 6 April — As of Wednesday, 6 April, 2005, at least 1,543 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,174 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defence Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is one higher than the Department of Defense’s tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Wednesday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 21; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,405 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 1,065 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.— Internet

Holding two coconut shells in his hands, Dan Palil of Malaysia wears his invention, the motorcycle helmet shell using waste material of coconut fibers at the 33rd International Exhibition of Inventions, New Techniques and Products in Geneva, Switzerland, on 6 April, 2005. — Internet
Pakistani FM calls for promotion of regional integration

ISLAMABAD, 6 April—Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri on Tuesday called for devising a comprehensive strategy to create conducive environment for promoting regional integration through establishing Asia-wide linkages.

The Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) should act as the main facilitator in promoting strategic partnerships among Asian countries, Kasuri told the opening ceremony of a day-long high level expert seminar on economic cooperation in Asia, being held here prior to the 4th ACD ministerial meeting.

“There is a common desire to open new chapter of Asian prosperity and a lot of work has been done to expand trade and economic ties between various countries of Asia through sub-regional grouping but there is still a long way, we have to go to achieve the desire goals,” said Kasuri.

He stressed that the Asian countries will have to move forward in enhancing trade and economic cooperation to fight against poverty and make Asia prosperous.

He said the emergence of the Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) is a region-wide process which reflects common desire of self-reliance, consolidation and building a partnership between the Asian states.

HK medical service consultation set for July

HONG KONG, 6 April — Hong Kong Health and Medical Development Advisory Committee will launch a consultation on the long-term mode of medical service in July before preparing detailed health care financing proposals for public consideration, an official said on Monday.

Speaking on a local radio talk show Monday morning, York Chow, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, said medical expenses are on the rise. In the face of the aging population and rapid technological development, there is an urgent need to tackle the issue of health care financing, he said. Public participation is crucial in solving the issue and more effective communications with the public are needed to let them fully understand the financial implications of different modes of service, on the part of the government and the public, to help them make a decision.

Chow said initial studies on dental service, Chinese medicine and psychiatric service will also be launched, but they will not be included in the present mode of service review. On basic medical service, Chow said there is a need to establish a family doctor mode of service review. On basic medical service, Chow said there is a need to establish a family doctor mode of service review.

China making contributions to growth of world trade economy

SINGAPORE, 6 April — As the third largest trader in the world, China is making more contributions to the growth of world trade and economy, according to Chinese scholars attending a conference in Singapore on Tuesday.

“China's domestic demand has a significant influence on foreign trade balance,” said Professor Zhang Xiaoji, director general of Foreign Economic Relations Department, Development Research Centre of China's State Council, at a seminar organized by the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy on China and India.

As China's economic growth continues, Zhang said, it has become increasingly attractive to foreign direct investment (FDI) in industries such as information communications, automobile manufacturing and service, as well as research and development (R&D).

“In the whole process of opening up and development with globalization in China, FDI has played the most important and most positive role,” said Fan Gang, director of National Economic Research Institute of China Reform Foundation.

He further explained that investors introduced into China not only capital and technology but also business experience and management know-how.

Meanwhile, the international industrial transfer has boosted China's export processing industry with an upgraded structure of export products, Zhang added.

Calling for an open, fair and stable trade order, which is crucial for China's development, Zhang assured the audience that China will maintain its FDI attraction policy and enlarge its outward investment as well.

China will also actively engage in regional economic cooperation and launch more talks on bilateral free trade areas (FTAs) with other economic powers, according to Zhang.

Nepali Royal Commission detains four corruption suspects

KATHMANDU, 6 April — The Royal Commission for Control of Corruption (RCCC) has handed detention orders to four persons accused of embezzling government funds, a Nepali Government official said on Tuesday.

The commission interrogated Director General of the Forest Department Jamuna Krishna Tamrakar and Bhagiraj Ingnam, the department's chief accountant, who were arrested on 31 March on charges of accepting bribes of 50,000 Nepali rupees (715 US dollars).

The anti-graft panel has also interrogated Purusottam Shahi, a divisional engineer at the Bagmati Irrigation Project, after confiscating 300,000 rupees (4,285 dollars) graft money from his house.

The commission also quizzed Ashok Iha who was arrested a few days ago while extorting money posing as a RCCC officer.

China to build 40 nuclear generation units in 15 years

SHANGHAI, 7 April — China will build 40 nuclear power generation units with a combined maximum capacity of 40 million kilowatts in coming 15 years, according to the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence (CSTIND).

“Nuclear power will play increasing important role in the development of China's power industry,” said Zhang Fubao, deputy director of the system engineering department under the CSTIND, at a symposium on nuclear power market and technology in China, opened Wednesday in Shanghai, China’s leading industrial centre.
Susilo calls for more Australian investment

Canberra, 6 April — Visiting Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Tuesday encouraged Australian businessmen to boost investment in his country, saying Indonesia’s economic, political situation and improved bilateral relations provide opportunities for more Australian investment.

While meeting members of the Australia-Indonesia business community in Sydney, capital of the state of New South Wales, Susilo said that with economic growth already over 5 per cent, Indonesia is ripe for Australian investment.

He assured the gathered business leaders that Indonesia is improving in the field of economic and political stability, Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio reported.

He said it is his responsibility to tackle those issues that are of concern to foreign investors, such as corruption and terrorism. “I declare war against corruption, against terrorism for the better of Indonesia,” he said.

He said the improvement in Indonesia-Australia relations also provides good opportunity for Australian businessmen to invest more money in Indonesia.

“And as Indonesia is transformed, Indonesia-Australia relations are also undergoing transformations,” he said.

“It is the third day of my visit to Australia and everything I have seen so far convinces me even more that Indonesia and Australia are headed for stronger, closer, better relations,” said the President.

The two countries on Monday signed a comprehensive partnership agreement designed to create a broad framework for developing future cooperative arrangements, agreements and treaties covering economic, security, political and people-to-people links.

Susilo said the agreement has particular significance for Australia’s business community.

Indian FM invites German private investment in infrastructure

New Delhi, 6 April — India's Finance Minister P Chidambaram Monday invited German businessmen to step up investment in the country especially in the infrastructure sector which require 150 billion dollars FDI in the next 10 years.

Chidambaram also asked Germany to stop anti-dumping steps against Indian exports and proposed a special security system for skilled Indian professionals working there.

"Infrastructure is the key priority area of government for investments. Infrastructure sector can absorb FDI up to 150 billion dollars in the next 10 years," Chidambaram said inaugurating the 15th Indo-German joint commission here.

He invited German companies to invest in airport sectors especially for the modernization of Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai airports and in the construction of international airports in Bangalore and Hyderabad.

China attaches importance to ties with Russia

Beijing, 6 April — China is ready to join efforts with Russia to continuously push forward the strategic partnership of cooperation, said Chinese Vice-Premier Huang Juon on Tuesday.

During a meeting with visiting Russian presidential aid Viktor Ivanov, Huang said China and Russia have seen smooth progress in cooperation on personnel administration and human resources development.

He emphasized the importance of Sino-Russian relations and expressed the wish that the two countries would achieve new results in such fields.

Huang briefed the Russian guests on China’s economic and social development.

He said the frequent exchange of visits by high-level leaders of the two countries have strongly promoted the development of China-Russia relations.

S Korea expresses anger over Japan's new history textbooks

Seoul, 6 April — South Korean Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday expressed regret over Japan’s approval of new editions of history textbooks, saying they whitewash Japan’s past wartime history.

"It is regrettable that the school textbooks are not sufficient in terms of (portraying) the overall historical truth," Ban was quoted as saying by South Korean Yonhap news agency.

He said South Korea will not be able to cooperate with Japan on the future of Northeast Asia “if Japan does not look squarely at the reality.”

Ban made the remarks hours after Japanese Education Ministry authorized several kinds of history textbooks which will be adopted by Japanese middle schools next year.

China launches new pricing mechanism for electricity

Beijing, 6 April — China’s National Reform and Development Commission said on Tuesday it has issued three new regulations on electricity pricing, which link the price of electricity with that of fuel.

The regulations concern the price of electricity power grids buy from power generation companies, the price of electricity transmission, and the price of electricity power grids sell to users, said an official of the commission.

According to the regulations, the purchase price will be set in line with the principle of reasonably compensating the cost and reasonable profit and tax, or by means of government bidding. The purchase price will fluctuate according to changes in the price of fuel.

The formulation of the price of electricity transmission is based on the “cost plus returns”, said the official.

Blair admits Iraq war has eroded public trust in him

London, 6 April — British Prime Minister Tony Blair admitted that the war in Iraq has badly eroded public trust in him, tackling one of his most difficult obstacles ahead of a 5 May general election.

In an interview with GMTV television station Blair, who announced the election date on Tuesday, was asked whether his backing for the March 2003 US-led war had done more to erode public trust in him than anything else.

“Yes, I would accept that,” he said.

“I think trust is also about the things we promise and the impact they have,” Blair said.

“Everything has really seemed to be very fragile,” he said.

Blair said the commission is based on the “cost plus returns”, said the official.

Police look at the remains of a destroyed vehicle following a car bomb late previous night in central Baghdad on 6 April, 2005. — Internet
Robust growth marks Asian economic performance in 2004

M anila, 7 April—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said on Wednesday that the developing countries in Asia achieved their best growth performance in 2004 since the Asian financial crisis of 1997-98, with the region’s aggregate real gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by a 7.3-per-cent rate.

In its semi-annual report on Asian economic development, Asian Development Outlook 2005, the ADB also added that “robust growth” will prevail in Asia in the 2005-2007 period given the strong economic momentum in most regional economies together with a favourable external environment.

“Average real growth is expected to be between 6.5 per cent and 6.9 per cent, supported by more buoyant domestic demand and strengthening intraregional trade,” said the report.

The ADB report covers 38 Asian countries and regions except Japan and North Korea. It also covers South Pacific developing countries.

The report said that with the exception of Pacific developing countries, nearly all developing Asian economies grew by more than 5 per cent in 2004, with the best performers being China, Hong Kong, India, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Singapore, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

It said that the overall growth performance was underpinned by continued strength in external demand, complemented by more buoyant domestic demand, with exports by the region rising by 25.5 per cent as compared with 19.3 per cent in 2003.

The region was the beneficiaries of robust growth in major industrial countries, in particular the United States, said the report. Related with the 3.5-per-cent US economic growth, a global revival of electronic market, for which many Asian countries are major exporters, has greatly contributed to the growth, it said.

China to promote regional cooperation process in Asia

B eijing, 7 April—China is willing to make concerted efforts with concerned parties to further promote regional cooperation process in Asia, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said here on Tuesday.

Qin told a regular Press conference that China attaches great importance to and takes an active part in the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) and other regional cooperation mechanisms.

The ACD, the sole official dialogue and cooperation mechanism oriented towards the whole of Asia, has made cooperation in some specific areas since its founding in 2002, contributing to forming the consciousness of integrity in Asia, Qin said.

At the Fourth ACD Ministerial Meeting on 6 April in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao will address the inaugural session as the keynote speaker, and Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing will attend the meeting, according to Qin.

Foreign ministers of ACD member countries will exchange views on international and regional issues, and on the direction of Asian cooperation.

All attendants will also discuss the specific cooperation field and mechanism construction of the ACD.

Two documents will be issued in the ministerial meeting to reiterate political will of Asian countries to strengthen dialogue and cooperation, and to provide programming for the ACD to develop specific cooperation in such fields as the economy.

ACD is a Thai initiative and aims at exchanging views on promoting cooperation to build an Asia-wide regional bloc.

Commercial flights barred during Bandung Summit

J a karta, 7 April—All commercial flights will be barred from landing in and taking off from the airport in the West Java town of Bandung on 24 April, when the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Asia-Africa Conference are held, an Indonesian official has said.

“Bandung Airport will be used to park eight prepared aircraft to transport the main state guests, including the Indonesian President and Vice-President,” West Java Deputy Governor Sri Mulyani said at a meeting with Indonesian President Megawati, who was quoted Wednesday by The Jakarta Post as saying.

She said the aircraft will include six Boeing 737-200 that will each carry 189 guests, including senior officials from participating countries. The other two aircraft will be for President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Vice-President Yusuf Kalla.

Mulyani said the committee had also prepared a hangar, in the event of an emergency, to act as a contingency measure.

The flights carrying the state guests will fly from Jakarta starting at 6:30 am, at 20-minute intervals. Upon arrival at Bandung Airport, the guests will go directly to Savoy Homann Hotel, which is only 50 metres from Gedung Merdeka, where the Golden Jubilee celebrations will be held.

Mulyani said that if bad weather made it impossible to fly the state guests, they would be transported by train from Gambir railway station in Central Jakarta.

Int’l Trade Fair opens in Vietnam

Hanoi, 7 April—The 15th Vietnam International Trade Fair (Expo) opened here on Wednesday, featuring products of 500 Vietnamese and foreign companies from Asia, Europe and America.

“Vietnam Expo 2005 is an opportunity for enterprises in many countries to not only showcase their best products, but also access advanced technology, seek partners, and establish long-term business relations in accordance with the international and regional integration,” Vietnamese Trade Deputy Minister Luong Vu said when addressing the five-day fair. During the fair, a number of business forums and seminars will be held on ways to sharpen companies’ competitive edges in the process of integration into the World Trade Organization, on developing business ideas and combating fake goods, he said.

Most of the participating enterprises from 11 countries and regions including China, North Korea, Japan, Czech and Cuba, operate in the fields of food, furniture, electronics, information technology, fashion, machinery and construction materials.

The previous international trade fair, Vietnam Expo 2004, was attended by 568 companies from 20 countries and regions, which signed contracts totaling 253 million US dollars.

Wu Yi hopes for improvement of China-Japan ties

B eijing, 7 April—Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi on Tuesday called for the improvement of China-Japan relations as soon as possible.

At a meeting with Ryutaro Hashimoto, president of the Japanese Chamber for the Promotion of International Trade (JCPIIT) and former Japanese prime minister, Wu said this year is the 60th anniversary of China-Japan’s invasion, which offers a new opportunity for the two countries to promote relations.

“China hopes Japan will handle well the historical issues and boost bilateral ties in the spirit of facing a mirror and looking forward to the future,” Wu said.

Wu spoke highly of efforts made by the JCPIIT to promote Sino-Japanese ties and expressed the hope that the friends from Japanese business community could cherish the existing foundation for cooperation and play an active role in promoting bilateral relations.

Subaru driver Chris Atkinson of Australia corners past a farm shed in his Subaru during the showdown before the official start of the 2005 Rally of New Zealand near Paparoa, north of Auckland, New Zealand, on 7 April, 2005. —INTERNET
Cash and kind donated to social organizations

**Yangon, 7 April** — The cash donation ceremony of Myanmar Brewery Ltd was held at National Races Development Paharita (Tiger) School in Hline Township this morning.

Chairman of Myanmar Brewery Ltd Lt-Col Maung Maung Aye, General Manager Dr David Teng, Deputy General Manager Lt-Col Maung Maung Sein (Retd) and Singaporean Ambassador Mr T Jasudasen donated K 3 million each to officials from National Races Development Paharita (Tiger) School, Aungzabu Youth Development Centre of Kawthu Township, Disabled Children School, Women Care Organization, Mary Chapman’s Deaf and Dump School and Christian Mission for the Blind. Similarly, members of the social organization of Myanmar Brewery Ltd presented clothes and school stationery to seven social organizations. Later, officials briefed those present on functions of their social organizations.

**Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek**

**Yangon, 7 April** — The Tachilek Special Anti-narcotic Drugs Squad, acting on information, searched Nyi Khan’s house in Tawkaw village, Hongleik village-tract in Tachilek Township on 8 March and seized 12,000 stimulant tablets bearing WY in his bed-room. Action is being taken against him under Section 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Tachilek Police Station. — MNA

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**42nd Myanma Gems Emporium**

**Article by Myint Lwin & photos by Thaung Win Bo & MNA**

Myanmar is abundantly rich in land and water resources. Out of the natural resources, Myanmar gems and jewellery, jade and pearl are in high demand in the world gems market.

The Myanma Gems Emporium has been held since 1964, and it has now entered its 42nd anniversary in 2005. The 42nd Myanma Gems Emporium is in progress at the Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yangon from 30 March until 7 April 2005.

The Myanma Gems Enterprise under the Ministry of Mines is making efforts to earn more local and foreign currencies annually for the nation. It is organizing Myanmar gems emporiums in March and October yearly so as to achieve the goal. Starting from last year, it has organized special jade and gems sales.

And it has also conducted gems sales of national companies in the intervals of the emporia.

At the 42nd MGE, local and foreign gems merchants are fascinated by gems pavilions of the MGE and the gems shops and mosaic paintings shops staged on the ground floor of the gems mart. Around the mart are chains of shops of imperial jade, utility jade and imperial jade and raw jade displayed as far as the eye can see, drawing the attention of the customers.

And lots of gems and pearls shown in a row on the top floor are like a scene to lure the buyers.

The quality and quantity of lots of jade, gems and pearls at the 42nd MGE is better and more than that of any other emporium or sales that have ever been held in the nation. More than 1,000 local and foreign merchants attended the emporium held from 2 to 4 April. The merchants from the People’s Republic of China took the keenest interest in the lots of jade sold through tender system and competitive bidding, and they bought many lots of jade offering many times of floor prices.

The 42nd MGE has achieved greater success with greater number of local and foreign gems merchants.

Overall, such a fruitful result is indeed due to combined efforts of the State and national companies, assistance of respective local administrative bodies, and prevalence of peace and stability of the nation.

Translation: MS *

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**Sapphire weighing 13 carats.**

**Lot of jade weighing 183.50 kgs that fascinated gems merchants.**

**A gold-colour pearls lot with 13 carats in weight.**

**Cash and kind donated to social organizations.**

**Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek.**

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**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 8 April, 2005**
Prime Minister Lt-Gen Soe Win leaves for Lao PDR, Vietnam, Cambodia on official visits.

Senior General Than Shwe visits Kawthoung

Cape of Bayintnaung, construction of a retaining wall near Myoma Port, town development undertakings and the statue of King Bayintnaung and landscaping of its environs. And from the viewpoint on the Ngathonlon Hill, they enjoyed the town’s development.

At Pyidawaye Pagoda, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party paid obeisance to Buddha images. Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing presented cash donations for the pagoda.

The following day, Senior General Than Shwe held a meeting with Tatmadaw members and families and district and township level officials at the regional battalion. The Senior General said that “Our Three Main National Causes” is the inborn duty of the entire people. Hence, not only the Tatmadaw, but also the entire nationalities including civil service personnel should keep in the forefront Our Three Main National Causes. Based on Our Three Main National Causes, the strength of the three forces — the Government, the people and the Tatmadaw — should be combined to build a democratic nation. In this regard, all have the duty to develop and strengthen the political, economic and social sectors in all aspects region-wise to build a democratic state.

General Thura Shwe Mann also met them before the meeting. The General discussed with officials matters concerning the per capita income of Kawthoung Township and District, local food sufficiency, matriculation examination pass rate, health and economic standard, and regional peace and stability. He said that Kawthoung is located in the southern tip of the nation. Whenever the state level officials visit Kawthoung, they see its developing situation. Like Kawthoung, other border towns including Muse, Tachilek, Myawady and Tamu are developing with greater momentum. The developments are the results of harmonious efforts of the State service personnel and people in implementing the projects under the leadership of the Government.

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leadership of the Government. Development has no limit. It must be continued till gaining greater momentum. Thus, all should make efforts to further develop the economy, per capita income and living standard of Kawthoung District. The border areas will be able to preserve and honour the national dignity and pride if they are able to develop and strengthen the economic, education and health sectors.

The General also met with Tatmadaw members and families of Myeik Station in Myeik on 5 April. He explained the Government’s endeavours to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the role of the Tatmadaw members and families in the endeavours, and organization tasks. He cordially greeted them. The ministers who accompanied the Senior General also met with the personnel of their ministries in Myeik and Kawthoung on 4 and 5 April.

Shanghai IIS meets Myanmar-ISIS

(from page 8)

At the invitation of Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (Myanmar-ISIS), the visiting delegation led by Professor Madam Yu Xintian, President of Shanghai Institute of International Studies (SIIS), called on Ambassador U Nyunt Tin, Secretary of Myanmar-ISIS at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning.

At the meeting, they exchanged views on relationship between China and Myanmar, and China-ASEAN affairs and international affairs of the South-East Asian region.

MNA
Minister Dr Kyaw Myint expresses gratitude at the opening ceremony of the hospital. — MNA

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Health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation, the Government is rendering assistance to opening hospitals and dispensaries and upgrading tasks. Furthermore, doctors, nurses and midwives are appointed more.

In Taninthayi Division, there were 22 hospitals, 86 health care units and four traditional medicine dispensaries in 1988, but there are 27 hospitals, 88 health care units, one 16-bed traditional medicine hospital, eight traditional medicine dispensaries and one midwifery training school.

In addition, 10 hospitals have been upgraded.

The wellwishers spent expenditure on construction of the hospital as well as donation of beds, supply of power, tubewell and water pump.

The Ministry of Health provided medical and hospital equipment and assigned duties to specialists, assistant surgeons, nurses and other ranks at the hospital.

Later, the minister thanked the wellwishers for his donations.

After the ceremony, General Thura Shwe Mann and party oversaw progress of Pulontonton Village and its environs of Kawthoung Township by car. — MNA

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Yangon, 7 April—The Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy will keep gas stations in Yangon open during the period of Thingyan Festival.

— MNA

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Yangon, 7 April—Department of Development Affairs inspected construction of roads in Zigon, Nattalin, Paungde, Paukkhaung of Pyay District on 5 April morning.

The Director-General met with officials in construction of the district-to-district roads in Bago Division (West) and Magway Division.

In Bago Division (West) has earth district-to-district roads stretching 125 miles and four furlongs. Out of the plan to build 69 miles and two furlongs earth road in Pyay District, construction of the road section measuring 65 miles and one furlong has been completed. On completion, the earth roads will be upgraded to the gravel roads.

On 2 April morning, the ceremony to mark the sufficient water supply for Saw Township was held at the junction of Saw. Officials formally opened the signboard marking water supply for Saw Township and Deputy Director-General U Kyaw of DAD unveiled the signboard.

In Magway Division, Saw Township is the fifth of the supply of sufficient drinking water apart from Taungdwingyi, Minbu, Aunglan and Pwintbyu Townships. — MNA
At the meeting No 2/2004 of the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races held on 30 December 2004, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying that with the cumulative development of border areas, the entire nation would be able to enjoy equitable development, and then all the national races would be homogeneous. So, emphasis was to be placed on accomplishment of border areas development projects for ensuring equitable development of border areas and the national races living there rather than on commercial gains.

While Myanmar was under subjugation, the British colonialists gave hill regions, where the majority of nationalities lived, various names and divided them from the Myanmar proper through acts of discrimination. Before the era of dyarchy, the colonialists called them backward tracts. The colonialists branded them scheduled areas during the dyarchy era; special regions during the 91-division administration era; and frontier areas after the end of World War II, when Myanmar was under British control.

The colonialists in accord with their tradition, gave priority to timber and mining businesses in the hill regions, but did not do anything good for the development of the nationalities. They thought that only a little the missionaries did in health and education in the hill regions was enough for the natives. The colonialists did not give any chance to hill regions for development, but did the backwardness as an excuse to discriminate against them. In accordance with the divide-and-rule policy, the colonialists exercised unequal administrative practices between the plains and hill regions.

Even after Myanmar regained independence, the ruling political parties, instead of developing the hill regions, were concentrating on the prolongation of their stay in power.

The consequences of the divide-and-rule policy had led the hill regions to insurgency for over 40 years. And it was due to the absence of peace and stability, that made them lag behind in development.

After the Tatmadaw had assumed the State duties in 1988, it founded the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races on 25 May 1989, with Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe at the helm.

The Tatmadaw then formed the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races on 31 May the same year. The Work Committee organized 18 subcommittees, with the respective deputy ministers as chairmen, to implement the task in accord with the guidelines laid down by the Central Committee. On 13 June 1989, 11 regional work committees were formed, under the leadership of the military command commanders and the heads of the respective state/division administrative bodies. Later subordinate work committees were formed at district and township levels.

The Ministry for Development of Border Areas and National Races was formed on 24 September 1992. On 30 January 1994, the Ministry for DBANR became the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, and its functions were extended.

The Government enacted the Border Areas and National Races Development Law on 13 August 1993. It drew the main plan covering various projects to systematically and energetically carry out the border areas and national races development tasks.

The border area development drive involves seven states, two divisions and 18 regions covering a territory of 83,415.34 square miles. Sixty-eight townships, with a population of 5.3 million, are in the drive.

The Government has been developing all necessary sectors for progress of border areas. The sector of roads and transportation is important for the border areas that lagged behind in development. Thus, priority has been given to the sector. Up to 12 February 2005, the Government had built 3,093 miles of earth roads, 1,871 miles of gravel roads and 329 miles of tar roads, and repaired and renovated 3,162 miles of roads. It had also built 55 major bridges, 694 small bridges and 32 suspension bridges. Even the interior regions of the border areas are now easily accessible thanks to the all-weather roads built at important places, and the transport development has further strengthened amity and flourished trade among the nationalities.

In the electricity sector, the Government has erected small and medium hydel power stations in eight towns of the border areas. In addition, 256 generators have been delivered to towns and villages. Thanks to the power supply, natives of the border regions now have electricity for cottage industries and general use. The living standard of the natives is improving as they have also built mini hydel power stations on self-reliant basis.

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The social, economic and administrative sectors have seen progress in many aspects as the Government has built 47 post offices, 42 telegraph offices, 80 telephone exchange stations in the areas.

As regards the education sector, it has built 72 high schools, 61 middle schools and 657 elementary schools. A total of 108,621 students — 7,381 high school students, 32,036 middle school students and 69,204 primary students — have attended classes in the current academic year.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, 26 youth development training schools and 18 vocational training schools for women have been opened in the areas to produce human resources. Two nationality youths resource development degree colleges, one each in Yangon and Mandalay, have been opened.

The two colleges have produced 256 nationality youth graduates, and they have been assigned duties at the departments. Twenty-eight of them are qualified and attending the B-Tech course at Mandalay Technological University, and another 18 qualified persons are attending MA and Bachelor degree colleges, one each in Yangon and Mandalay. The Government constructed or under construction, and 17 sites conducted surveys for dam projects in the far-flung areas. As a result, local people have enjoyed food sufficiency and opportunities for cultivation of cash crops.

Under the guidance of the Head of State, a total of 111,900 acres were targeted to implement a 10-year project for transition from the shifting cultivation system into the modern cultivation system in 2003-2004. So far, a total of 11,659 acres in Shan State, Chin State, Magway Division and Kayah/khett region have been reclaimed.

With respect to the livestock breeding sector, it established 19 livestock breeding farms and 41 veterinary centres and distributed 111 pedigree cows and horses to local farmers.

In respect of the forestry sector, it established seven nurseries, four reserved forests and 12 sawmills. It is also cooperating with local people to maximize production of forest products and to prevent deforestation.

With regard to the mining sector, it is providing assistance to explore mineral deposits, to systematically explore the deposits and to create job opportunities. From 1988 to 12 February 2005, the border areas development funds spent K 33,789 million and the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs spent K 29,364 million totalling 63,335 million with the aim of building good foundations for development of frontier areas.

The border areas development tasks are being implemented under the five objectives laid down by the Central Committee for Development of Border Areas, and one of which is “To eliminate poppy cultivation by establishing economic enterprises in border areas. Altogether 79.5 per cent of the expenditures was spent on the drugs eradication tasks.

At the same time, under the New Destiny Project, rice, cash assistance and poppy-substitute crops seeds were provided for the local farmers who discarded poppy cultivation. From 2001 to 2004, 19,300 bags of rice, 5,000 viss of salt, and K 196.5 million worth seeds of poppy-substitute crops were provided for the farmers. Starting from August 2004, 4,650 bags of rice are supplied monthly for the farmers in the projected areas.

In addition to the drive for elimination of poppy cultivation, measures are being taken to prevent smuggling of drugs and chemicals, used for production of narcotic drugs, from neighbouring countries into the nation. And drug control tasks are being carried out with added momentum for such border towns as Tachileik, Myawady and Kawthoung to become drug-free zones.

Poppy cultivation is on the significant decrease due to the regional development, establishment of poppy-substitute agricultural and livestock breeding enterprises, and dissemination of educative (See page 15)
Greek police confiscate 39 luxury cars in tax fraud case

ATHENS, 6 April — The Attica region financial crimes unit has confiscated 39 luxury cars after discovering a scam through which several cars had been put into circulation with paying due taxes and tariffs. Athens News Agency reported Tuesday. An investigation conducted with the Greek Customs office revealed that a ring that submitted forged Customs documents in order to obtain legal registration and licence plates for cars that had not paid taxes due, said the report. — MNA/Xinhua
UN agency sets up housing fund for poor nations

NAIROBI, 6 April — The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) on Tuesday announced that it has set up a housing fund for poor nations.

The UN agency has secured 10 million US dollars from various donor organizations to enable it set up a Slum Upgrading Facility, which is set for implementation this year.

UN-HABITAT’s Executive Director Anna Tibaujika said the organization has been working over the past two years to increase international and local resources to enable poor countries provide housing to its people.

The UN housing agency has also secured additional 1.8 million dollars for the design phase of the housing facility currently being applied within east Africa with major slum dwellers in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania set to be major beneficiaries.

Speaking during the ongoing UN-HABITAT Governing Council meeting in Nairobi, Tibaujika said increasing international and domestic support for shelter-related infrastructure is crucial to poverty reduction.

The Governing Council bringing together UN-HABITAT’s main financiers, UN member states and mayors from cities from Africa and around the world, to discuss upgrading programmes and deliberate on policy issues.

The European Union at the meeting has presented an elaborate proposal, calling for a faster implementation of the proposed UN reforms to strengthen the activities of the housing agency, saying the need to involve women in decision-making is crucial for the successful implementation of programmes.

The EU said the role and operations of UN-HABITAT needs to be re-examined and a proper evaluation of its staffing done to strengthen cooperation in order to avoid a gap between emergency recovery and sustainable development.

China to strengthen management of beauty industry

BEIJING, 6 April — The Ministry of Commerce recently released a notice, asking local governments to improve the management of the beauty and hairdressing industry and guide the industry to set up a “blacklist” mechanism to punish illegal companies.

The notice said that China’s beauty and hairdressing industry has experienced rapid development in the past 20 years, a process during which much illegal activity has stymied further development.

It called on local commercial departments to work out plans for the industry, encourage the setting up of chainstore beauty parlours, and guide companies in improving self-discipline and providing trustworthy service.

China favours consensus on UNSC expansion

UNITED NATIONS, 6 April — In a setback to India and other G-4 nations, who are seeking an early resolution on expansion of UN Security Council, China has said any decision on the issue should be made by vote in the General Assembly but through consensus, which many fear will stall or even scuttle the process.

China’s UN Ambassador Wang Guangya told reporters that the main objective of the expansion should be to increase the number of members from the developing world because there was an imbalance in the Council composition.

China, he said, has not yet made its mind on various candidates seeking permanent membership but a full discussion among member states is required to reach a consensus, the absence of which would be detrimental to the UN. His comment came following Secretary-General Kofi Annan’s call for enlarging the Council by September when a summit of world leaders is scheduled at the United Nations.

“IT” sectors of India, US pledge multilateral cooperation

WASHINGTON, 6 April — US economic policy development and advocacy organizations along with India’s NASSCOM has pledged for “multilateral cooperation” between each other to realize “the new potential for expanding mutual opportunities for both the countries in the IT sector.”

The economic liberalization process undertaken by the Government of India has begun to unleash India’s potential as an economic power, showcasing India’s strength in knowledge-intensive industries such as biotechnology, healthcare and Information Technology (IT), a joint statement issued by USIBC, CSI and NASSCOM after a meeting at the US Chamber of Commerce, headquarters of USIBC on Monday said.

US-India Business Council (USIBC) is the largest policy development body of US promoting its economic interest, and Coalition of Service Industries (CSI) is a trade advocacy organization, while National Association of Software and Service Companies is an Indian trade body representing software and services industry.

These sectors are areas of strength to the US economy, creating the first opportunities for trade negotiators from India and the US to begin a meaningful engagement at the WTO on issues where the two countries unequivocally stand to gain through multilateral liberalization, it said.

Beijing to invest $400m for building medical rescue network

BEIJING, 6 April — Beijing is planning to invest 400 million US dollars to build an emergency medical rescue network for the 2008 Olympic Games, reported Monday’s Beijing Times.

The fund will be used to renovate the city’s medical infrastructure and innovate equipment and build a three-layer rescue network for the sports event that covers the city proper, outskirts and neighbourhoods.

First-aid stations will be set up in 132 neighbourhoods in the city limits and 22 in the suburbs, the report said.

Beijing Emergency Medical Centre will purchase 400 additional ambulances and helicopters to deal with emergencies during the 2008 Olympic Games.

All venues, training places and news centres for the Games will have 24-hour medical services. Express passage will be given for transporting the injured and ill to foreign countries, the report said.

China’s beauty and hairdressing industry has seen an annual growth rate of 15 percent. But in the meantime, statistics issued by the China Consumer Association show that in the past ten years, more than 200,000 disputes involving beauty parlours have been reported, in which nearly 300,000 people have been injured to various degrees by illegal or improper operations in the beauty salons.

To put the industry on a healthy developmental track, the Ministry of Commerce issued a temporary regulation on the management on the industry in November 2004. In addition, the ministry is trying to promulgate detailed standards for the industry.

China’s UN ambassador to the UN has delivered a statement, which nearly 300,000 people have been injured to various degrees by illegal or improper operations in the beauty salons.
World champion Xia bows out at Japan Open

TOKYO, 7 April — China's world champion Xia Xuanze suffered another premature exit on Wednesday as he went down 15-2, 15-12 to South Korean qualifier Lee Cheol-ho in the second round of the Japan Open badminton tournament here.

Xia, who fell at the first hurdle at last month's All England Open in Birmingham, failed to rebound from a nightmare first set.

Another big-name casualty on the first day of the tournament was defending champion Ronald Susilo of Singapore, who lost 15-5 and 17-16 to Lee Chong Wei of Malaysia in the second round.

But China's world number one Lin Dan remained the player to beat as he eased past Englishman Aamir Ghaffar 15-6, 15-9 while Danish rival Peter Gade overpowered Japan's Yuichi Kodai 15-1, 15-5.

Indonesia's Olympic champion Taufik Hidayat had a walkover when Malaysian opponent Sarul Amar Ayob retired with an ankle injury with Hidayat leading 15-11.

AC Milan beat Inter while Chelsea see off Bayern

LONDON, 7 April — AC Milan have one foot in the semifinals with a 2-0 win over city rivals Inter on Wednesday while Chelsea beat visiting Bayern Munich 4-2 in the first leg of Champions League quarterfinals.

Chelsea, with coach Jose Mourinho serving a two-match touchline ban, managed to score only four minutes into the game, with a deflected long-range shot by Joe Cole. Bayern hit in the equalizer in the 52nd minute when halftime substitute Bastian Schweinsteiger tapped in after goalkeeper Petr Cech failed to hold a Ze Roberto shot.

Chelsea regained the lead on the hour when inspirational England midfielder Frank Lampard seized on a Didier Drogba flick to score from just outside the box. Lampard, a front-runner for England's Footballer of the Year award, put the game, and the quarterfinal tie, firmly in the Blues' hands with a world-class third goal in 70th minute.

Claude Makelele lofted a deep cross into the box and Lampard showed remarkable technique to control the ball on his chest, turn and lash it goalward as he lifted the title from his head. The Blues' third was a world-class flick to score from just outside the box.

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German referee released on bail

BERLIN, 7 April — German referee Dominik Marks who had been arrested four weeks ago under suspicion of match-fixing was released on bail on Wednesday.

Police arrested Marks on March 9 on the basis of information supplied by of the second leg in the Champions League quarter-final clash at San Siro Stadium. AC Milan won 2-0.

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Efforts of the Tatmadaw...

(from page 11)
talks on dangers of narcotic drugs among the national races in border areas.

According to the data collected by Myanmar and the US’ annual statement on poppy output based on the survey jointly conducted by Myanmar and the US, and the release of the UNODC, there is a sharp fall in the poppy cultivation and production in Myanmar.

Under the report issued on 11 October 2004 by the UNODC, the total area of poppy cultivation in 2004 in Myanmar was 44,200 hectares. So its poppy cultivation decreased by 29 per cent if compared to that in 2003, and decreased by 73 per cent if compared to that in 1996.

Up to 12 February 2005, the Tatmadaw Government spent K 63,353 million for progress of border areas where the majority of national races reside — K 33,789 million from the border areas development funds and K 29,564 million from the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

It is the Tatmadaw Government’s concept that peace must be restored first in border areas for regional progress. It managed to help gain national re-establishment by holding negotiations and to build mutual trust with the 17 national races armed groups to pave the way for them to return to the legal fold. Now, these national races armed groups are participating in the border areas development undertakings in collaboration with the government.

Now, the Tatmadaw is making unremitting efforts with might and main in implementing development projects such as the 24 special regions development project and the five rural development project based on the progress of the border areas for ensuring equitable progress of all states and divisions of the Union including border areas and rural areas, in other words, just for ensuring a homogeneous Union.

Now, the entire Union is witnessing and enjoying rapid and dynamic progress thanks to the Tatmadaw’s efforts for ensuring a homogeneous Union.

Myanmar Alin + Kyemon: 7-4-2005
Translation: TMT + MS

WEATHER

Thursday, 7 April, 2005
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining states and divisions. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthong (0.20 in). Day temperatures were (°C) above normal in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, (°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (°C) above normal in Ayeyawady Division, (°C) below normal in Bago Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperatures were (°C) each in Magway and Pathein.

Maximum temperature on 6-4-2005 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 7-4-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 7-4-2005 was 71%. Total sunshine hours on 6-4-2005 was (9.7) hours approx. Rainfalls on 7-4-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (0.59 in) at Yangon Airport, (1.69 inches) at Kaba-Aye and (0.32 in) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (21:55) hours MST on 6-4-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 8-4-2005: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Kachin, Mon, Kayin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbourhood area for 8-4-2005: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbourhood area for 8-4-2005: Generally fair weather.
YANGON, 7 April — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye bade farewell to Chief of General Staff Senior Lieutenant-General Phung Quang Thanh and party of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Yangon International Airport this morning.

Also present at the airport were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Aung Hhoe, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Charge d’Affaires of the Vietnamese Embassy Mr Pham Ban Cu, Military Attaché Sr Col Nguyen Van Thanh and officials. At 9.35 am, Vietnamese Senior Lieutenant-General Phung Quang Thanh and party arrived at the airport where they were cordially greeted by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye. Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented photo album and video tapes on the goodwill visit to Senior Lieutenant-General Phung Quang Thanh. Later, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party bade farewell to Chief of General Staff Senior Lieutenant-General Phung Quang Thanh and party of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

MINISTER for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and wellwisher Andaman Club Co Ltd Chairman Mr Vikrom Aisiri cut the ribbon to open the hospital. Next, General Thura Shwe Mann and party cordially greeted those present. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo unveiled the plaque of the hospital. General Thura Shwe Mann and party sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

The General and party inspected the medical store, the emergency operation room, intensive care unit, operation theatre, the lab, and X-ray room. They also viewed round the special rooms and display of health educative posters. Next, the ceremony to mark the opening of the hospital followed at the hall. The wellwisher explained the purpose of the donations and handed over documents related to the hospital to Medical Superintendent Dr Nyan Zaw.

The wellwisher also presented gifts to General Thura Shwe Mann and party. After that, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint reported that the Government is providing health care services to the people in the entire nation including remote areas. By laying down the objective ‘Uplift of Health Care’ in Taninthayi Division, there were 22 hospitals, 86 health care units and four traditional medicine dispensaries in 1988, but there are 27 hospitals, 88 health care units, one bed traditional medicine hospital, eight traditional medicine dispensaries and one midwifery training school. In addition, 10 hospitals have been upgraded.

The Government has built 3,093 miles of earth roads, 1,871 miles of gravel roads and 329 miles of tar roads, and repaired and renovated 3,162 miles of roads from 1989 to 12 February 2005.

In Taninthayi Division, there were 22 hospitals, 86 health care units and four traditional medicine dispensaries in 1988, but there are 27 hospitals, 88 health care units, one 16-bed traditional medicine hospital, eight traditional medicine dispensaries and one midwifery training school. In addition, 10 hospitals have been upgraded.