Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

A handful of people and some nations interfere in internal affairs of the country and put pressure on it under the pretext of human rights and democracy. Wipe out those who harm Our Three Main National Causes and any acts that could lead to disintegration of the Union.

YANGON, 10 Aug — The mass meeting focusing “Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people” was held at the town hall in Pathein on 3 August. Present on the occasion were executives of Ayeyawady Division Union Solidarity and Development Association and members of Division, District and Township USAs, Women’s Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society, Fire Brigade and social organizations and local people.

Executive of Ayeyawady Division USDA Dr Soe Thura presided over the meeting with leader of health group of Division Women’s Affairs Organization Dr Khin Khin Si, member of Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Aye Aye Mu, Chairman of Myaungmya Township War Veterans Organization Li-Coil Nay Win (Retd), Deputy Commanding Officer of Myaungmya Township Red Cross Brigade U San Win, Deputy Commanding Officer of Pathein Township Fire Brigade U Than Naing Oo and townselder U Soe Myint as members of the panel of chairmen.

Member of USDA Daw Aye Mya Mya Win acted as master of ceremonies with Daw Thanda Kyaw. Members of the Panel of Chairmen and those present saluted the State Flag. Chairman Dr Soe Thura delivered an address. He said altogether four million USDA members — 850,000 students, 400,000 workers, 1.9 million peasants and 900,000 other members are taking part in the development tasks. All the citizens can enjoy progress which they never dreamt of.

The Head of State is providing requirements for raising of the living standard of the people such as building roads and bridges for ensuring better transport, dams and river water pumping projects for agricultural development (See page 8)

Union Spirit is the oneness of the entire people living in any part of the nation under the single State Flag. The Union Spirit is essential in building a nation. All the citizens must realize the value of the Union, sovereignty, Independence and Union Spirit upholding non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Thursday, 11 August, 2005**

Through successful convening of National Convention

It is known to the world that the Union of Myanmar has laid down the seven-point policy programme for the future of the nation and is holding the National Convention, the first and most important stage of the programme. The purpose of the National Convention is to lay down detailed basic principles and to draft the Constitution based on them. Then it will be approved in a democratic way.

The National Convention Convening Commission, the Work Committee and the Management Committee held the work coordination meeting No 7/2005 at the Nyaungshapin Camp in Hmawby Township on 9 August and it was attended by Chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission Secretary-I of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein. In his address at the meeting, the Secretary-I said that the National Convention was adjourned on 31 March this year and at the same time it was announced that it would resume before the end of this year. He added that the Commission, the Work Committee and the Management Committee were to discuss ways and means for making necessary preparations in time.

The Tatmadaw Government has been working day and night for the development of the nation and at the same time translating the seven-point policy programme into reality for the emergence of democracy the entire mass of the people have longed for. Therefore, the government is making every endeavour to ensure the complete success of the National Convention and it is necessary for all national people to take an active part in the implementation of the policy programme with national spirit and Union Spirit.

There are different types of democracy in the world. It is impossible in any way for us to copy the type of democracy practised by Western nations because of differences in cultures, customs and traditions of the Orient and the Occident. Myanmar will have to practice a democratic system that is in conformity with the culture, customs and traditions of our own and the historical background of our nation.

We would like to call on the entire national people to take an active part in the successful convening of the National Convention with Union Spirit to pave the way for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy.

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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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Sermon to be delivered on TV

**YANGON, 10 Aug** — State Ovadacariya Joint Shwegyin Suanabaung Bago Thiri Mingalas Kyakhtawna Monastery Paton Sayawd Abhijita Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammahajotika Bhaddanta Jotipala will deliver a sermon of Nine Precepts on TV after the MRTV morning programmes on 12 August. — MNA

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**Medicines and medical equipment donated to Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital**

**YANGON, 10 Aug** — Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) donated medicines and medical equipment to Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital this morning. At the CEC member Daw Nilar Thaw of MMCWA hands over medicine and medical equipment donated by MMCWA (Central) to Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital through Medical Superintendent Dr U Maung Maung Gy. — MWA

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Cultivation method demonstrated, power-tillers handed over to farmers

**YANGON, 10 Aug** — A demonstration of monsoon paddy cultivation was held in Kawkareik Township on 28 July in conjunction with a ceremony to hand over power-tillers to local farmers.

First, Kawkareik District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Win Maung explained monsoon paddy cultivation in Kawkareik Township and an official of Myanmar Agriculture Service use of four cultivation methods for high yield.

After the demonstration, Kayin State Peace and Development Council Chairman Col Khin Kyu awarded prizes to the transplanting teams and the head of Kayin State Agricultural Mechanization Department handed over 30 power-tillers to farmers. — MNA

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**Wellwishers invited to make donations for Kaba Aye Pagoda**

**YANGON, 10 Aug** — Gold foils were offered to Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda on 20 January 1998 for the first time. Furthermore, the wall of the pagoda was built in year 2000. On 5 February 2001, gold headdress and ornamental ear-flaps were donated to Maha Jininda Buddha Image. On 15 June 2003, two new archways decorated with Myanmar handicraft were constructed. On 20 October 2004, gold foils were offered at the umbrella and Ingetpyawbudaw. On 18 February 2005, gold sash and necklace were offered at Maha Jininda Buddha Image. The plan is under way to donate gold foils to the pagoda for the second time at the 55th Buddha Pujanya in 2006. Wellwishers are invited to make donations and to contact the pagoda board of trustees with Tel: 665425, 662882 and 660002. — MNA

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**Langkho District Student Football Tournament opened in Langkho**

**YANGON, 10 Aug** — The Langkho District Student Football Tournament, co-organized by Langkho District Peace and Development Council and Township Basic Education Department, was opened at Pyi Nyein Aye Sports Grounds in the township on 2 August.

At the opening match, Langkho Township played against Monai Township. Afterwards, Col Myint Wai of local station, District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Aung Maung and Head of District Planning Department U Aung Khaing commissioned the new building of the District Planning Department. Next, the ceremony to put back the concrete road into service was held in East Myoma Ward. It is 600 feet long and 12 feet wide linking East Myoma Ward and West Myoma Ward. — MNA

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**Public Health, Research and Family Medicine course to be conducted**

**YANGON, 10 Aug** — The Continuous Medical Education Unit under the Myanmar Medical Association will conduct the course “Public Health, Research and Family Medicine” from noon to 3 pm on weekends from 20 August until 9 October 2005 at the association at No 249, Theinbyu Road, Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

Doctors wishing to attend the course may enroll during office hours from 15 to 19 August. — MNA

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Soe Myat Min of F & R fights for the ball with Construction Team’s defenders during the match of F & R and Construction on 10 August. F & R beat Construction 2-0. — NLM
Terrorism must not hamper economy in ASEAN region

**Jakarta, 9 Aug—** ASEAN countries must not allow terrorism to hamper economic development in the region and peace and security must be established, an official with the regional bloc said here Monday.

Secretary General of the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Ong Keng Yong said many countries have expressed interest in investing in the region, and ASEAN must not allow terrorists to frighten the investment away.

“Terrorism is always a problem, but we must not let terrorism stop us. Do not allow terrorism to frighten our people away,” Ong said after attending a meeting at the Indonesian Foreign Ministry here. In the last few years, ASEAN countries have been hit by a string of terrorist attacks, including a series of major bombings in Indonesia, southern Thailand and the Philippines, as well as piracy and sea robbery in the Malacca Straits, which have claimed hundreds of innocent lives.

The tragedies have negatively impacted on the business and tourism sectors in the region and decreased investors’ faith, he said. Although the ASEAN countries have policy of not interfering in each other’s internal affairs, Malaysia and Indonesia have called on ASEAN defence ministers to meet next year, due to a rampant terrorist attacks in the region recently.

“We think that it is now the time for the ASEAN defence ministers to sit together to discuss the security issue,” spokesman of the Indonesian Foreign Ministry Marty Natalegawa said.

1,836 US soldiers killed in Iraq

**Washington, 9 Aug—** At least 1,836 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 1,420 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians. Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 13,877 US servicemembers have been wounded, according to a Defence Department tally released Tuesday.

Surveys show more Americans believe Iraq war makes US more vulnerable

**Washington, 9 Aug—** Two recent surveys show Americans believe the war in Iraq is making the US more vulnerable to terrorism.

Thousands gathered in Ohio Monday night to mourn 16 Marines who did not make it home alive. After last week's surge in troop deaths, a CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll shows most Americans think the war in Iraq has made us more vulnerable to terrorism. A July poll by the Pew Research Centre showed a similar trend. Also, recent polls show the public’s support for the president's Iraq policy is falling below 40 percent.

Former Indiana Congressman Andy Jacobs isn’t surprised. “To use our young military people as cannon fodder campaign props for politicians is a sin, in the words of Shaw, that neither can nor ever should be forgiven,” he said.

Meanwhile, a California woman who lost her son in Iraq is on a crusade to bring the troops home. Cindy Sheehan's son, 24-year old Army Specialist Casey Sheehan, died in Iraq last year. Sheehan blames President Bush for his death.

ASEAN anniversary marked in Malaysia

**Kuala Lumpur, 9 Aug—** Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi delivered a message here on Monday to celebrate the 38th anniversary of ASEAN, hoping the message would help create more awareness about ASEAN.

The Prime Minister also wished that his message would help enlighten Malaysians about Malaysia’s role in the promotion of regional peace, security and prosperity.

US envoy says ASEAN becoming very important

**Manila, 9 Aug—** The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) has become a very important group for its members and for other countries, the US interim US Charge d’Affaires to the Philippines said on Monday.

The ad interim US Charge d’Affaires Darryl Johnson, who replaced US Charge d’Affaires Joseph Mussomelli last week to take charge of the US Embassy here during the absence of a new US ambassador, said that his government supports the consolidation of regional cooperation among member countries of ASEAN and that between ASEAN and other countries.

He made the statement when participating in the 38th ASEAN Anniversary celebration at the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs here.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

During the celebration, Philippine Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said ASEAN is "more relevant now" as "ASEAN + 3" consists of its 10 members and China, Japan and South Korea.

Johnson, a retired diplomat who served as US ambassador in Bangkok, said ASEAN has become a "broad consultative group that provides co-ordination in trade issues which were previously contentious."— MNA/Xinhua

Chinese population programme more than fertility control

**Xining (Qinghai Province), 9 Aug—** Chinese population programme is not merely a fertility control programme as many people believe, but "much more than that" with a number of "positive developments", a United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) said.

"Many observers see the Chinese population programme as a fertility control programme only. It is much more than that and there are a number of positive developments since the inception of the policy in 1980," said Ronny Lindstrom, UNFPA’s deputy representative, at August 6-8 North-west China Forum on Population and Development held in Xining, the capital of northwest China's Qinghai Province.

Such developments include continued improvement of population health, particularly reproductive health, improved employment, standard of living, legal systems, including complaint systems, strong emphasis on human-centred development, new emphasis on services to clients and universal provision of contraceptives, he said, adding they may not only be due to the population programme, but are clearly related.

He said China has also managed to bring its huge population to a fertility rate of below replacement.— MNA/Xinhua
**China’s trade surplus to lower to $30b in latter half year**

**Beijing, 8 Aug**—China’s trade surplus is likely to drop from 39.6 billion US dollars in the first six months to 30 billion dollars in the latter half year, said a report with the State Information Centre.

Slight appreciation of Renminbi, slowdown of the world economy and slower growth in foreign investment might affect China’s trade surplus, the report said.

The growth rate of exports would drop and the gap between imports and exports would be narrowed, the report estimated.

The growth rate of exports would drop and the gap between imports and exports would be narrowed, the report estimated. The exports and the imports are estimated to grow at 22 per cent and 18 per cent respectively in the latter half year, said the report.

As a result, the driving force of net imports to the national economy would be weaker than in 2003, the report said. Statistics with the Ministry of Commerce showed that in the first six months this year, China’s foreign trade totalled 654.03 billions dollars, up 23.2 per cent year-on-year. The trade surplus in the period soared to 39.6 billion dollars, even higher than the whole year’s figure in 2004.

On one hand, the soaring trade surplus indicates that Chinese businesses are getting mature in the international market, the report said.

On the other hand, the surplus rise in the first six months is partly caused by special factors of expectation of Renminbi’s appreciation, structure change in fixed assets investment and price hike of oil in the international market, the report analyzed. —**MNA/Xinhua**

**Iran seeks Syrian cooperation against US pressure**

**Teheran, 8 Aug**—Iran’s new President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, called on Sunday for closer cooperation with Syria in the face of pressure on both countries from the United States.

The existence of common threats requires more cooperation between Teheran and Damascus, Iran’s official news agency IRNA quoted Ahmadinejad as saying at a joint news conference with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Assad arrived earlier in the day, the first foreign leader to visit the Islamic Republic’s new President, a religious conservative who took the oath of office on Saturday following his surprise election victory in June.

“There is no limit for Iran and Syria’s cooperation... Boosting the ties can protect the Middle East region from possible aggressions,” Ahmadinejad said.

Both Teheran and Damascus — allies in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq War — face US accusations of not making a serious effort to prevent guerrillas from crossing into Iraq, charges both deny. Washington also accuses Iran of seeking nuclear weapons, while Teheran says it wants to develop its nuclear expertise solely to generate electricity.

Ahmadinejad vowed on Saturday that Iran would not be intimidated by Western threats.

John Bolton, in his debut speech as US Ambassador to the United Nations, pressed Syria and Iran last week to do more to stem the flow of guerrillas, arms and funding into neighbouring Iraq.

Teheran and Damascus, both on the US list of state sponsors of terrorism, have repeatedly said they are doing all they can to control their long borders with Iraq. —**MNA/Reuters**

**Pakistan to close Afghan refugee camps near border**

**Islamabad, 8 Aug**—Pakistan has told 105,000 refugees sheltering in its lawless tribal areas bordering Afghanistan that it will close down their camps, the UN said on Saturday, adding that the region had become too insecure.

Hundreds of people have been killed in fierce clashes between security forces and al-Qaeda-linked militants in the Waziristan tribal region in the last two years. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees said Pakistani authorities had told refugees living in two of the seven border regions, Bajaur and Kurram, that the camps would be closed by 31 August.

"UNHCR supports the decision as the Federally Administered Tribal Areas have been the scene of continuing clashes between the Pakistani Army and rebel tribesmen linked to fighting in Afghanistan," the UN refugee agency said in a statement.

“The insecurity has made it impossible to assist the refugees properly.”

Pakistan still harbours more than three million Afghans, who have sought refuge from the Soviet Union’s occupation of their country in the 1980s, civil war in the 1990s and a US-led invasion in 2001. The tribal regions bordering Afghanistan, where a large number of al-Qaeda-linked militants fled after the US invasion, have seen much fighting last year.

Pakistani, US and Afghan forces reported killing more than 60 suspected foreign militants and Taleban insurgents in the region last month alone. —**MNA/Reuters**

**Deadly car bomb hits US convoy in Iraq**

**Baghdad, 9 Aug**—A suicide car bomber struck a US convoy waiting at an intersection Tuesday in Baghdad, killing seven people — including one American soldier — and wounding more than 90. More than a dozen others died in scattered attacks across the capital.

Also, a US Marine assigned to the 2nd Marine Division was killed Monday by small-arms fire in Ramadi, 70 miles west of Baghdad, the US military said.

The deaths brought the number of US service members killed in Iraq this month to at least 32.

Violence rated as Iraqi political leaders showed little sign of compromise less than a week before a deadline for approving a new constitution.

The American convoy was stopped at a busy intersection when a driver detonated a vehicle packed with explosives, the US Army said. Six civilians also were killed; scores of Iraqis and two US soldiers were wounded. —**Internet**

**Cambodian garment factory workers take a break. Economic growth in East Asia will remain robust but will slow down to 6.8 percent in 2005 due to a less favourable external environment, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has forecast.**—**INTERNET**

**China approves clinical study of new SARS vaccine**

**Beijing, 8 Aug**—China’s State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) gives greenlight to the clinical study of a new SARS vaccine, developed jointly by the New Drug Fund, has already produced satisfactory results from tests on animals.

Scientists are expected to test the safety of the new vaccine through first-phase clinical study.

Chinese scientists have been busy developing the vaccine in late April 2003 after the outbreak of SARS on the Chinese Mainland. —**MNA/Xinhua**

**Iran not worried about Security Council referral**

**Teheran, 8 Aug**—Iran insisted on Sunday it would resume uranium conversion this week after rejecting EU incentives to end its nuclear fuel work, and said it was not worried about being referred to the UN for possible sanctions.

“Although we think referral of Iran’s case to the Security Council would be unlawful and politically motivated, if one day they refer Iran’s case...we won’t be worried in the least,” said Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi.

Britain, Germany and France, heading nuclear negotiations with Iran for the European Union, have called an emergency meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency’s (IAEA) board of governors on Tuesday to discuss Iran’s case.

The EU trio say they will recommend referring Iran to the Security Council if it goes ahead with plans to break UN seals and resume work at the Isfahan uranium conversion plant. Iran, which on Saturday rejected an EU package of economic and political incentives designed to persuade it to halt nuclear fuel work for good, says it will restart the Isfahan plant as soon as IAEA surveillance equipment is in place.

“The European proposal has no value,” state television quoted Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi as saying. "We will insist on our rights and have decided to resume Isfahan activities as the first step of our measures. This does not mean we will stop negotiations with Europe.” —**MNA/Reuters**

**Doves fly over the Statue of Peace during the ceremony to mark 60th anniversary of the atomic bombing in Nagasaki, southwestern Japan on 9 Aug. 2005. The atomic bomb attack on this city left more than 80,000 dead and hastened the end of World War II exactly 60 years ago.**—**INTERNET**
Afghan Govt calls for closure of foreign-run detention centres

KABUL, 8 Aug— Afghan Government on Sunday called for the closure of all foreign-run detention centres in Afghanistan and demanded the hand over of its citizens from foreign jallers.

“We hope no foreign-run jails will exist in Afghanistan in future as the country has an elected, legitimate and internationally recognized government that has the authority to take into custody its nationals if languishing in others’ prisons,” Defence Ministry spokesman Zahir Azimi told journalists at a press conference.

His comment came after sharp criticism by people over government’s failure to modify the modus operandi of US soldiers with Afghan detainees at the US Army-run detention centres in Afghanistan.

At least three Afghan detainees, according to media reports, have died in US detention centres in Afghanistan over the past three years.

President Hamid Karzai during a visit to White House in May, asked his US counterpart to hand over the Afghan detainees to Afghanistan Government but the later rejected the proposal.

However, pressed by rights organization, the US Government announced late last week to hand over 110 Afghan detainees from the notorious Guantanamo Bay Prison to Afghanistan.

Japan’s textile producer to invest more in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 8 Aug— Japan’s second largest textile producer Teijin Ltd plans to increase investment by 50 million US dollars, compared to its current investment of 450 million in Indonesia over the next three years, a local newspaper reported Saturday.

The additional investment is aimed at expanding Teijin plant’s capacity and improve operating efficiency, reported The Jakarta Post.

The investment would involve the building of a 30-megawatt coal-fired power plant in Tangerang, Banten, and the modification of its production machinery to boost efficiency.

“Choosing safe food items, cooking food thoroughly, avoiding contact between raw and cooked food, washing hands repeatedly, using safe water can prevent outbreak of the diseases,” Bista said.

Meanwhile, about 50 per cent of water-borne diseases can be controlled by consuming clean drinking water, Bista added.

Bangladesh plans to boost fish output to 3.0 million tons

DHAKA, 8 Aug— The Government of Bangladesh has taken steps to implement seven major projects for boosting overall fish production to 3.0 million tons, which will leave a substantial exportable surplus after satisfying domestic demand.

Among the core schemes are fisheries development and management project in the western part of the country, shrimp cultivation in freshwater, development of infrastructure for fish farming in flood plains and the setting up of shrimp research centre, the United News of Bangladesh, apivariate news agency in the country, reported on Sunday.

If the new projects are successfully implemented, annual fish production in the country would rise to 3.0 million tons by 2008, nearly a million tons more than the present volume.

For increasing procure fish from sea the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock permitted the purchase of 40 modern trawlers. The procurement of more trawlers is also being progressed. — MNA/Xinhua

Food, water-borne diseases cause 3,000 deaths in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 8 Aug — About 3,000 people, out of 20,000 people affected with food and water-borne diseases, die in last year in Nepal, an official at Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDDC) said here Sunday.

“About 20,000 persons are affected by food and water-borne diseases with around 3,000 dying last year in Nepal,” Mahendra Bahadur Bista, director of EDDC, told reporters.

Earlier, around 300,000 persons used to be affected by food and water-borne diseases with around 25,000 dying a year in Nepal, but now the number has spiralled down, Bista noted, adding, “Due to heightened awareness among communities, the number of deaths has dropped drastically over the years.”

The major food and water-borne diseases are cholera, viral gastroenteritis, typhoid, Hepatitis A, polio, worms and parasites and chemical toxins, and these diseases can be checked if proper precautions are taken in time.

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Economic growth is Singapore’s main priority

SINGAPORE, 9 Aug—To grow and upgrade the economy is Singapore’s main priority, said Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on Monday while delivering a National Day message on the eve of the 40th birthday of the Republic of Singapore.

“We need to develop new skills and capabilities, open up markets abroad, bring in investments and seed new areas of growth,” Lee pointed out, adding that the economic growth for this year is expected to be between 3 per cent and 4.5 per cent.

In mid May this year, the Singapore Government lowered its economic forecast from 2.5 per cent and 4.5 per cent from between 3 per cent and 5 per cent. Calling economic growth “the best social welfare programme,” Lee said that prosperity provides the island state with the resources to tackle many difficult challenges, including the widening income gap, an aging population as well as the health care for all the citizens.

He added that the government will put more emphasis on building a first-class education system and remaking Singapore as a vibrant and cosmopolitan city so as to keep the country thrive in the process of globalization.

“As China and India are emerging as strong and competitive economies, Lee said, Singapore will work more closely with other members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to seek opportunities in two regional giants as well as in the Middle East.

Lee reiterated that Singaporeans should remain vigilant against threats to the country’s security and get psychologically prepared for possible terrorist attacks on it: “I expect the next five years to be better than the last five. Therefore I am confident that working together, we will make Singapore grow and prosper beyond what we have today,” Lee said.—MNA/Xinhua

Train mishap injures at least 20 people in Sri Lanka

RATMALANA (Sri Lanka), 9 Aug—A train mishap involving a moving passenger train and an empty passenger car in southern Sri Lanka injured at least 20 people, police said Monday.

A train bound to the southern town of Aluthgama from the capital Colombo clashed with the passenger car at the railway station in Ratmalana, about 20 kilometres south of the capital, around 9:10 p.m. local time (0610 GMT).

The passenger car, powered by a locomotive, was shuttling on a track beside the main railroad before the accident happened, said a railroad officer declined to give his name. He said the car accidentally broke away from the locomotive shortly before the passenger train moved into the Ratmalana station along the main track, resulting in the crash. Police and hospital officials said at least 20 people were hurt in the accident with three of them in critical condition. The driver of the passenger train was among the seriously injured.—MNA/Xinhua

China to see balance of electricity supply, demand by 2007

BEIJING, 9 Aug—China is expected to see a balance of electricity supply and demand with somewhat of a surplus, said a senior official with China Electricity Council (CEC) on Monday.

Wang Yonggan, Secretary-General of CEC, made the remarks at a Press conference for the “2005 China Power Forum” which is due to be held here next Wednesday to Thursday.

According to Wang, China saw a newly installed power capacity of over 50 million kilowatts in 2004, and the figure will remain at 70 million kilowatts annually from 2005 to 2007. By the end of 2007, China will boast an installed power capacity of 650 million kilowatts, by which time the electricity supply and demand of the country will be basically balanced, and will even have some surpluses, said Wang.

China is the second largest installed power capacity owner and the second largest power generator in the world next to the US, said Wang.

An annual installed power capacity of 70 million kilowatts means an annual investment of nearly 350 billion yuan (43.2 billion US dollars). China has become one of the largest power markets in the world, he said.—MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan PM hopes to boost trade ties with Japan

ISLAMABAD, 9 Aug—Pakistan Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz, who embarked on a four-day visit to Japan on Monday, hoped that his visit would give a fresh impetus to the bilateral relations in all fields.

“My visit to Japan is very significant and the main focus of talks with the Japanese leadership will be on increasing trade, investment and economic relations with that country,” Aziz told reporters here before his departure.

“Japan is the largest creditor to Pakistan and is helping in health, education and infrastructure development of the country,” he added.

Aziz said he will have wide-ranging talks with the Japanese leadership on regional and international issues including Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan’s relations with its neighbouring countries and the war on terrorism.

Nuclear non-proliferation, the UN reforms and further strengthening the Pakistan-Japan ties will also come under discussion, Aziz noted. “Japan is a leading power of the region and our position on various important international issues needs to be explained,” Aziz said.

He disclosed that Pakistan and Japan will sign various agreements during his visit to enhance cooperation in education, health and other social sectors.—MNA/Xinhua

Cerebral malaria kills 8 in India’s Bihar State

NEW DELHI, 9 Aug—At least eight people have died of cerebral malaria in the silk city of Bhagalpur in India’s eastern state of Bihar, Indo-Asian News Service (IANS) reports Monday.

About a dozen others are suffering from the disease, IANS quoted officials as saying. All the deaths were reported between Sunday and Monday.

Most of the victims belong to poor families living in densely populated areas.

Recently, this one of the most common prevalent diseases in India had claimed the life of a local Catholic Bishop.

Cerebral malaria in Bihar is said to have killed hundreds of tribal people in the past decade. The state government record puts the figure at less than 500.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore, Indonesia ink MoU to enhance air links

SINGAPORE, 9 Aug—Singapore and Indonesia on Monday inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen air links between the two neighbouring Southeast Asian states.

Singapore’s Ministry of Transport said in a statement that the MoU will cater for the rising demand from travellers between the two countries, including businessmen and tourists.

In May, Singapore’s Minister for Transport Yeo Cheow Tong and Indonesia’s Minister for Communications Hatta Rajasa reached an in-principle agreement on an expansion of air links between the island state and two key Indonesian cities of Jakarta and Denpasar.

Formalizing the in-principle agreement, the MoU includes the additional fifth freedom traffic rights, which enable Indonesian airlines to fly on to other destinations from Singapore’s Changi Airport, said the statement.—MNA/Xinhua

10% of Nepalis suffer from heart ailments

KATHMANDU, 9 Aug—At least 10 per cent of Nepalis have been found suffering from heart ailments, an official at Lalitpur Heart Club said here on Monday. “At least 10 per cent of the total Nepali population have been found suffering from heart ailments,” Prakash Raj Regmi, secretary general at Lalitpur Heart Club, a non-governmental organization working against heart disease, said at a seminar on cardiac disease.

“The number of Nepalis with cardiac problems has increased by five times in the past 20 years,” Regmi, also a senior cardiologist of Nepal, said at the seminar.

Lack of awareness and poverty have been contributing factors for the increasing rate of heart ailments in Nepal, Regmi noted, adding, “We need to increase health awareness among the general public in order to save them from heart ailments, which is one of the main health problems in Nepal.”—MNA/Xinhua

Singaporeans wave the national flag as they attend celebrations marking the Singapore’s 40th National Day. The Republic of Singapore was born on 9 August, 1965 after leaving the Malaysian federation.—INTERNET

Damaged vehicles are seen following a suicide car bomb attack in central Baghdad recently.—INTERNET
YSANGON, 10 Aug — Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation donated exercise books and school bags to Social Welfare Department and Myanmar Red Cross Society at the hall of MWAF on Thanlwin Road in Bahan Township this afternoon.

President of MWAF Daw Than Nwe explained the purpose of the donations. The president presented 500 bags worth K 1.75 million and 100 dozens of exercise books worth K 100,000 to Director-General U Sit Myaing of Social Welfare Department and officials.

Next, the president donated 500 school bags worth K 1.75 million to President of MRCS U Hla Myint and officials.

Later, MRCS President U Hla Myint expressed gratitude.

MNA

MWAF President Daw Than Nwe presents 500 school bags worth K 1.75 million and 100 dozens of exercise books worth K 100,000 to SWD Director-General U Sit Myaing.— MNA

Futsal football instructor course, referee course opened

YSANGON, 10 Aug — Jointly organized by Myanmar Football Federation and Development Branch of FIFA based in Malaysia, a ceremony to open the Futsal football instructor course and referee course was held at Youth Training Centre in Thawwunna this morning.

Players of football clubs from ministries, states and divisions and Sports and Physical Education Institutes in Yangon and Mandalay were introduced to Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint who delivered an opening address.

Course Instructor Mr Jeysing Mutithan explained techniques of Futsal event.

Altogether 27 trainees are attending the instructor course and 22 at the referee course, totaling 49. Both courses last till 13 August.

MNA

Prizes presented to outstanding children of staff

YSANGON, 10 Aug — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung met with the entrepreneurs at Myanma Timber Enterprise (Head Office) in Ahlon Township yesterday and gave instructions on taking measures in accord with the rules and regulations for both self-interest and the State’s interest, developing of wood-based enterprises and generating more foreign exchange.

Afterwards, those present reported on the measures being taken and the minister attended to the needs.

This morning, the minister attended the prize-presenting ceremony held at the same venue and awarded the prizes and certificates of honour to the children of the staff, who passed matriculation examination 2005 with flying colours.

Next, six-distinction winner Ma Wu Yi Win expressed thanks.

MNA

DT 22C Rail Buses from Japan arrive

YSANGON, 10 Aug — MV Magway of Myanmar Five Star Line arrived at Asia World jetty in Ahlon Township this morning, carried three locomotives of DT 22C Rail Bus from Japan. The officials of the Ministry of Rail Transportation and Myanmar Railways inspected the unloading of the locomotives from the vessel.

They are to be run on Yangon circular and suburb railroad sections for the people in order to provide smooth transportation.

MNA

MWAF President Daw Than Nwe explains the purpose of the donations of school bags and exercise books to Social Welfare Department and MRCS.— MNA

A locomotive of DT 22C Rail Bus being unloaded from MV Magway.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 11 August, 2005 7
It is necessary to draw an enduring comprehensive State Constitution

Dr Soe Thura of Ayeyawady Division USDA delivers address at the mass meeting. MNA

The mass meeting to guard against the dangers posed by internal and external destructive elements through the united strength of the people in progress in Pathein, Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

(from page 1)

progress, constructing universities, colleges in education sector, opening hospitals and dispensaries in health sector, installing auto telephones, GSM and satellite phones in communication sector and breeding fish and prawn in livestock breeding sector.

A handful of people and some nations interfere in the internal affairs of the country and put pressure on it on the pretext of human rights and democracy. Their acts are contrary to the international ethics and they encroach upon independent national attitude of the country that try to establish a discipline-flourishing democratic nation in conformity with the noble traditions, national character and culture.

He said those present are to wipe out the conditions that pose dangers to Our Three Main National Causes and any acts that lead to disintegration of the Union. In conclusion, he urged the people to strive for emergence of a modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation upholding Our Three Main National Causes. Executive of Ayeyawady Division USDA U Kyi Win said that the Government is fulfilling requirements of all sectors in all parts of the nation including remote areas for ensuring solidarity of the national brethren.

Development is achieved only when there is defence might, economic might and social might plus prevalence of law and order and peace and stability. Over 100 national races have been living in the Union of Myanmar since yore through think and thin. All the national brethren scatter in all States and the national interests and the people. All members of the association are actively participating in nation-building tasks and rural development tasks.

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All the citizens must realize the value of the Union, sovereignty, Independence and Union Spirit upholding non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

The national defence has to protect the Union and the citizens against the danger of military invasion. The State security is responsible for guarding military, economic, social and political interests as well as national interest and national objectives for achieving success in implementation of all steps of the Road Map.

Representative of Ayeyawady Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Myo Myat said the Tatmadaw Government has laid down political, economic and social objectives and the national interests and the people. All members of the association are actively participating in nation-building tasks and rural development tasks.

Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Myo Myat said the Tatmadaw Government has laid down political, economic and social objectives and the national interests and the people. All members of the association are actively participating in nation-building tasks and rural development tasks.

It is necessary to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Only when the people participate in implementing of nation-building tasks, will a peaceful, modern and developed nation emerge.

Repre- sentative of Ayeyawady Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Myo Myat. MNA

Only when the people participate in implementing of nation-building tasks, will a peaceful, modern and developed nation emerge.

Way for transportation in the past and it took 18 hours from Pathein to Yangon. Therefore, the government has built a total of 58 bridges in Ayeyawady Division. Now, it takes about three hours by road.

In health sector, there are hospital and medical treatments available in the division.

Food production has exceeded the sufficiency in the division and surplus rice is distributed to other states and divisions. There were widespread rumours designed to create misunderstanding between the government and the people. The entire people are well aware if such rumours could pave the way for democracy or put the nation into utter devastation. Many innocent people were inured and killed in the bomb blasts detonated by destructive elements. We will never forget these inhuman acts. (See page 9)
Myint said that the Association of the people. Representative of united strength of the people against the danger posed by destructionists through hand in hand with the people and social organizations, the members are to wipe out any acts being perpetrated by certain elements resorting to all possible means to seize the State power. The Three Main National Causes is the national policy that must be preserved forever for ensuring perpetual existence of the motherland. Thanks to the efforts the government has made, the entire Division has enjoyed development in various sectors. Internal stooges are in support of the acts of internal and external destructive acts designed to encroach upon sovereignty of the nation. She said MWCA members opposed those relying on the external elements and certain nations that are interfering in the internal affairs of Myanmar. Now, the nation is transforming itself into a discipline-flourishing democratic nation that is inspired by the entire national people. She pledged that the Ayeyawady Division MCWA will crush any ones who harm stability and peace of the State and Our Three Main National Causes. It will always be a patriotic force for the success of the State power. The ILO is breaking its own rules and providing encouragement to the terrorists and fugitives, while encroaching on the nation’s sovereignty. In reality, it is insulting the entire Myanmar people. All the nationalities of Myanmar totally oppose the perpetuation of some big nations. The MWVO always place in the fore Our Three Main National Causes. It will always strive together with other social organizations and the people for the success of the seven-point Road Map. At present, the National Convention, the first step of the Road Map, is in progress. The emergence of the State Constitution will play a most important role in the Union of Myanmar.

It is important to ensure realization of all steps of the seven-point Road Map. At present, the National Convention, the first step of the Road Map, is in progress. The emergence of the State Constitution will play a most important role in the Union of Myanmar.
Leading committee, delegates from states,…

be taken for successful holding of the competitions following the reviewing of strengths and weaknesses experienced in the previous ones.

After the opening ceremony, Minister made a speech on the occasion. Afterwards, Chairman of Work Committee No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tin Hsan reported on the date of the competitions, event-wise venues, preparation for accommodation of contestants, event-wise programme and compiling of names list of panel of judges.

After that, Chairman of Security and Discipline Enforcement Committee Deputy Commander Brig-

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Huay Oo, accompanied by departmental officials, arrived at North Yama Dam (supporting dam) being carried out in Aingma village of Pale Township. —˚

Dam construction projects inspected

YANGON, 10 Aug — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Huay Oo, accompanied by departmental officials, arrived at North Yama Dam (supporting dam) being carried out in Aingma village of Pale Township. —˚

Aingma village of Pale Township. —˚

According to the survey, the dam can store 90,000 acre-feet of water on its completion. On arrival at the project of Hlang Creek Dam, the minister heard reports on the dam construction. Afterwards, the minister inspected the site to build the dam and greeted the local people. —˚

Cult people. According to the cordially greeted the location to build the main tasks by the officials.

Next, the minister gave necessary instructions and inspected the site to build the main dam.

Later, the minister cordially greeted the local people. According to

Beijing families host orphans of “AIDS” victims

BEIJING, August 10 — From August 12 to 17, 86 families in Beijing will temporarily adopt 86 orphans of AIDS victims from around China, in a bid to discourage discrimination and provide the orphans with warmth and compassion.

The activity, called the “Second Summer Camp for Orphans of AIDS Victims,” is being jointly launched by the China Youth Concern Committee (CYCC) and the Beijing Huaxia Charity Foundation, a non-governmental organization.

“Afters we inform the public of collecting families that are willing to live with AIDS orphans for two days, we received more than 270 families’ applications, which is really a surprise,” said Li Guoqiang, an official with CYCC said.

The 86 volunteer families cover a wide range of social strata, from movie stars to high-ranking officials, from retirees to on-the-job teachers, from entrepreneurs to Army soldiers. “They are all wealthy and warm-hearted enough to accept these disadvantaged children,” Li said, “Revealing an encouraging strength in the society to take care of AIDS orphans.”

An estimated 76,000 children in China were orphaned by HIV/AIDS, with at least one parent dying, according to figures from China disease control centre. Experts said that the number is expected to grow to 260,000 in the year of 2010.

The disease touches every aspect of children’s lives, not just their health. Experts said these kids are suffering from social bias against HIV victims, some have been kicked out of schools or turned away even from orphanages.

“The emotional toll alone can be devastating as children suffer from isolation, loss of self-esteem and depression,” Christian Voumard, UNICEF’s China representative, told a seminar on a previous occasion. But the situation has been improving. Not only have Chinese leaders and high-ranking officials shaken hands with HIV/AIDS patients and eaten meals with them in front of news cameras, many folk activities have also revealed burgeoning efforts to undermine the disease’s bad public image.

In the summer camp last year, CYCC spent two months finding a place for the orphans to stay. They were refused by nearly 40 hotels and institutions in Beijing, whose owners feared that receiving them would negatively affect their businesses. This year, however, not only hotels offered AIDS orphans preferential prices, but tourist spots they will visit all exempted them from ticket fees, the CYCC official Li Qimin told Xinhua. —˚

ADB forecasts moderate slowdown of east Asian economic growth

MANILA, 10 Aug — East Asia is expected to experience a moderate slowdown in economic growth in 2005, with less favourable external environment, according to a report released by Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Tuesday.

Current forecasts for East Asia, defined as the 10 ASEAN member countries, China and South Korea, see the average GDP growth of 6.8 per cent in 2005, down from 7.6 per cent in 2004, according to the Asia Economic Monitor (AEM), a publication of ADB.

Excluding China, East Asia is expected to post an average growth of 4.4 per cent, compared with 5.5 per cent in 2004. China recorded GDP growth of 9.4 per cent in the first quarter of 2005, and 9.5 per cent in the second quarter. A gradual softening of fixed investment, already underway, and somewhat diminished export prospects are expected to slow growth in the coming quarters.

Singapore is likely to be among the economies hardest hit by the deteriorating external environment. Singapore’s highly open economy will be adversely affected by weaker export prospects and slower export growth may affect consumer and business sentiments, thus affecting domestic demand, the AEM said.

These forecasts are subject to risks from further increases in oil prices and a disorderly adjustment of the global payments imbalance, the report notes.

AEM welcomes the recent shift by China and Malaysia from a pegged exchange rate against the US dollar to a managed float against a basket of currencies, suggesting the moves marked initial steps toward fostering greater exchange rate flexibility within the region. —˚

“Golden heritage”

* If the Myanmar do not value their heritage Who else will value it?
* If the Myanmar do not treasure their traditions Who else will maintain it?
* If the Myanmar masses do not keep culture in touch Who will inherit it?
* Lineage, race and religion All that is Myanmar, non-hesitantly
Music, dances handed down The traditional folk songs of ages Composed, danced, sung, played in own way Non-westernized, tainted Steadfastly held as own heritage Because it’s “pure gold”, vintage “A golden heritage”, treasured Of high grade and true vintage Sound of music spreads tumults Victory signs that rise to the sky The Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions On Myanmar soil for thirteenth time Has journeyed and reached this stage.

Hinthada Myint Ngwe (Ts) (Hailing the thirteenth Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions)
**ICRC suspends field work in Gaza after spate of kidnappings**

_Gaza, 10 Aug_ — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has suspended field operations in the Gaza Strip fearing for the safety of its staff following a spate of kidnappings of foreigners, a spokesman said on Tuesday.

The decision came after two foreign UN employees and a Palestinian security worker were abducted by gunmen in the Khan Younis refugee camp on Monday and freed in a police raid on the militants’ hideout.

“Once the security situation improved we hope we can return to normal,” Naser said.

Naser said the organization’s Gaza City headquarters was still operational but that employees would be restricted to office work.

On Monday, armed Palestinians cut off a UN vehicle and kidnapped three workers, including a Swiss national and a Briton.

Gun battles ensued between police and the gunmen, members of the dominant Fateh Movement. The hostages were freed unhurt within minutes but two civilians were wounded in the fighting, medical officials said.

Several other international relief workers have been briefly held by gunmen in Gaza recently, often to press grievances against the Palestinian Authority over jobs or the calling of family members.

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**Mozambique’s malaria vaccine trials show good result**

_Manhica (Mozambique), 10 Aug_ — Groundbreaking malaria vaccine trials in Mozambique have shown good results but cannot alone win the fight against one of Africa’s biggest killers, a senior research scientist says.

Developed by drug giant GlaxoSmithKline, the RTS/SAS02A vaccine reduced the incidence of serious malaria by around 40 per cent over a year in children aged between one and four, researcher Betuel Sigauque told AFP.

“The development of a vaccine has been a big target for many years,” he told Reuters on Monday at the Manhica Health Research Centre, site of the landmark first major trials.

“You have to find the best stage of the life cycle at which to stop it. Other attempts at vaccines have attacked the wrong stage,” he said.

Transmitted by mosquito, the malaria parasite is one of the world’s biggest killers, responsible for one in 10 deaths in developing countries and taking the life of one African child every 30 seconds. Many families lack knowledge, drugs or bed nets to protect themselves. Economists say the disease costs Africa around 12 billion US dollars a year, hampering development as families use time and money to care for sick children and have more offspring to compensate for malaria victims.

Workers clean the roof of the Explandane, Singapore’s ultramodern performing arts centre. Singapore is in the midst of a makeover designed to reposition itself as an arts and entertainment hub to rival some of the most vibrant capitals of the world.—INTERNET

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**Survey shows women sick more than men in S Africa**

_Johannesburg, 10 Aug_ — The female absenteeism rate at workplace is higher than that of males, which is 2.7 per cent versus 2.1 per cent, and females have on average 27 per cent more one day illnesses compared to males, according to a survey conducted in South Africa.

That employers should consider offering the right support structures to their female staff so that stress and depression are minimized.

However, Johnson warned of possible abuse of sick leave by female employees. Neurological illnesses, such as headaches and migraines, were largely difficult to dispute and a larger portion of the abuse or opportunistic sick leave fell into this category, he said.

“This may support the popular view that they are using sick leave in lieu of family responsibility leave. For example, if their children are sick and they need to spend time at home nursing them,” he was quoted as saying by the SAPA news agency.

Johnson said employees with family responsibilities did not have to abuse the system in order to get the leave they need to resolve family issues. “They can do this by having the correct policies and procedures in place that allow for this type of time off, by offering in house child care facilities, by having flexible working hours or by simply being understanding to their female staff with these kinds of needs,” he said. — MNA/Xinhua

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**Bulgaria’s flood death toll rises to seven**

_Sofia, 10 Aug_ — Raging floods in Bulgaria have killed seven people and caused at least 200 million US dollars in damage to houses, farmland and infrastructure over the past week, the Balkan state’s government said on Tuesday. The floods, caused by several days of exceptionally heavy rain, added to extensive destruction caused by storms earlier this summer that killed 17 people and led to at least another 250 million US dollars in damage.

On Tuesday, workers recovered the bodies of two victims who drowned a day earlier near the central Bulgarian town of Plovdiv, adding to five other fatalities over the weekend when nearly 10,000 Bulgarians were forced to flee their homes.

A preliminary estimate by Finance Minister Milen Velchev put the latest damage at 237 million levs (150 million US dollars), plus another 100 million levs for damaged roads and bridges. The floods destroyed 49 kilo-

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**Another 400 paramilitaries to lay down arms in N Colombia**

_Bogota, 10 Aug_ — Another 400 paramilitary fighters of the United Self-Defence Forces of Colombia (AUC) are ready to lay down their arms, the chief of a unit of the AUC said on Monday.

Hernan Giraldo Serna, chief of the Tayrona Bloc of the AUC, said he and 400 men under his command are ready to turn over weapons on condition that the government guarantees the security of the 25,000 inhabitants in Magdalena department, where the Tayrona Bloc operates.

“A major concern is the security of our colony, the security of our people. We need that our people be safe,” he said, adding that the “fundamental thing” is that the government, businesses and society can find jobs for his demobilized men.

Within the framework of the peace process on which the government and the AUC embarked in December 2002, 10,500 paramilitaries have been demobilized. It is expected that the outlawed right-wing paramilitaries will be completely disbanded by the end of this year.

The AUC was established in the 1980s by drug traffickers and land owners to fight leftist guerrillas in areas where the state had little control. It has been active in northern Colombia, particularly in the areas of Antioquia and Cordoba. Colombia has been locked in a four-decade civil war, the longest in Latin America, in which government forces, leftist guerrillas and far-right paramilitaries fight one another. The conflicts kill more than 3,000 people every year. — MNA/Xinhua
China’s petroleum market to be tight in second half this year

BEIJING, 9 Aug— Although China’s apparent consumption of petroleum had hardly increased in the first half of this year, its market demand for petroleum still kept rising, and the petroleum market might face more severe situations, experts said Monday.

According to figures released by the economic and technological research centre of China National Petroleum Corporation from January to May, China’s total apparent consumption of petroleum reached 133.249 million tons, a year-on-year increase of merely 0.11 per cent. Apparent consumption refers to the output volume plus net import or minus net export, which does not reflect the change of inventories. When the stockpile drops, apparent consumption is less than the actual amount of consumption.

The third incident, which occurred Sunday night in the east end, left a 27-year-old driver injured. Toronto has been suffering a series of shootings in recent days. Fears are spreading quickly among residents who dare not go to the streets even during the daytime.

A 27-year-old man died Friday in gunfire at a townhouse complex in the city’s northeast. Two drive-by shootings last Wednesday left one man dead and five people wounded, including a four-year-old boy.

DONATE BLOOD

latest Canada’s Toronto shootings kill two

OTTAWA, 9 Aug— Two people were shot to death in Canada’s biggest city of Toronto early Monday in the latest of a string of fatal shootings, reports reaching Canada from their embassies.

There were three shooting incidents starting on Sunday night, with the fatal shootings happening early Monday morning on Monday just days after each other in the city’s downtown. One of the shootings left one man dead at the scene and another injured. The victim of the second shooting was pronounced dead after he was sent to the hospital.

Four dead, 28 hurt in Chile coal mine explosion

SANTIAGO (Chile), 9 Aug— At least four miners died and 28 were injured in an explosion in a coal mine in southern Chile on Monday, and the death toll could rise, government officials and local media said.

The blast occurred at 7:30 a.m. (1130 GMT) in the Victoria coal mine near the Pacific coast town of Lebu, some 420 miles south of the capital.

Some of the injured miners were hospitalized with serious burns to their breathing passages, President Ricardo Lagos told reporters. “That makes us fear that the number of fatalities could increase,” Lagos said.

Nestor Matamala, governor of the Arauco region where the mine is located, told Chile’s National Television that the mine had been evacuated after the explosion.

Dutch doctors grant 44% of requests to die

CHICAGO, 9 Aug— Dutch doctors whose patients asked for help in dying assisted in 19 of 44 cases since nearly half the time and turned them down just 12 per cent of the time, researchers said on Monday.

Doctors granted patient requests to die in 44 per cent of the cases, 13 per cent withdrew their requests and 26 per cent of patients died either before the decision was made or before euthanasia could be carried out, according to study author Marijke Jansen-van der Weide of VU University Medical Centre, Amsterdam.

Doctors refused to help 12 per cent of patients die, the researcher wrote in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

The most frequent reasons for requesting a physician’s help to commit suicide were “pointless suffering”, “loss of dignity” and “weakness,” the survey of 3,614 general practitioners in the Netherlands found.

Thailand cancels ambitious sea bridge plan

BANGKOK, 9 Aug— Thailand has scrapped its ambitious project of building a sea bridge over the Gulf of Bangkok to relieve heavy traffic on land, citing costs and environment as major concerns.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Monday confirmed cancellation of the plan, saying the constitution does not mandate a sea bridge, a 47-kilometre-long flyover above a western curve of the Gulf of Bangkok, would cost 40 billion baht (around one billion US dollars), more than the originally estimated 32 billion baht (800 million US dollars).

Sea bridge construction could cause those substances to leak into the gulf and harm fish and other marine resources, said facts chief Sukhman, head of the Roadway Department of the Transport Ministry.

Crude oil prices approach $63 per barrel

NEW YORK, 9 Aug— Crude oil futures jumped against US Embassy in Saudi Arabia heightened fears about supply disruption.

On the NYSE, light, sweet crude oil futures for August delivery rose to 62.90 dollars a barrel at electronic trading, the highest since the contract began trading in 1983.

US refiners have been operating at more than 90 per cent of capacity since March, trying to meet a surging demand for transport fuels from the world’s largest consuming nation.

Four dead, 28 hurt in Chile coal mine explosion

A Colombian jumps with his bike during the summer festival sport activities in Bogota, on 7 August, 2005. The summer festival runs until 15 August.—INTERNET

China’s petroleum market to be tight in second half this year
Nagasaki remembers 60th anniversary of A-bombing

NAGASAKI (Japan), 10 Aug — About 6,000 people in Nagasaki City on Monday participated in a commemorative ceremony marking the 60th anniversary of the US nuclear bombing, and called on the Japanese Government to reflect on its wrongdoing in the war.

Addressing the participants including Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, Nagasaki Mayor Itcho Ito criticized the United States for its insistent pursuit of nuclear deterrence.

"The nuclear weapons states, and the United States of America in particular, have ignored their international commitments, and have made no change in their unyielding stance on nuclear deterrence.

"The world strongly resents the trampling of the hopes of people worldwide," he read in a statement. Ito said he understood the Americans’ fear for terrorism, but pointed out that the US policy of continuously conducting nuclear weapons tests can not guarantee a security. "We understand your anger and anxiety over the memories of the horror of the 11 Septem-
ber terrorist attacks.

Yet, is your security actually enhanced by your government's policies of maintaining 10,000 nuclear weapons, of carrying out repeated subcritical nuclear tests, and of pursuing the development of new 'mini' nuclear weapons?" Ito said.

Meanwhile, Ito urged the Japanese Government to take a soul-searching attitude on the war, and sever the attempt for and relations with nuclear weapons forever.

"Our country is obliged to deeply reflect on that war and determine not to let the war tragedy strike again due to the government's actions. The government should abide by the war-renouncing Constitution and legalize three principles of not possessing, manufacturing or allowing nuclear arms within Japan's borders," he said.

"Koizumi expressed heartfelt condolence to the A-bomb victims, and pledged to uphold the pacifist Constitution and the nuclear weapons-free principles as well as exert effort for the global nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation.

On 9 August, 1945, Nagasaki became the second Japanese city after Hiroshima to suffer from a US atomic bomb. It lost 70,000 people. MNA/Xinhua

N-E China anthrax disease under control

SHENYANG, 9 Aug — The infectious disease of anthrax, which has led one dead in northeastern Liaoning Province, was brought under control.

By 9 pm Sunday, the city of Xinmin, where the disease broke out, has not received report of new case for seven consecutive days and local people's life was back to normal, said Sun Bajun, deputy director of the Disease Control Centre of Shenyang, the provincial capital of Liaoning.

All the 11 patients of the disease, who used to suffer from skin canker and high fever, were all made cured and they were in quarantine for further observation, said Sun. The infectious disease of anthrax is usually fatal to warm-blooded animals, especially cattle and sheep.

It is caused by the bacterium Bacillus anthracis and can be transmitted to human beings through contact with contaminated animal substances, such as hair, feces, or hides, said Sun.

Twelve anthrax cases, including seven diagnosed cases and five suspected ones, have been reported in the province by Sunday since the disease was first detected at the Damintun Township in Xinmin City on 29 July.

The patients' age ranges from 20 to 47 and one man died of the disease, said Sun.

The provincial health department has disinfect the disease-stricken areas and more than 600 heads of livestock were slaughtered, said Sun.

In addition, local government also inoculated vaccines for the cattle and sheep, which are vulnerable to the disease, MNA/Xinhua

Four Chinese airlines to buy 42 "Boeing" planes

BEIJING, 9 Aug — Four Chinese airline companies signed a purchasing contract for 42 Boeing aircraft on Monday, worth of 5.04 billion US dollars. Air China will buy 15, China Eastern 15, Shanghai Airlines 9, and Xiamen Airlines 3.

The contract is an important step for Chinese and American companies to introduce new model aircraft, and shows a promising future of bilateral economic and trade cooperation, said Zhang Xiaosiqing, Vice Minister of National Development and Reform Commission.

He noted that China is the largest developing nation and its economic growth calls for rapid aviation growth.

"Last year, the growth rate of China's passenger volume reached 36 percent, and will remain a two-digit growth in the next few years. China will become the second largest civil aircraft market in the world.

MNA/Xinhua

UN inspectors restart to oversee Iran nuclear work

ISFAHAN (Iran), 9 Aug — UN inspectors have arrived at a uranium conversion plant in Iran to install surveillance equipment and oversee the removal of seals as Tehran prepared to resume work there, a senior Iranian official said on Monday.

Such a move would bring the Islamic state into confrontation with the European Union, which has warned Iran it faces being referred to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions if it restarts the plant near the central Iranian city of Isfahan.

"The agency technicians have arrived at the uranium conversion facility to install surveillance cameras," the official told Reuters on condition of anonymity.

"Later, the seals will be removed," he added.

He did not specify when this would take place. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the UN's nuclear watchdog, has said it would take until mid-week to install equipment at the plant to monitor Iran's activities.

Iran denies US accusations that its nuclear programme is a front for bomb making. It says it quickly needs to develop nuclear power as an alternative energy source to meet booming electricity demand and preserve its oil and gas reserves for export.

It has offered to export the uranium hexafluoride produced at Isfahan to allay Western concerns that it could be enriched into bomb-grade material. Britain, Germany and France have called an emergency meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors for Tuesday to warn Iran not to resume work at Isfahan.

French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy on Friday called on Iran to "listen to reason" and said if Iran resumed its nuclear activities, "the international community will surely bring the issue to the Security Council," — MNA/Reuters

Nigerian bridge collapse kills 12 spectators

LAGOS, 9 Aug — At least a dozen people who gathered on a bridge to watch an overflowing river in northeastern Nigeria died when it collapsed, local police said on Monday.

Scores of people were on the bridge across the Jalingo River in the remote farming state of Taraba when it collapsed on Sunday. Many swam to safety.

"We have so far recovered nine bodies and rescued five people, but I think between 12 and 16 people may have died in the incident," a police spokesman said by phone from the state capital Jalingo.

He said the rescue effort was still going on and more bodies might be recovered from the disaster scene on the outskirts of the state capital. — MNA/Reuters
Deportivo Coruna’s Alido Duschler (L) and Olymique Marseille’s Frank Ribery jump for the ball during their UEFA Intertoto Cup final first leg soccer match at Coruna’s Riazor Stadium on 9 August, 2005. —INTERNET

**Castro, Carril earn Depor 2-0 victory over Marseille**

**La Coruna** (Spain), 10 Aug—Deportivo Coruna took a major stride towards claiming a place in the UEFA Cup on Tuesday with a 2-0 victory over Olymique Marseille in the first leg of the Intertoto Cup final at the Riazor. Behind the ball and playing five at the back, Deportivo, who edged past Newcastle United in the semi-finals, had plenty of possession but struggled to make inroads against the French side’s well organised defence.

Their best move of the opening half came just after 30 minutes when full-back Enrique Romero clipped a fine cross into the area, but Castro was unable to add the finishing touch.

It was a similar story after the break, but Castro finally put the Galicians ahead when he fired home a deep pass perfectly to give the visitor the lead. The second leg will be played on Tuesday.

**Villarreal spoil Everton’s European return**

**Liverpool** (England), 10 Aug—Everton’s return to European Cup action after a 34-year absence ended in disappointment on Tuesday when they lost 2-1 at home to Spain’s Villarreal in the first leg of their third qualifying round tie.

With a place in the Champions League group stage at stake, the third-placed finishers in Spain had the edge on the fourth-placed team from the Premier League, showing enough class to overcome Everton’s spirited but somewhat limited approach. Superb goals by Argentina striker Luciano Figueroa and midfielder Josico earned victory for the visitors, with James Beattie briefly hav- ing Everton level late in the first half.

The result leaves Champions League debutants Villarreal in a strong position to advance, particularly as they have a superb home record. It was not what the home fans had expected as they prepared for Everton’s first European action since a brief flurry in the Cup Winners’ Cup in 1995.

They were twice denied a place in the old European Cup in the 1980s due to what limited approach. Superb goals by Argentina striker Luciano Figueroa and midfielder Josico earned victory for the visitors, with James Beattie briefly hav- ing Everton level late in the first half.

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**Betis snatch last-gasp win over Monaco**

**Seville** (Spain), 10 Aug—Real Betis made a winning start to their inaugural Champions League campaign when Edu scored a last-gasp goal to earn his side a 1-0 home victory over 2004 runners-up AS Monaco on Tuesday.

The Brazilian striker coolly steered the ball under Monaco keeper Flavio Roma after beating the offside trap in the third minute of injury time of the first leg of the third qualifying round tie.

Betis, missing last season’s leading striker Ricardo Oliveira, looked as though they had thrown away their chance of victory after spurning a string of scoring opportunities either side of halftime.

The Primera Liga side hit the bar twice midway through the first half. Spanish international centre-back Juanito then went close with a bullet header and pint-sized striker Dani was twice denied just before the break.

**Manchester United squeeze Hungarians**

**Manchester** (England), 10 Aug—Manchester United put a summer of turmoil behind them on Tuesday to coast to a comfortable 3-0 Champions League qualifying victory over Hungarian champions Debreceni at Old Trafford.

The club have endured a stormy off season as Malcolm Glazer’s controversial takeover and a bust-up between manager Alex Ferguson and Roy Keane hogged the headlines.

But it took just seven minutes for Wayne Rooney to lift the gloom with a clinical finish, and second half goals from Senegalese striker Mamadou Niang.

The atmosphere on Tuesday evoked memories of those heady European nights and the Everton players responded by taking a firm grip on the game from the start. However, David Moyes’s side, who narrowly escaped relegation 15 months ago, failed to take advantage of the shut out during the first half.

Former Manchester United striker Diego Forlan tried his luck from long range before Marcos Senna’s clever ball after 27 minutes released Figueroa. Argentina’s latest international for- ward found unleased an angled drive bey- ond Nigel Martyn and into the bottom corner. Everton hit back in the 42nd minute when a deep cross caused confu- sion in the visiting defence and Beattie reacted quickly to poke it in.

However, the celebrations lasted just three minutes before Villarreal restored their advantage when Josico stooped to finish Sorri’s cross with a clinical diving header from just inside the box.
China expected to launch lunar probe satellite in 2007

BEIJING, 10 Aug— China is expected to launch its first ever lunar probe satellite in 2007, given that the country’s moon exploration project has so far been proceeding smoothly, according to the China Aerospace Corporation (CASC), said Ye. The research and development of real-use satellites will begin in September, he said, noting that one to two real-use ones will be developed.

“After the lunar flight, China will carry out soft landing exploration and auto inspection missions on the moon, with the core part being the realization of landing probes on the moon surface and carrying out scientific exploration,” he said. “A basic space flight engineering system, including that for moon soft landing probes and moon surface inspectors, should then be established,” he said. According to Ouyang Ziyuan, chief scientist of the moon probe project, China will carry out various projects on the materials, dynamics, radiation, astronautic and other fields.

S Korean man dies after 50 hours of computer games

SEOUL, 10 Aug— A South Korean man who played computer games for 50 hours almost non-stop died of heart failure minutes after finishing his mammoth session in an Internet cafe, authorities said on Tuesday.

The 28-year-old man, identified only by his family name Lee, had been playing on-line battle simulation games at the cyber cafe in the southeastern city of Taegu, police said. Lee had planted him-

WEATHER

Wednesday, 10 August, 2005
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (3.19) inches, Hmawbi (2.64) inches, Thaton (2.20) inches and Mawlamyine (1.97) inches.

Maximum temperature on 9-8-2005 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 10-8-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 10-8-2005 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 9-8-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 10-8-2005 were 1.14 inches at Mingaladon, 1.10 inches at Kaba-Aye, 0.90 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 60.98 inches at Mingaladon, 61.30 inches at Kaba-Aye and 61.96 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 20 mph from Southwest at (20:36) hours MST on 9-8-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 11-8-2005: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

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

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-8-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Thursday, 11 August
Tune in today:
8.30 am Brief news
8.35 am Music: Happy Perspectives
8.45 am Music: Love to infinity
8.50 am National news/ Slogan
9.00 am Music: Assi waisy International news
9.10 am Music: -More than a friend
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Lunch time music
7:00 pm Rain
Lock me in your heart
-I knew I love you
My wonderful night
10.00 pm Aspects of Myanmar
-World Peace Pagoda
-The Thiri Mingalabar Kaba Aye
Cite Article
9.10 pm Poem
Best of Asia
Better for soul
Best for mind
Best literary excursion
Best garden Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
Hands (Crystal Gayle)
-Walking in the rain
(Tarcy Huang)
4.00 pm
If you ever had a broken heart
(Jaye Collins)
-Cassablanc (Bette Higgins)

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UMEHIL’s 19th Gems and Jade Sales continue

YANGON, 10 Aug — The 19th Gems and Jade Sales 2005 organized by Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd continued for the second day at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, this morning.

Managing Director of UMEHIL Col Win Than oversaw display of jade lots around the ground floor of the mart. Next, he cordially greeted gem merchants who inspected gems and jade lots.

UMEHIL schedules to sell 406 lots of gems and 747 lots of jade through bargain and auction systems.

Gem merchants can inspect gems and jade lots from 9 am to 5 pm daily till 11 August. At 9 am on 12 August, the gems and jade lots will be sold through bargain and auction systems.

So far 835 local merchants and 283 merchants from abroad arrived at the sales and they inspect gems and jade lots. — MNA

Gem merchants inspect jade lots at 19th Gems and Jade Sales of UMEHIL. — MNA

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Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe addresses coordination meeting between Leading Committee for Organizing the Performing Arts Competitions and delegates of States and Divisions. — MNA

YANGON, 10 Aug — A coordination meeting between Leading Committee for Organizing the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions and delegates from the states and divisions was held at the National Theatre in Dagon Township this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung and members, members of organizing committee, members of respective sub-committees, members of the panel of judges and artistes and delegates from states and divisions. First, Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivered an address on the occasion. In his speech he said Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions are held every year. The competitions will be held for the thirteenth time this year. The leading committee, the work committee and sub-committees are to take steps to realize the seven objectives for holding the competitions. With the guidance given by the Head of State, the competitions were held on a grand scale yearly with the aims of uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character. The respective committees, artistes and contestants are to cooperate to realize the objectives. The competitions were categorized into different events.

Arrangements to participate in the competitions have been made known to the contestants. Measures to (See page 10)

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Union of Myanmar State Peace and Development Council Order No 12/2005
6th Waxing of Wagaung, 1367 ME
(10th August 2005)

Duties terminated

The State Peace and Development Council has terminated the duties of Minister for Education U Than Aung with effect from today.

By Order,
Sd/ Thein Sein
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

Union of Myanmar State Peace and Development Council Order No 13/2005
6th Waxing of Wagaung, 1367 ME
(10th August 2005)

Permission granted for retirement

The State Peace and Development Council has permitted the following ministers to retire from duties with effect from today:

(1) U Than Shwe
Prime Minister’s Office
(2) Brig-Gen Pyi Sone
Prime Minister’s Office

By Order,
Sd/ Thein Sein
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

Union of Myanmar State Peace and Development Council Order No 14/2005
6th Waxing of Wagaung, 1367 ME
(10th August 2005)

Appointment of Minister

The State Peace and Development Council has appointed and assigned duties to Dr Chan Nyein as Minister for Education with effect from today.

By Order,
Sd/ Thein Sein
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

Union of Myanmar State Peace and Development Council Order No 15/2005
6th Waxing of Wagaung, 1367 ME
(10th August 2005)

Appointment of Deputy Minister

The State Peace and Development Council has appointed and assigned duties to Col Thurein Zaw as Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development with effect from today.

By Order,
Sd/ Thein Sein
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council