YANGON, 27 July— Mass meeting focusing “Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of people” was held this morning at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township, Yangon Division. Members of social organizations discussed matters on guarding against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of people and actively participating in implementation of the Seven-point policy programme of the State and endeavours made for stability of the State and nation-building tasks upholding Our Three Main National Causes with Union Spirit and those present unanimously approved the decision.

Present on the occasion were members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Fire Brigade, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Nurses Association, Myanmar Anti-narcotics Association, Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Music Asayon, Myanmar Motion Picture Asayon, Myanmar Thabin Asayon, Myanmar Traditional Artist.

Members of the panel of chairmen and the participants chanting slogans at the conclusion of the mass meeting. — MNA

Govt, people and Tatmadaw will unitedly strive for emergence of peaceful, modern, developed democratic nation despite all obstructions

Guard against danger posed by destructionists through united strength of people.

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

**Thursday, 28 July, 2005**

**Greater efforts for surplus food**

As the Union of Myanmar is an agro-based country, the government is striving for the development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well.

As part of the drive to bring about development of the agriculture sector, Tatmadawmen, departmental officials and farmers are making concerted efforts in unity to achieve the State’s production targeted in agriculture.

During his tour of Shan State (North), Chairman of the Agricultural Development Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein met with departmental officials, members of social organizations and local farmers at the seed zone in irrigated area of Humon Dam in Lashio Township on 23 July.

At the meeting, he said out of the important three basic needs — food, clothing and shelter, — food is essential for existence.

Therefore, in an effort to ensure food sufficiency in the country, the government has extended cultivation employing all possible means. The increased production in food resulted in self-sufficiency and surplus, he added.

There are over 14 million acres of monsoon paddy and three million acres of summer paddy in the country. Therefore, the State nearly reaches its production target of 1,200 million baskets of paddy per year.

In striving to achieve self-sufficiency of food in Shan State (North), the hilly and mountainous condition hinders the extended cultivation of crops. However, cultivated areas have been extended as much as possible and high yield quality strains were used. Therefore, production of rice in Shan State (North) is more than sufficient today.

Instead of being complacent with this achievement, greater efforts should be made to improve the quality of life. It is necessary to cultivate cash crops such as tea, coffee, orange, mango and rubber on a commercial scale.

Hence, we would like to call on the local farmers to put more energies into their work.

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**Forestry Minister inspects saw mills in Mandalay Division**

**Yangon, 27 July** — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 25 July inspected the production process of timber for export at No 2 Saw Mill in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Division. Afterwards, the minister and party went to the Plywood Factory of Zabu Hlyuam Co and the wood-based factory of the Golden Noble Pte Ltd. At the factory, the minister inspected the finished export products.

In the afternoon, the minister and party arrived at the pencil factory of Myanmar Tokiwa Corporation Ltd, and Myanmar-Maykaung Wood-Based Factory in Mandalay Industrial Zone. At the factories, the minister viewed the production process and fulfilled the requirements.

In the evening, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended the coordination meeting on implementation of greening tasks at hills held at Arid Zone Greening Department in Pathemyin.

At the meeting, the minister gave instructions to officials concerned on implementing the tasks. The minister yesterday inspected the timbers displayed at the Timber Shop of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Kyaukse.

**26th Special meeting of ASEAN Ministers for A&F continues**

**Yangon, 27 July** — The 26th Special Senior Officials Meeting of ASEAN Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry hosted by Myanmar took place for the second day today at Sedona Hotel in Mandalay.

Myanmar chaired the meeting and the Philippines as the vice-chairman.

In the second day session, programmes included discussions on green strategy in the region, implementation of greening tasks at hills, greening of industrial zones in Vientiane Plan of Action to be implemented from 2005 to 2010 and matters on enhancing competency in international market for agricultural produce, fisheries, forestry and rubber were discussed.

In the evening, Director-General U Tin Htut Oo of Agricultural Planning Department hosted a dinner in honour of the senior officials at the hotel.

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**Myanmar Wushu team bags 3 gold, 3 silver, two bronze**

**Yangon, 27 July** — Myanmar youth who took part in the Third Asian Youth Wushu Championship held in Singapore from 21 to 26 July arrived back here this morning.

The team led by President of Myanmar Wushu Federation U Khin Maung Lay was welcomed back at the airport by Daw Kyi Kyi Win of Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation, Vice-President U Kyaw Kyaw of MWF and officials.

Out of eight Myanmar youth contestants, six players bagged eight medals and stood fifth in the competitions among 20 countries including Wushu giants China, Vietnam and Hong Kong.

Swe Thet one gold in Taijijian event, Khant Soe Win Thein securued three gold in Vientiane Plan of Action to be implemented from 2005 to 2010 and matters on enhancing competency in international market for agricultural produce, fisheries, forestry and rubber were discussed.

In the evening, Director-General U Tin Htut Oo of Agricultural Planning Department hosted a dinner in honour of the senior officials at the hotel.

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**People’s Desire**

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

Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation

Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State

Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

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**26th Special meeting of ASEAN Ministers for A&F continues**

**Yangon, 27 July** — The 26th Special Senior Officials Meeting of ASEAN Ministers for Agriculture and Forestry in progress. — MNA

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**Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspects sales of timber in Kyaukse Township.**

FORESTRY

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**Victorious**

**Myanmar Wushu team arrives back from Singapore.**

NLM
ADB, USAID to launch environment protection enforcement network

MANILA, 26 July — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will launch an environment protection enforcement network in Asia early next month, ADB said in a news release on Monday.

The Environmental Compliance and Enforcements Network (AECEN) will be officially launched on 2 and 3 August at the ADB headquarters in Manila. The foundation meeting for AECEN will be co-organized by ADB and the USAID, the ADB said.

The ADB said the regional workshop will bring together more than 80 senior environmental officials, judges, lawyers, and civil society leaders from 13 Asian countries to formally launch AECEN and develop network programmes and activities.

Experts from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) will also participate in the event, the ADB said.

As a regional practitioner network, AECEN is dedicated to promoting improved environmental compliance and enforcement policies and practices throughout counterpart exchange and information sharing, according to ADB. The ADB said the meeting is expected to endorse the establishment of AECEN as a regional network platform for Asian country members at both the national and regional levels.

The ADB expects member countries for the newly created network will issue a joint statement in support of improved environmental compliance and enforcement throughout the region, and the importance of regional cooperation.—MNA/Xinhua

Indian Embassy in Kuwait ensuring ban on travel to Iraq

KUWAIT, 26 July — From issuing notifications in papers to talking with Gulf companies, the Indian Embassy in Kuwait is going all out to ensure that the ban on the travel of Indian workers to Iraq is implemented.

The Indian Embassy in Kuwait does not want to take any chances, Ambassador Swashpawan Singh said following reports that some Gulf-based companies were hiring Indian drivers.

"We are taking all necessary measures to see that the ban imposed on Indian workers' travel to Iraq is in place and that entails regular monitoring and intimating the companies engaged in such work about the ban."

"You have to respect the decision of the Indian government and its concern for the safety of its nationals," Singh said as he conveyed the companies.

The ban was imposed in August last year after three Indian drivers of Kuwait & Gulf Link Transport (KGL) were kidnapped and kept hostage in Baghdad starting a flurry of diplomatic activities to secure their release. They were finally freed after 41 days.

Recent media reports in India had said recruitment camps were held in many places to hire drivers purportedly for Iraq and the agency involved in the hiring said it had the full documents in place and the necessary immigration clearance from Cochin in Kerala. It was not clear if the company was hiring drivers to carry goods from Kuwait to Iraq.—Internet

Chinese tourist beaten by US police to testify in court

TIANJIN, 26 July — Chinese businesswoman Zhao Yan, mistreated by American policeman Robert Rhodes, will go to the United States and testify in court on 5 August.

The pre-court preparation has been completed and police have found a key witness, a Chinese-American woman, who will give testimony in court on the same day, according to Tianjin-based MetroExpress, a newspaper under Tianjin Daily Media Group. Zhao Yan will demand 10 million US dollars in compensation and the United States will cover the expenses of her trip to the United States.

Zhao Yan, a Chinese businesswoman from Tianjin, was on her first American business trip when she was attacked at Niagara Falls near the US-Canadian border on 21 July last year by US Customs and Border Protection police. Zhao and two women tourists were heading back to hotel when they were attracted by the light from a white house where they found a policeman lying on ground, Zhao said.—MNA/Xinhua

US soldier, uncle plead guilty to smuggling guns out of Iraq

PADUCAH, KY, 26 July — A Fort Campbell soldier and his uncle pleaded guilty today to charges they illegally smuggled foreign-made machine guns out of Iraq and tried to sell them in the United States.

Guy Brown and Nigel Brown of Hopkinsville, Kentucky pleaded guilty to conspiring to import machine guns from Iraq. Both men face up to ten years in prison and a quarter-million-dollar fine when they are sentenced on October 25th.

Another Fort Campbell soldier under indictment in the case is Beau Uran of Clarksville, Tennessee.—Internet

Floods kill dozens in India as Mumbai under water

MUMBAI, 27 July — Floods and landslides killed at least 99 people in western India on Wednesday, with many more feared dead after a wall of mud flattened a village.

Thousands of people were evacuated and tens of thousands more were stranded as floodwaters raged through the financial capital, Mumbai, bringing road, air and rail links to a halt.

Rescue teams reached the village of Juigaon, 150 km (90 miles) south of Mumbai, and began digging for survivors and bodies after a landslide flattened a village.

An Iraqi soldier stands behind razor wire at a checkpoint in Mosul, in northern Iraq on 23 July, 2005.—INTERNET

An avalanche of mud flattened a village. —MNA/Xinhua

MEDIA GROUP

RPILE

Three Quarters

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 28 July, 2005 3
China’s PPRD phases in efforts toward eco integration

CHENGDU, 26 July — China’s vast pan Pearl River Delta (PPRD), shared by over one third of the national population, will phase in efforts toward regional economic integration in the coming 15 years, according to the PPRD Regional Cooperation and Development Programme launched in the southwestern Chengdu City on Monday, marking a concrete step to turn the region’s “economic powerhouse” vision into reality.

According to the programme approved by the Second PPRD Regional Cooperation and Development Forum being held in this provincial capital city of Sichuan on Monday, the PPRD will spend the coming five years strengthening the infrastructure basis and constructing an effective mechanism to facilitate regional economic integration. From 2011 to 2020, the 11 PPRD members, including nine southern Mainland provinces or autonomous region as well as Hong Kong and Macao, will make concerted endeavours to forge an open market characterized by a sound and reasonable industrial layout, according to Monday’s two-phase programme, first of its kind since the PPRD notion was launched last year.

“The PPRD regional cooperation and development is a long-term task demanding confidence, courage, patience and effort,” said Hong Kong Chief Executive Donald Tsang here on Monday.

Facing challenges from the booming Yangtze River Delta and the emerging Bohai Bay economic circle in north China, the Pearl River Delta, an engine driving China’s industrial growth for years, decided to team up with the neighbouring localities to become “one of the world’s most prosperous and developed hubs”.

Singapore expects $132m from MICE Asia Congress

SINGAPORE, 26 July — Singapore expected to gain some 229 million Singapore dollars (about 132 million US dollars) from the inaugural Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) Asia Congress, according to Channel NewsAsia report on Monday.

The three-day event, which began in the city state on 24 July, provides a platform for the decision makers from the biggest Asian and multinational companies as well as the leading industry solution providers to discuss strategies and do business.

Their business in Asia’s MICE industry is estimated to be worth 2.2 billion Singapore dollars (about 1.3 billion US dollars). The report quoted those industry players as saying that Singapore is an attractive venue for MICE due to its “good flight connections, solid logistics infrastructure and reliable local partners.” — MNA/Xinhua

US soldier among 13 killed in fighting in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 July — One US soldier, together with one Afghan soldier and 11 militants were killed on Monday in a fighting in Afghanistan’s southern province of Uruzgan, US military said.

Three US soldiers and one Afghan soldier were also wounded in the battle when about 15 to 30 militants attacked the forces in Deh Rawsh District of Uruzgan, it added.

The US and Afghan forces later sent attack aircraft and helicopters to the scene and fired at the militants. About eight militants were captured in the afterwards searching operation. — MNA/Xinhua

1,782 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 26 July—As of Tuesday, 26 July, 2005, at least 1,782 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 1,376 died as a result of hostile action. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is four lower than the Defence Department’s tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Tuesday. The British military has reported 92 deaths; Italy, 25; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each. — Internet

Indonesia, Hungary to boost economic cooperation

JAKARTA, 26 July — Indonesia and Hungary agreed here on Monday to beef up cooperation in trade and information technology.

“Hungary must sell more on the Indonesian market,” visiting Hungarian Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsani said, adding that the Indonesian export volume to Hungary was ten times than the other way round in the past years.

Hungary had offered its military, wheat equipment as well as expertise in the field of information technology to Indonesia, said the Prime Minister at a joint Press conference held after his meeting with President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

Hungary also offered Indonesia with undisclosed amount of soft loans for the reconstruction in the tsunami-hit province of Aceh, said Gyurcsani.

Indonesia annually exported some 96 million US dollars worth of goods, mostly medium-scale industrial and electronic products, to Hungary, according to Indonesian Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu at the same occasion.

Meanwhile, Susilo said that Indonesia expected more Hungarian holiday makers to visit Indonesia, as it had given visa-on-arrival status to them.

Indonesia also welcomed Hungary’s intention to participate in Aceh’s reconstruction programme, said the President.

Before the Press conference, both leaders witnessed the signing of agreements for a road project in Indonesia’s South Sumatra Province and a Budapest-based IT project which also had branches in three major Indonesian cities.

Both sides also signed a memorandum of understanding on tourism cooperation. — MNA/Xinhua

Women assemble T-shirts in an apparel factory in Guatemala City, on 25 July, 2005. — Internet

Poland and Iraq discuss troop cut

WARSAW, 26 July—Polish Prime Minister Marek Belka has arrived in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, for talks with his counterpart, Ibrahim Jaafari, on Polish troop levels.

The pair are to discuss the scheduled withdrawal of 1,500 of the soldiers from Iraq early next year.

The Polish government has been a staunch supporter of the US-led coalition in Iraq.

However, the policy is now unpopular with the public and it no longer has the funds or soldiers to sustain it.

When the US invited Polish troops to command a huge multi-national force in southern Iraq two years ago, the Polish government saw it as a great opportunity to improve its armed forces and Poland’s international standing.

Even though much of the public originally supported the idea of sending troops to Iraq opinions have now changed.

Many of the expected economic and political benefits have not materialised. And now the overwhelming majority of Poles want the soldiers to come home.

Most Poles are still probably more concerned about domestic issues like high unemployment and corruption than Iraq.

But the Madrid and London bombsings served as an awful reminder that Polish cities could also be targets—although the government says it has no reports that suggest a heightened threat.—Internet

Iraqi police, soldiers and emergency rescue teams gather at the site of a suicide bombing attack on a checkpoint leading to a hotel, not seen in photo, in Baghdad, Iraq, on 23 July, 2005. — Internet

MNA/Xinhua

Internet
**ASEAN to sign declarations on anti-terrorism with S Korea, NZ, Pakistan**

**VIENTIANE (Laos), 26 July —** The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will sign a joint declaration for cooperation to combat international terrorism with South Korea, New Zealand and Pakistan respectively, ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) spokesman Yong Chantahalangsy said on Monday.

Speaking at a Press conference, Yong said these signings would be made during the current 38th AMM and 10th Post Ministerial Conferences held in Vientiane, Laot capital, which would bring the total number of comparable joint declarations on cooperation on counter-terrorism to 10, involving Australia, China, the EU, India, Japan, Russia, and the United States.

**As such, all of ASEAN’s dialogue partners but one, and ASEAN’s Sectoral Dialogue Partner would have made concrete commitments to cooperate with ASEAN on counter-terrorism, the spokesman said.**

Yong said terrorism is transnational in nature and requires cooperation from all—these joint declarations are a concrete step in that direction.

Concerning the East Asia Summit (EAS), Yong said the ASEAN foreign ministers will be discussing the modalities, participation, agenda and format of the EAS.

He said the ASEAN Senior Officials have recommended the modalities for the foreign ministers to consider: the EAS would meet once in three years; The EAS will be held in an ASEAN member country and an ASEAN member country will chair the EAS in line with ASEAN’s role in the driver’s seat.

Yong said the foreign ministers will seek a consensus on the process of the establishment of the ASEAN Charter.

However, he said, establishing an ASEAN Charter is a serious undertaking and ASEAN is not rushing the process. The process of study and draft is expected to extend over a few years, he added.

**Indonesia to adjust to yuan revaluation**

**JAKARTA, 26 July —** Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said here on Monday that Indonesia could adjust to the Chinese yuan revaluation, which only had temporary impact on the Indonesian economy.

“We realize that there are dynamics of exchange rates, the RMB, rupiah, euro and also US dollar. There must be (also) implication in short term (with) export and import, but actually we can adjust (to that) later,” said Susilo.

Indonesia would make the adjustment to China’s policy under the spirit of bilateral cooperation, he added. Indonesia would make efforts to seek benefit of economic cooperation with China to soften the impact of revaluation of yuan, he said.

Both sides had already had good trade cooperation, he added. “We could find other opportunities actually (with) China,” he said. Last Friday, the Chinese Government revaluated yuan by 2.1 per cent to make it stronger against the US dollar.—**MNA/Xinhua**

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**Pakistan, Afghanistan agree to enhance trade cooperation**

**ISLAMABAD, 26 July —** Pakistan and Afghanistan have decided to take effective steps to further improve business to business interaction and enhance bilateral trade through further streamlining of procedures, holding single country exhibitions and establishment of joint chambers of commerce and industry.

The two countries have also decided to constitute a Pakistan-Afghan Joint Customs Committee, which will examine the issues relating to trade and transit trade and submit proposals for appropriate solutions.

The decisions were taken during the 5th Session of Pakistan-Afghan Joint Economic Commission held on 23 and 24 July in Kabul, according to a news release issued here on Monday.

The session was co-chaired by Salman Shah, Adviser to Pakistani Prime Minister on Finance and Revenue and Anwar-ul-Haq Aghadi, Afghan Minister of Finance.

Both delegations acknowledged deep historical, cultural and political relations between the two countries and hoped that the current momentum in translating excellent political relations into commercial and economic interaction would further cement the existing bilateral relations. —**MNA/Xinhua**

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**Roadside bomb in Iraq kills four US soldiers**

**BAGHDAD, 26 July —** A roadside bombing killed four American soldiers in southwestern Baghdad, the US command said on Tuesday, and 16 Iraqi government workers died in a hail of gunfire as they left work on the western edge of the capital.

The bloodshed occurred against a backdrop of intense deliberations to forge a new constitution by an Aug 15 deadline. A draft copy published on Tuesday in a government newspaper said Islam would be designated as the main source of legislation — a departure from the model set down by US authorities during the occupation.

A statement by the US command said the soldiers from Task Force Baghdad died on Sunday night when their vehicle ran over a roadside bomb in the southwest of the city. The statement gave no further details.

However, Jim Driscoll, a spokesman for the Georgia National Guard, said the victims were assigned to the 48th Infantry Brigade. They were the Georgia Guard unit’s first combat casualties since WW II.

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**One dead in N-E China earthquake**

**DANDONG (Heilongjiang), 27 July —** One man was confirmed dead in an earthquake which struck Dandong, a city in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, and 12 injured have received proper treatment in the local hospital. The earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter Scale hit Lindian County in Dandong City at 11:43 pm on Monday.

According to the local hospital, the earthquake led to the death of an 80-year-old man who had been suffering from cerebral thrombus and died of heart disease. —**MNA/Xinhua**
Vietnam calls for more investments in first open economic zone

QUANG NAM PROVINCE (Vietnam), 26 July—Vietnam is offering investment incentives to draw more foreign and local investors to the Chu Lai Open Economic Zone, the first of its kind in the country, which has attracted 116 projects totalling nearly 1.4 billion US dollars after two years of operation.

“We’ve been creating more and more favourable conditions for investors in Chu Lai. It is the investors that help gradually turn the central region into a strategic economic hub of our country,” said Nguyen Van Phuc, chairman of the People’s Committee of Quang Nam, on Sunday while addressing on the occasion marking the 2nd founding anniversaries of the zone in the central province.

Foreign and local investors in the zone are exempted from land rentals, which range from 0.01 to three dollars per square metre per annum, until 2015, provided their projects become operational before December 31, 2005, he said, noting that they are also exempted from corporate income tax, which stands at 10 per cent, for the first four profitable years, and offered a 50-per-cent reduction for following nine years.

In some special areas in the zone like the non-tariff area, goods and services imported from foreign countries or exported to them are exempted from import-export taxes, value-added taxes and special consumption taxes. Investors just need to have 30 per cent of their project’s capital, and can borrow the rest from local banks.—MNA/Xinhua

China calls for coal safety production

BEIJING, 26 July—The State Council, China’s Cabinet, issued recently a circular urging the healthy development of coal industry in order to improve coal safety production.

The circular calls for national supervision, local management and enterprises’ responsibility. The Chinese authorities will further improve the efficiency of coal production supervision, intensify coal safety inspection as well as promote coal security licence system, according to the circular.

The circular says that coal mine officials are required to go to the mines for work safety supervision. It also demands bigger investment in the coal mines, from the central and local governments as well as enterprises. All coal mines should allocate a certain amount of money as production security fees. The government should arrange certain money to support coal technological improvement.—MNA/Xinhua

ADB fines Philippines for project funding delays

MANILA, 26 July—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has penalized the Philippine Government for failing to spend part of the project funding earlier approved by the regional lender, local newspaper reported on Monday.

The government paid 4.3 million US dollars last year owing to delays in the implementation of approved official development assistance (ODA) projects, The Manila Times quoted a report issued by ADB as saying. In 2000 to 2003, commitment fees paid by the government averaged 7.2 million dollars.

The ADB-funded project disbursements in 2004 went down to 160.3 million dollars from 334.7 million dollars the year before. In its report, the ADB said the undisbursed loan balance has been significantly reduced, resulting in a substantial drop in commitment fees paid by the government.

“Average project implementation time has fallen sharply, getting quicker returns to intended beneficiaries,” the regional lender said.

The ADB, however, said project implementation continues to suffer from a variety of weaknesses such as serious delays in land acquisition and resettlement, lack of sufficient delegation of authority to implementation agents, and an over-reliance on contractual staff.

The bank also said that the country’s fiscal imbalance injects uncertainty into the ADB-Philippines partnership, permitting the government’s capacity to accommodate the lender’s main instruments of support, namely public sector loans.

The ADB said 90 per cent of public sector lending during 2001 to 2004 was off-budget through government owned and controlled corporations or government financial institutions.—MNA/Xinhua

Japan braces as tropical storm heads north

TOKYO, 26 July—A powerful tropical storm was moving slowly north towards Japan on Monday, threatening to make landfall by the end of the week along a coast that was hit by record number of deadly typhoons last year.

As of 0600 GMT, tropical storm Banyan, named after a tree common in tropical regions, was about 550 kilometres (342 miles) west northwest of Chichijima, an island about 1,000 kilometres south of Tokyo. The storm, with winds of up to 108 kilometres (67 miles) per hour, was heading north at 30 kilometres an hour and was likely to make landfall on Tuesday evening, an official at Japan’s Meteorological Agency said.

It was still too early to pinpoint exactly where the storm might come ashore, but there was a possibility that it could brush close to Tokyo, he added.

Mathematical Society marks its 70th anniversary in E China city

JIANGSU, 26 July—The annual session to mark the 70th anniversary of the founding the Chinese Mathematical Society was held on Monday in Weihai, a city in east China’s Shandong Province.

The annual session, co-sponsored by the Chinese Mathematical Society and the Shandong University, is considered the largest-ever commemorative academic event in the country’s maths science history.

About 400 mathematicians including 10 academicians from the Chinese Academy of Sciences were attending the session. Also attending the session were a large number of the world’s well-known mathematicians such as Yang Le, Zhan Gonggxiang, Ma Zhiming, Wen Lan from China as well as Efim Zelmanov, John Ball, Noga Alon, John Bourguinon, M Groetschel, NM Kat, YT Su from overseas. And mathematicians from Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Kenya and South Africa also attended the opening ceremony of the annual session.

The current annual session has the theme of “Chance and challenge confronting China’s Maths Circle”, which will unfold wide-scale academic exchanges.—MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam attracts more foreign investment in seven months

HANOI, 26 July—Vietnam is estimated to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) of 3.2 billion US dollars in the first seven months of this year, surging 66 per cent over the same period last year, first seven months, accounting for 50 per cent of the total, followed by the service and agriculture sectors, which made up 47 per cent and 3 per cent respectively, the department said, noting that biggest investors came from Luxembourg, Chinese Taiwan, Japan, South Korea and the United States. —MNA/Xinhua

Thai-Lao bridge collapse death toll rises to eight

BANGKOK, 26 July—Death toll of the collapsed Thai-Lao bridge has risen from one to eight, with six more bodies recovered, one injured dying in hospital and two still missing.

One section of the bridge on Thai-Lao border fell into the Mekong River on Friday, after hit by a collapsed crane on it. The collapse killed one Japanese engineer instantly, injured 11 workers and throwing eight into the river.

Bodies of six missing

A Chinese museum guide explains different sets of yuan notes for visitors at the Shanghai Bank Museum on 22 July, 2005.—INTERNET
**Yangon, 27 July** — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint called for cultivation of paddy and crops in Magway Division in order to reach its target of 1 million acres of paddy this year at a meeting with members of Magway Division agricultural supervisory committee on 25 July in Bagan.

At the meeting, he also urged the officials to make efforts for progress in building of dams and reservoirs in the region for irrigation purposes.

Magway Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe and officials reported on cultivation of summer paddy, crops, beans and pulses and targeted acres of monsoon paddy cultivation for 2005-2006 in the division.

Regarding the irrigation tasks, an official of the Irrigation Department also reported to Lt-Gen Ye Myint on arrangements for water supply through channels and conduit of Mezale, Salin and Linzin dams on Mone Creek.

After the meeting, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party went to Win Thuza Shop of the Ministry of Industry in Bagan Archaeological Region and inspected sales of medicines, household goods and foodstuffs. Later, they went to NyaungU District People’s Hospital and inspected intensive care unit, operation theatre, X-ray room and laboratory.

**Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects operation theatre at NyaungU District Hospital. — MNA**

Chinese Foreign Minister arrives to pay an official visit

**Yangon, 27 July** — At the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Win, Foreign Minister of the People’s Republic of China Mr Li Zhaoxing and delegation arrived at Yangon International Airport by special flight this evening on an official visit to the Union of Myanmar.

The visiting Chinese Foreign Minister and party were welcomed at the airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and embassy staff.

The Chinese Minister was accompanied by Deputy Director-General Mr Wang Donghua, Counselor Mr Zhang Kunsheng and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of PRC.

**Cyber Game Exhibition 2005 opened**

**Yangon, 27 July** — Cyber Game Exhibition 2005, the first kind in Myanmar, opened this morning at MICT Park in Hline Township, here.

Vice-Chairman of e-National Task Force U Aung Myint, Managing Director U Aung Zaw Myint of MICT DC and Chairman of the Organizing Committee for Holding the Exhibition U Hla Myint Oo cut the ribbon to open the exhibition. Next, U Aung Zaw Myint made an opening address. U Hla Myint Oo explained the purpose of holding the exhibition.

Next, officials viewed the booths displayed at the exhibition. Smart Computer Technology (MSI) and Loi Hein company (Alpine) sponsored the Counter Strike contest which is divided into two categories—professional and amateur levels.

The competitions focused on exchanging experience on writing or programmes for 3D games and demonstration of 3D games written by Myanmar youths. Those interested may visit the exhibition from 27 to 30 July and final matches of Counter Strike contests will be held on 31 July together with the prize presentation ceremony.

**Victorious Myanmar Archery team seen with Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and officials. — NEM**

President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Khin Shwe, Vice-President Dr Zaw Tun, Manager U Kyaw Oo and Coach Daw Myat Thuzar Myint also arrived back on the same flight.

Chinese delegation being welcomed by officials at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

**Yangon, 27 July** — At the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Win, Foreign Minister of the People’s Republic of China Mr Li Zhaoxing and delegation arrived at Yangon International Airport by special flight this evening on an official visit to the Union of Myanmar.

**Lt-Gen Ye Myint views booth of Smart Computer Technology (MSI). — MCT DC**

**Donate Blood**

**Yangon, 27 July** — The victorious Myanmar Archery team arrived back here by air this afternoon. They were welcomed back at the airport by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Director-General U Thaung Htaik of Sports and Physical Education Department and officials.

Myanmar stood first in the competitions with five gold, seven silver and six bronze, host Malaysia second and Singapore third. Altogether six countries—host Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and Iran—took part in the National Invitational Archery Championship held in Malaysia from 20 to 25 July.

**Victorious Myanmar Archery team arrives back**

**MNA**
of Myanmar Fire Brigade and Secretary-General Dr U Saw Hla Tun of Myanmar Medicine and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association.

Daw Aye Aye Maw and Daw Kathy acted as masters of ceremonies.

First, Daw Aye Aye Maw read the agenda of the mass meeting.

Next, the president and members of the Panel of Chairmen took designated places.

Those present saluted the State Flag.

Next, Chairman of the meeting, Joint-Secretary U Tha Win of Yangon Division USDA made an opening speech. (The speech of the chairman is reported separately.)

Afterwards, representative of USDA U Thet Naing Oo discussed matters on guarding against the danger posed by destructionists through unity of people. (The discussion is reported separately.)

Next, representative of Myanmar workers Daw Tin Marlar Myint of Mingaladon Township made discussions. (The discussion is reported separately.)

Afterwards, representative of USDA Secretary of Yangon South District USDA U Lwin Oo seconded the discussions on guarding against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people and actively participating in implementation of the Seven-point policy programme of the State, endeavours made for stability of the State and nation-building tasks upholding Our Three Main National Causes with Union Spirit. (The discussion is reported separately.)

Next, the chairman sought the approval of those present on guarding against the danger posed by destructionists through unity of people and actively participating in implementation of the Seven-point policy programme of the State and endeavours made for stability of the State and nation-building tasks upholding Our Three Main National Causes with Union Spirit. Those present unanimously approved the matters and the chairman declared the discussions were approved.

The mass meeting successfully ended at 10.20 am with chanting the slogans. —MNA
Yangon, 27 July — The following is the translation of Daw Thuzar Lin, representative of MWAF, at the mass meeting at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township today.

She said the Government is making strenuous efforts day in and day out in all sectors for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In doing so, the people hand in hand with social organizations are participating in realizing the State objectives in accord with the national policies. At the same time, some internal and external elements holding negative views and some big nations are fabricating news in all aspects to put pressure on the government in various ways and means.

Besides, some traitors in Myanmar put the country and the people into the misery to gain State power with the excuses of politics, taking the international assistance by all means. They called for the imposing of economic sanctions on Myanmar, asking tourists not to visit Myanmar, and ceasing the membership of Myanmar from UN, ILO and ASEAN leading to the utter devastation.

Due to their commitments, some big countries imposed economic sanctions and hindered tourists from visiting Myanmar. As a result, some factories were closed down and workers faced unemployment together with social evils. In fact, it was violation of human rights. Those who flouted human rights in reality, also make accusations that there are violations of human rights in Myanmar.

But, on the other hand, in western bloc there are also some persons with positive attitude towards Myanmar such as former American Finance Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, Chief Executive Officer of United Technologies Corporation Chairman of American-ASEAN Economic Council George David who called for the imposing of economic sanctions were also very silly. Myanmar, on its part, is making strenuous efforts based on internal strength in the interests of the State and the people without losing sight of the goal.

In conclusion, she said it is necessary to strive steadfastly for the emergence of peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation that the entire national people long for, and to ward off the danger of internal and external destructionists who are disturbing the aim of the people, through the united strength. —MNA

In absence of stability and national unity, it is impossible to strive for development of the country

Yangon, 27 July — The following is the translation of the speech of Dr Nay Yi Yi Lin, representative of MMCWA, at the mass meeting at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township today.

She said that all the national brethren have been residing in Myanmar since time immemorial through thick and thin. Myanmar national races have been residing in the country unitedly with own monarchs for years countable by the thousand.

In the 19th Century, Myanmar was enslaved by colonialists. Myanmar national people struggled for regaining the independence and sovereignty of the State with Union Spirit, patriotism and nationalist spirit sacrificing their lives, blood and sweat. The instigation of the colonialists undermined the national solidarity and led to the internal armed conflict in Myanmar after regaining independence.

In the absence of stability and national unity, it is impossible to strive for development of the country. Peace and tranquility of the State, growth of national economy, national unity and non-disintegration of the Union are interrelated.

Therefore, the Government has laid down and is implementing Our Three Main National Causes as the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

Neo-colonialists disturbed and destabilized East European countries. In doing so, the neo-colonialists disintegrated these countries through economic, political, diplomatic and propaganda methods using internal stouges. Furthermore, they committed terrorist acts in some cases.

In conclusion, she urged all the representatives to uphold the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, that the spirit of peace and tranquility, that of unity that of sharing and that of nation-building are the theme of Union Spirit, and sustain the progress of the nation and participate in successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map with the national unity, safeguarding peace and tranquility of the State.

—MNA

Myanmar, on its part, making strenuous efforts based on internal strength for interests of the State and the people without losing sight of the goal

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People in the tasks with unity for success of the seven-point Road Map under the leadership of the State Peace and Development Council

MWVO delegate Lt-Col Min Han (Retd) reports on cooperation in nation-building projects with full Union Spirit.

YANGON, 27 July — The following is the translation of the discussion made by delegate of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Lt-Col Min Han (Retd) on cooperation in nation-building projects with full Union Spirit for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map upholding Our Three Main National Causes at the mass meeting on prevention against the danger of external and internal destructive elements with the united strength of the people at Myanmar Convention Centre on Minzawunna Road, Mayangon Township today.

Member of Yangon Division WVO Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Min Han (Retd) said he would like to present the motion on cooperation in the nation-building projects with full Union Spirit for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map upholding Our Three Main National Causes. He said now is the time the government is making efforts for development of every sector with the objectives to enable the Union of Myanmar to develop in keeping with the progress of international communities, to become strong national economic life and to raise the quality of life of the national people.

With the prevaleance of peace and stability, the government has been implementing the border areas and national races development project since 1989. It is also undertaking drug control project for eradication of narcotic drugs. However, a big western nation and its allies criticized Myanmar government that drug control program was unsatisfactory. Myanna Tamdaw launched anti-drug operations from 1988 to 1998. Altogether 766 Tmadaw members sacrificed their lives and 2,292 were wounded during the operations. Though Myanmar government fought against the danger of narcotic drugs, they made false accusations on Myanmar. Mr Richard Horn of US Drug Enforcement Agency filed a lawsuit against his government and CIA. Once ambassadors William J C Bod and David Mackey of US Embassy in Yangon resigned from their posts.

The National Convention representing the delegates from all strata of the mass and class organizations was held on 17 May 2004. On completion of the National Convention, other steps are to be undertaken. All the people are to participate in the respective roles with full Union Spirit. He stressed the importance of the restoration of discipline-flourishing democratic system in efforts to build a peaceful, modern developed democratic nation. He urged the people to participate in the tasks with unity for success of the seven-point Road Map under the leadership of the State Peace and Development Council.

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International Labour Organization-ILO turns a blind eye to garment factory workers’ suffering

Representative of Myanmar entrepreneurs.

Garment factories were emerged in Myanmar in accord with the market oriented system of the State. Since 1990, the industry has rapidly developed. The number of garment factories increased from 65 in 1996 to 400 in year 2000. Likewise, the number of workers grew from over 50,000 in 1996 to 300,000 in year 2000.

Due to the instigation of internal and external elements, one big country had tried to impose economic sanctions on Myanmar since 1997. In 2001, a total of 6,161 workers lost their jobs as a direct consequence of Massachusetts Selected Purchasing Law and Senate Bill S-926. As 257 factories had not received orders four years ago 234164 workers lost their jobs. Moreover, some countries accused Myanmar of practising child labour and forced labour.

Worst of all, economic sanction was imposed against Myanmar in July, 2003. A total of 160 garment factories had to be closed down. The closure left over 70,000 female workers and over 10,000 male workers jobless. Moreover, as a result of the closure, over 400,000 families face hardships.

Garment factories in Myanmar in accord with the market oriented system of the State. Since 1990, the industry has rapidly developed. The Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs Association reported on mass meeting.

YANGON, 27 July — Following is a translation of a speech of Chairman of Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs Association U Myint Soe.

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Moreover, as a result of the closure, over 400,000 families face hardships.

International Labour Organization-ILO also turned a blind eye to the garment factory workers’ suffering. Myanmar became a member of ILO on 15 May, 1948. There were no disputes between Myanmar and ILO.

However, since 1990, ILO has tried to put pressure on Myanmar and interfere in political affairs of the State on the pretext of labour affairs. It is Pyithu Nyunt Wai who has accused Myanmar of practising forced labour.

Action was taken against him for loss of jewellery at Gems Shop of Myanna Gems Corporation. However, he sneaked into a neighbouring country. He also committed terrorist acts in Myanmar. However, ILO believes the groundless accusations made by Pyithu Nyunt Wai. That is why Myanmar workers denounced Pyithu Nyunt Wai and ILO.

After economic sanction was imposed on Myanmar, garment businessmen have paid K 2.1 billion in compensation and could not invest in other business. It is a great loss to the State.

In conclusion, he called on the people to build modern, developed democratic nation while preventing the dangers posed by the internal and external destructive elements who hinder the development of the State.

Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs Association U Myint Soe.

Yangon, 27 July — The following is the translation of the discussion made by delegate of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Lt-Col Min Han (Retd) on cooperation in nation-building projects with full Union Spirit for successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map upholding Our Three Main National Causes at the mass meeting on prevention against the danger of external and internal destructive elements with the united strength of the people at Myanmar Convention Centre on Minzawunna Road, Mayangon Township today.

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In conclusion, he called on the people to build modern, developed democratic nation while preventing the dangers posed by the internal and external destructive elements who hinder the development of the State.
Ward off internal, external destructive... (from page 16) It is known to all that all the members are serving the interests of the people, following the objectives, duties and disciplines of the association. The State Peace and Development Council has laid down the seven-point Road Map. As all the entire national people are participating in the drive to translate future policy of the state in full swing, the state has already achieved successes to some degree. At a time when efforts are being made for the emergence of a new modern developed nation under the leadership of Tatmadaw government, internal and external destructive elements are creating a series of groundless allegations to hinder its development. MWF released the message on 3 July which fell on Myanmar Women’s Day. In its message it said that some big nations put pressure to impose economic sanction on Myanmar. Myanmar suffered loss of cash assistance and international loan, foreign investment and hotel and tourism services. As a result that garment factories with foreign investment were closed down, the workers lost their jobs. Therefore, those present are to present suggestions to tackle these hindrances at the mass meeting. Head of the State Senior General Than Shwe attended Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference and he said that Tatmadaw is to hand over the power of the State to the people. So it is implementing ongoing seven-point Road Map. But, some big nations are blocking the nation. Therefore, Tatmadaw is to go ahead with its objectives for betterment of the country. All in all, he urged those present to ward off internal and external destructive elements who are disturbing the tasks being carried out for emergence of a new modern developed nation through the united strength of the people. MNA

Traitorous groups disguising themselves as democracy activists... (from page 16) The FTUB formed with Myanmar fugitives is using the ILO as a forum to attack Myanmar. Some big western nations wishing to install a puppet government in Myanmar are also using the ILO as a political podium. The SSA led by Yaw Sit under the guise of a Shan State liberation group is engaging in drug trafficking for self-interest. The traitorous bands including NCUB, NCGUB, KNPP, NLD (LA) and ABSDF disguising themselves as democracy activists in the international arena are self-seekers begging financial assistance from foreign countries. These groups are committing terrorist acts to destroy lives and property of the Myanmar people and peace and stability. There was loss of lives, injury and destruction to property because of their inhuman acts to blow up bombs at crowded places. The BCP whose days are numbered, is using NCGUB and NUCB as its backbone, and has formed alliance with a political party and other political groups in the nation with the aim of launching persecution to destroy the nation. At a time when the nation is enjoying the fruits of the collective efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the subotters are trying to disturb and destroy the nation. Thus, the people should regard them as the common enemy and should crush them. MNA

ILO has no dignity and it has destroyed its fundamental principles

Daw Tin Marlar
Myint of Mingaladon Township.
MNA

Yangon, 27 July — The following is a translation of the speech made by Daw Tin Marlar Myint of Mingaladon Township at the mass meeting held at Myanmar Convention Centre today. Based on the wrong decision made by the ILO in 2000, the US government imposed economic sanctions on Myanmar severely hitting the private and cooperative industries. Because of the sanctions, 160 factories had to close down and another 40 had to reduce the working force. Thus, over 80,000 workers were laid off. Of them 70,000 are women. Families depending on their income are suffering from financial problems. The real culprit is terrorist Pyithut Nyunt Wai who filed a false complaint against Myanmar to the ICFTU and ILO just to get money in an easy way. He is making lies as if the entire nation is under forced labour. But the ILO is believing his lies. Believing the baseless information sent to them by an individual person, a big nation and its allies are imposing economic sanctions on Myanmar, a developing nation. A secure life is important for every human being. As most of the garment factory workers are women the fact is of vital importance for them. As the industries closed down, many unemployed workers have to end the days without any income. They have become vulnerable to the human traffickers.

It is regrettable that ILO held the concept of making others obey its resolutions. It also ignored the unemployment and difficulties of workers. The primary objective of ILO is to help enjoy the equal rights for both men and women and to promote job opportunities. In practice, their actions do not agree to their principles. Western nations make use of economic sanctions as a political weapon. The duty of ILO is to prevent such actions. That is why ILO has no dignity and it has destroyed its fundamental principles. Myanmar cooperated with ILO as far as possible. ILO practised the resolutions of 2000 at its 2005 conference.

One of the points includes no-foreign investment in Myanmar. It is vividly seen that it is just a political pressure, not workers’ issue. Due to ILO’s actions and political pressure of some western nations excluding big nations Myanmar workers lost jobs and they faced with negative consequences.

Therefore Myanmar’s participation in ILO produces negative results. It is up to the government to decide whether Myanmar should participate in ILO. She would agree to the government’s decision. —MNA

Discussions of representatives reflect objective conditions in Myanmar

Yangon, 27 July — The following is a translation of the speech of U Lwin Oo, Secretary of Yangon South District USDA, at the mass meeting at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township today.

He said that U Thet Naing Oo, representative of USDA and Daw Thuza Lin, representative of MWAF, discussed prevention against internal and external destructionists with united strength of the people; Dr Nay Yi Yi Lin, representative of MMCWA and Li-Coi Min Han (Retd), representative of MWVO, reported on participation with Union Spirit in realizing peace and tranquillity of the State, development tasks and the seven-point Road Map of the State upholding Our Three Main National Causes.

Likewise, Chairman of Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs Association U Myint Soe, and Daw Tin Marlar Myint, representative of garment factory workers, discussed matters related to unjust actions of ILO taken against Myanmar. He added that discussions of the representatives reflect objective conditions in Myanmar.

So, he said, he supported their presentations and sought the approval for those reports from the participants of the mass meeting. MNA
Riyadh, 26 July — The United States imposed a travel ban on military personnel in Saudi Arabia on Monday in response to what it said were continued signs that militants could be preparing attacks.

The ban follows a United States warning last Wednesday that militants might strike in the world's biggest oil exporter. The US Embassy said at the time it did not know when, where or how the attack might take place. “In response to continued indications of operational planning for a terrorist attack or attacks in the kingdom, US military personnel stationed in Saudi Arabia have been instructed to suspend all non-duty-related leisure travel outside of their work or housing,” an embassy spokesman said.

“As noted in the messages of July 20th the embassy has no specific information concerning the timing, target or method.”

Most of the US forces stationed in Saudi Arabia since the 1990-91 Gulf Crisis were withdrawn in 2003, but military personnel guard the US Embassy in Riyadh and serve as advisers to Saudi forces.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair apologized on Monday after anti-terror police shot dead an innocent Brazilian in south London in the pursuit of suicide bombers.

“We are desperately sorry for the death of an innocent person and I understand entirely the feelings of the young man's family,” he said.

But he appealed for understanding of and support for the police, who are doing their job “very, very difficult circumstances” and it was important they had public support.

Blair said if it had turned out to be a terrorist and the police had not taken action, they would have been criticized for that.

“It is important that we allow the police and support them in doing the job they have to do in order to protect people in this country.”

He also called for the public to come forward with information about the suspected bombers saying “It is part of our duty in order to protect our country that people come forward and give the police the information they can.”

But he added that the vast majority of people will want to cooperate with the police in that way,” he added.

Annan calls for cooperation between UN regional organizations

United Nations, 26 July — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Monday called for the cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations to work together more closely for the peace and prosperity of the world. Opening the Sixth High-Level Meeting of heads of regional and inter-governmental organizations, Annan said the events that have shaken the international community so profoundly in recent years have produced a crisis of confidence in the ability of the multilateral institutions, including the United Nations and the multilateral system, to cope with the challenges of our time.

Yet moments of crisis carry seeds of opportunity — offering us the chance to react with a positive spirit and decisive political will,” he said. “In this way, we can open the door to action for much-needed renewal of our multilateral institutions.”

The Secretary-General noted that the relationship between the United Nations and regional and individual organizations will also be a critical part of the discussion at the September's World Summit.

He called for closer cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, saying “we need better structured and more efficient channels of cooperation”.

“We need agreements between the United Nations and individual organizations to govern the sharing of information, expertise and resources.”

Second militant group claims Sharm el-Sheikh bombings

CAIRO, 26 July — A second militant group has claimed in an Internet statement deadly bombings that rocked the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh on Saturday.

The group, calling itself Mujahedin Egypt, said it had carried out the attacks, in a statement posted on the same web site.

Soon after the attacks, an al-Qaeda linked group claimed responsibility for the attacks, an al-Qaeda linked group also called for the public to cooperate with the police, who are doing their job “very, very difficult circumstances” and it was important they had public support.

The authenticity of the claims would not be verified.

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 28 July, 2005

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Brazil says still no deal with Abbott on AIDS drug

Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), 26 July—Brazil has not abandoned its threat to break AIDS drug patents and has yet to strike a deal with US firm Abbott Laboratories to get hold of its technology or buy it at a discount, a government official said on Monday.

Earlier this month, just as one Brazilian Health Minister stepped down and a new one had not yet taken over, Abbott and the Health Ministry said they reached a long-term price-reduction deal for Abbott’s Kaletra AIDS drug.

Since then, officials have questioned whether any deal was reached. On Monday the head of Brazil’s AIDS treatment programme Pedro Chequer said there was “no document obliging the government to fulfil what has been proposed”.

Speaking on the fringes of an international AIDS conference, he said the statement released on 8 July was only Abbott’s proposal and that the South American country could not accept it, having rejected Abbott’s much-lauded free AIDS programme.

Illinois-based Abbott said on 8 July that Brazil was getting volume discounts as the country pledged to nearly triple the number of patients treated with Kaletra in six years. It said it would start to transfer its technology in 2015.

“The new minister has taken over and analyzed the situation. First of all there was no deal, which is very good as what Abbott proposed is not what we understand in our interests of our country,” Chequer told reporters.

British police name two suspects in bombing probe

London, 26 July—British police on Monday named two suspects wanted for trying to set off bombs across London’s transport network last week as they scrambled to track down the attackers seeking since releasing five.

The botched attacks raised fears among Londoners that the city could be a frequent target for Islamist militants, coming just two weeks after suicide bombers killed 52 people July 7.

Anxious to get public attention back on the search for the attackers after killing a Brazilian electrician in error, police named two of the four suspects they have been seeking since releasing security camera images last week.

I hope that by setting out some of what we have been able to learn over the past few days, the public may be able to contribute even more to the progress of the investigation,” London’s anti-terrorist police chief Peter Clarke said.

He named the two as Yasin Hassan Omar, 24, and Muktar Said Ibrahim or Muktar Mohammed Said, aged 27. Police searched a house in north London that Omar had recently visited.

Clarke did not say whether they were Britons or foreigners. The four men who carried out the 7 July attacks—which officials have linked to al-Qaeda—were all British Muslims, three of them of Pakistani origin.

Clarke also revealed a bomb abandoned in a park in west London was similar to those from the failed attacks.

Police were trying to establish if the device belonged to a fifth man or if one of the attackers had carried two bombs.

Two people were arrested on Monday as part of the investigation, bringing the total held to five.

Space Shuttle Discovery is seen on Launch Pad B at Kennedy Space Center, Fla., early on 26 July, 2005. Discovery and a crew of seven were set to blast off for the international space station on Tuesday morning.—INTERNET

China, Japan confirm migratory behaviour of Yangtze cowfish

Nanchang, 26 July—Scientists from China and Japan recently started co-monitoring on the migratory behaviour of the endangered Yangtze cowfish (Neophocaena Phoecaenoides) at a local section of the river in east China’s Jiangxi Province.

The joint observation discovered the Yangtze cowfish had migratory behaviours.

Hydrobiologists with the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Dr Akamatsu Tomonari, a Japanese acoustics expert on aquatic life, have worked together with the branch of the Jiangxi Cowfish Aid Centre located at Hukou county in this study.

Whether the Yangtze cowfish migrates in rivers and lakes has for long puzzled hydrobiologists. Dr Akamatsu Tomonari and experts with the CAS have launched three observations since 1996 in the Balijiang water area, one of the most intensely populated habitats of the Yangtze cowfish along the Yangtze river valley.

The Chinese and Japanese scientists observed 20 cowfish swimming and frolicking earlier this month.

First group of Chinese tourist kick off their Britain tour

London, 26 July—In what is described as “perhaps the world’s greatest museum of art and design,” the Victoria & Albert Museum, the first tourist group from China kicked off their 6-day visit to Britain.

Lord Marshall of London, Marshall said, adding with fierce competition for Chinese visitors from destinations around the world, the week-long visit is a great opportunity for Britain to “truly shine as a world-class destination.”

The 80-strong Chinese group, with the youngest at 71, are to tour the city of London, Oxford, stadiums in Liverpool and Manchester, where the football clubs are known as “The Reds” in China. The first Chinese tourist group are to receive VIP welcome in their 6-day stay in the country merely days after the second

Experts pinpoint virus in unknown disease in S-China

Ziyang (Sichuan Province), 26 July—Preliminary investigation shows the unknown disease in southwest China’s Sichuan Province was caused by a kind of a swine virus known as streptococcus II.

The province has reported 80 cases of the mysterious disease as of Monday morning, including 13 suspected cases, and 19 fatalities and 17 case of illness, said Wu Jialiang, an expert with the Sichuan Provincial Disease Control Centre. Four people have recovered and were discharged from hospital, while the others are still being treated at local hospitals, Wu said.

The patients came from 75 villages in 40 townships in cities and counties including Ziyang City, Jiangyang City, Lezhi County and Zichong County in Neijiang City.

All the patients had direct contact with ill or dead pigs before showing symptoms, said Chen Zhihao, director of the emergency team of clinical experience.

The patients first reported symptoms of fever, weakness and sickness, and then got symptoms of vomiting, coughing and shock. Their number of the white blood cells has also been soaring along with the degeneration of the disease.—MNA/Xinhua

Talks on UNSC expansion to continue

London, 26 July—Foreign ministers from Brazil, Germany, Japan and India said on Monday they would work with African nations to formulate a joint proposal for UN Security Council expansion.

The move came after the four—contenders for new permanent seats on the Council—failed to win support from the African Union for their own plan at a meeting in London.

Both sides want an expansion of the 15-member Council, whose composition reflects the balance of power at the end of World War II, but they have rival proposals.

“We have both come to the conclusion that unless we work together to present one draft resolution, the reform of the United Nations will not go forward,” Nigerian Foreign Minister Obyomnuwa said.

Ministers gave only vague details of the new plan and said they would work together in the coming weeks.

China has proposed 10 candidates, while the others are to enlarge the Security Council from 25 to 25 their international status.

The G-4 put forward six new permanent seats, including two for Africa, but new members would not have a power of veto.

All four countries have proposed the two-thirds of confirmation of the Council and they need substantial support from the 53-member African Union.

The African body wants to enlarge the Council to 26 seats. Its proposal for six new permanent seats is the same as the G-4 except that it would give the new members veto privileges.

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Late goals clinch historic win for Anorthosis

NICOSSA, 27 July — Cypriot side Anorthosis Famagusta scored twice in the final seven minutes on Tuesday to secure a historic 3-1 victory against Turkey’s Trabzonspor in the first match between teams from the two countries in more than three decades.

The Champions League second qualifying round, first leg fixture, deemed high risk by UEFA because of the political tensions on the island — ethnically divided between its Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities — passed off without incident.

A 1,500 strong crowd of Turkish Cypriots was segregated by police and barbed wire away from 15,000 Greek Cypriots, with the fixture bearing all the hallmarks of a grudge game laced with insults, boos and heckles, although the bad mood failed to filter through to the pitch.

Trabzonspor began strongly with Mehmet Yilmaz and Volkan Becmez wasting good chances but the home side went ahead on 24 minutes though Nicos Nicolaou’s close-range strike.

The Turkish side suffered a further blow on the stroke of halftime when Ibrahim Yattara was sent off for picking up two yellow cards in as many minutes.

Cypriot champions Anorthosis should have doubled their lead on 50 minutes, however, French striker Djibril Cisse reacting quickly to a knock down from his partner Peter Crouch andhooking the ball into the net from eight metres.

The visitors went ahead on the half hour when defender Jamie Carragher headed Steven Gerrard’s corner firmly into the net, his first goal for six years.

Gerrard made and scored the third goal nine minutes after halftime, converting a penalty after one of his trademark surges into the area was thwarted by a foul. Liverpool coach Rafael Benitez was able to substitute Gerrard and other key players in the second half as his side protected their two-goal cushion comfortably for the second leg at Anfield next week.

“...It was a difficult game but in the end it’s a good result for us,” Benitez told Sky Sports. “We had the game under control, we made one mistake but we had many chances.”

MNA/Reuters

Liverpool rally to win 3-1 at Kaunas

LONDON, 27 July — European champions Liverpool came from behind to beat FBK Kaunas of Lithuania 3-1 in the away leg of their Champions League second round qualifier on Tuesday. The Premier League side conceded a shock goal in the 21st minute when Gedrius Bareviuscibis bundled the ball over the line from close range after Arturas Rimkevicius had burst past Sami Hyypiä and crossed from the right.

Liverpool were behind for only six minutes, however. French striker Djibril Cisse reacting quickly to a knock down from his partner Peter Crouch and hooking the ball into the net from eight metres.

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MNA/Reuters

Late Stranzl strike sends Stuttgart into League Cup final

MUNICH, 27 July — A last-minute goal from Martin Stranzl sent VfB Stuttgart through to the League Cup final with a 2-1 win over holders Bayern Munich and made it a triumphant return to Bavaria for Giovanni Trapattoni on Tuesday.

Bayern took an early lead with a Roy Makaay header but Thomas Hitzlsperger’s long-range blast brought Stuttgart level in the 21st minute.

Makaay missed a penalty nine minutes from time before full back Stranzl converted with the last attack of the game, following a great piece of hold-up play from Denmark striker Jon Dahl Tomasson.

Italian coach Trapattoni, who had two spells at Bayern before returning to Germany to take over at Stuttgart last month, will lead his side into the final in Leipzig on August 2 against Schalke 04 or Werder Bremen, who meet in the second semi-final on Wednesday.

Bayern, who won the low-key pre-season title last year before going on to clinch a league and cup double, were missing influential midfielder Michael Ballack but still created enough chances in the first half to have the game wrapped up.

Roque Santa Cruz missed the best of them after 11 minutes after being teed up by Hasan Salihamidzic. Makaay’s header, squeezed between the legs of keeper Timo Hildebrand after 18 minutes and Bayern, in complete control, looked to be in for a comfortable win.

MNA/Reuters

Rijkaard stays in Barcelona until 2009

MADRID, 27 July — Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard has committed himself to the Spanish champions Barcelona until 2009. “We have reached an agreement with the club and I will sign the contract after the Asian season,” said Rijkaard in his first press conference on Tuesday at the club’s pre-season training camp in Denmark.

“The club has shown confidence in me and the coaching staff. Now the most important thing is to get on and enjoy the day to day work at the club.”

MNA/Xinhua

Goor sparkles as five-goal Anderlecht crush Neftchi Baku

BRUSSELS, 27 July — Bart Goor scored one goal and set up another as Anderlecht cruised past Neftchi Baku of Azerbaijan 5-0 in their Champions League second qualifying round first leg match on Tuesday.

The Belgians dominated the first half and were four goals up at the interval.

Hanan Tihinen opened the scoring in the 22nd minute when he headed in a corner from Goor.

Anderlecht doubled their tally two minutes later, Nenad Jestrovic heading in a perfect cross from Swedish international Christian Wilhelmsson.

A third headed goal in the 32nd minute from Mbo Mpenza put the Belgians firmly in control.

MNA/Reuters
Premier League and FA Cup live on Myawady TV

YANGON, 27 July—The introduction of the live airing of Premier League and FA Cup soccer tournaments jointly conducted by Myawady TV and Yangon Entertainment took place at Traders’ Hotel on 24 July.

Officials of Yangon Entertainment explained that Premier League and FA Cup soccer tournaments will be broadcast live every Saturday and Sunday on Myawady TV after the 8 pm news starting from 13 August.

Managing Director Daw Tin Tin Thet of Yangon Entertainment explains sponsorship for telecasting EPL and FA matches live. — MNA

Flood Warning

Issued at (13:00) hrs MST on 27-7-2005

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation, the water-level of Shwelyin River at Shwelyin is (631) cm. The water-level may reach its danger level (750) cm during the next 24 hrs commencing noon today.

Weather

Wednesday, 27 July, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST. During the past 24 hrs, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain have been isolated in lower Sagan and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayin State and Mandaly Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated heavyfalls in Kayin State, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thanayaz (705) inches, Dawei (5.99) inches, Sittway and Shwelyin (5.39) inches each, Mawlamyne (5.35) inches, Gwa (5.20) inches, Thaung (4.80) inches, Thandwe (4.49) inches, Maubin (4.33) inches, Ye (4.25) inches, Pather (4.06) inches, Launglon (3.94) inches, Hpa-an (3.78) inches, Mudon (3.66) inches and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) 3.27 inches.

Maximum temperature on 26-7-2005 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 27-7-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9.30 hrs MST on 27-7-2005 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 26-7-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 27-7-2005 were 2.95 inches at Mingladon, 3.27 inches at Kaba-Aye, 2.60 inches at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were 45.51 inches at Mingladon, 44.88 inches at Kaba-Aye and 49.49 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Southwest at (16:25) hrs MST on 26-7-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay has become unimportant. Monsun is strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 28-7-2005: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State and lower Sagan and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin, Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagan, Mandaly Division and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States, Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: General strong monsoon. Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-7-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandaly and neighbouring area for 28-7-2005: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Condolence

We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family of Haji Mohd. Yaseen of Dawood World Wide Moving Services Co., Ltd., 29/31, 3rd Street, Pauktau Township, Yangon.}

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Condolence

We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family of Haji Mohd. Yaseen of Dawood World Wide MOVING SERVICES at the tragic loss of his beloved mother as she passed peacefully on 20th July, 2005. We share our grief and sympathy with the bereaved family.

Inserted by Management Staff of Dawood World Wide Moving Services Co., Ltd., 29/31, 3rd Street, Pauktau Township, Yangon.
YANGON, 27 July — The following is the translation of the speech made by U Thet Naing Oo, executive of Dagon Myothit (East) Township USDA, at the mass meeting held at Myanmar Convention Centre today:

He said: All the people are striving in unity for emergence of a modern and developed nation with the leadership of the Tatmadaw. Destructive elements from inside and outside the nation are trying to harm the nation by all possible means. But some destructive groups and their lackeys are making false accusations against the nation. Some big nations of the west that do not know the tradition are also making lopsided accusations on the nation while ignoring the government’s accomplishments.

The US-based Council of Foreign Relations has made a baseless slander saying that the four routes of HIV infection originate in Myanmar. Concerning the matter, the Ministry of Health, the WHO and UNAIDS issued a joint statement refuting the accusation. Destructive elements from inside and outside the nation are trying to harm the nation by all possible means. But the neighbours, other friendly nations and UN agencies including UNDP, UNICEF and WHO are providing assistance to Myanmar. Their assistance is contributing to the five rural development tasks. We thank them for it.

(See page 11)