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

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Malaysia

YANGON, 31 Aug— On the occasion of the 48th Anniversary of the National Day of Malaysia which falls on 31 August 2005, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Ibni Al-Marhum Tuanku Syed Putra Jamalullail, Yang di-Pertuan Agong XII of Malaysia.—MNA

Only when results of medical research come out quickly and smoothly, will effective treatment for public be made

Secretary-1 inspects regional development in PyinOoLwin

YANGON, 30 Aug — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein arrived at Mandalay International Airport on 28 August morning by Tatmadaw aircraft. He was accompanied by SPDC member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, senior military officers, deputy ministers, officials of the SPDC office and heads of department.

The Secretary-1 and party were welcomed there by Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Mandalay City Development Committee Chairman Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Pone Zaw Han, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win, senior military officers and departmental heads.

Next, Chairman of the National Health Committee Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party went to the project site of PyinOoLwin Pharmaceutical Factory of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries where they were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun and officials. The deputy minister reported that the Ministry of Industry-1 started the project for construction of PyinOoLwin Pharmaceutical Factory on the land area of 363.65 acres (see page 8).

It is also needed to study the potency of traditional and foreign medicines that have been on the market, and if they are not fit for the people, reports can be made to responsible officials.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects the construction of the runway of Anisakhan Airport in PyinOoLwin. —MNA

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

Nowadays, development of science and technologies has become so dominant in almost all spheres that some big nations with financial and technological edge are constantly trying to extend their influence. At such a time like this, it is necessary for all the people of Myanmar to be highly-educated and rational, broaden their horizon and develop national force with the Union Spirit and patriotic spirit. Only then will they be able to preserve the national dignity and safeguard their interests.

Now is the time when the government is trying to enhance peace and stability and development of the nation and strengthen the national economic life. Therefore, national education promotion plans are being implemented to ensure constant development of human resources and science and technologies that can contribute sustainable development of the nation.

Special Refresher Course No 23 for basic education teachers was opened at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, on 29 August and it was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, also Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee. In his address at the opening ceremony, the Secretary-1 said that it was necessary for all those in the education sector to nurture new generation youths to ensure constant development of human resources and at the same time efforts should be made to raise the health and education standards of the entire national people. Refresher courses for teachers are regularly conducted in order that they can widen the scope of their knowledge and combine their intellectual power and perception of reality. The teachers have to try to be able to not only discharge educational duties but also enhance the interests of the nation and the people at any time and under any circumstance.

In nurturing the new generation youths, the teachers ought to cultivate seeds of good character and practices in them. Only if the teachers are able to train the youths so that they become all-round developed persons, the future of the nation will take shape in accordance with our national ambitions. Therefore, we would like to call on the entire national people including teachers to lend themselves to the task of constantly nurturing the youths for the sake of their interest as well as that of the entire nation.

U Aung Khin Soe appointed Ambassador to Nepal

YANGON, 31 Aug— The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Aung Khin Soe as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Nepal.

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Malaysia

YANGON, 31 Aug— On the occasion of the 48th Anniversary of the National Day of Malaysia which falls on 31 August 2005, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Datuk Seri Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia. — MNA

Commander, mayor inspect upgrading of roads in Yangon

YANGON, 30 Aug— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe together with Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected upgrading and greening tasks in Yangon in order that Yangon Division would become a hygienic city with a proper drainage system this morning and gave instructions to officials concerned.

First, the commander and the mayor looked into tarmacking of road near the junction of Parami and Thanthuma roads with the use of heavy machinery in South Okkalapa Township. Next, they inspected tarmacking of Thanthuma road in South Okkalapa Township, that of Hledan Street in Kamayut, that of University Avenue Street in Bahan Township, that of Inraymaing and that of West Shwe Gon Dine Street with the use of heavy machinery.

Afterwards, they gave instructions on clearing of garbage, mud and silt systematically, arrangements to be made for tarmacking of remaining damaged roads. — MNA

Promotion of trade between Myanmar and PRC discussed

YANGON, 30 Aug— General Secretary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Sein Win Hlaing received Vice-Chairman Mr Chen Yaohuan of CCPIT, Guangdong Sub-Council of the People’s Republic of China and party this morning.

They discussed matters on promoting trade between the two countries, trade fair to be held in Myanmar and assistance to be provided by UMFCCI as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to China and party this morning.

They also discussed the matter of proposing a construction project in Yangon to be undertaken with the assistance of China.

Minister inspects Twantay, Panhline bridges construction projects

YANGON, 30 Aug— Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Deputy Minister U Tint Swe today inspected the construction project in Twantay Township and Panhline Bridge construction project on Hinethaya-Twantay-Dalla Road.

At the Twantay Bridge construction project, the minister heard reports and attended to the needs.

Twantay Bridge is a suspension one and the main bridge is 840 ft in length. Its approach bridge is 1,365 ft in length and reinforced concrete type. Motorway is 28 ft in width flanked by 4-foot-wide walkways. The bridge can withstand 60 tons of load.

At Panhline Bridge construction site, the minister and deputy minister inspected tarring of 28-foot-wide motor way of the bridge.

Panhline Bridge is 1,940 ft long and it can withstand 60 tons of load.

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
World Cyber Games competition starts in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 29 Aug — A three-day "World Cyber Games Bangladesh Championship" has begun here, which is the first time for Bangladesh to take part in such a global cyber game competition.

"This is the selection round of Bangladeshi participants for taking part in the World Cyber Games-2005 (WCG-2005) scheduled to be held in November this year in Singapore," Chief Coordinator of WCG Bangladesh Mohammed Irfan Hossain told Xinhua on Saturday.

Approximately 800 players from 70 countries all over the world will be advanced to the Grand Final in Singapore, he said. A large number of Bangladeshi people participated in the primary selection process through SMS (short message service) while 512 of them, on the basis of the highest correct SMS senders, have been selected for the three-day championship from Friday to Sunday.

"The participants are playing two games — Need for Speed: Under-ground 2 (racing game) and FIFA Soccer 2005 (football game)," Irfan said. "One person from each game will be declared as winner of the competition. The two winners will represent Bangladesh in the WCG-2005."

"There’s no age or sex limit for participants and the youngest participant in this championship is only six years old," he said. The games as well as all procedures of the competition are decided upon by the Central Committee of WCG.

WCG, the world’s first ‘Cyber Game Festival’ designed to build a healthy cyber culture, is held on an annual basis ever since 2000.

Fire breaks out on Singapore cruise ship

SINGAPORE, 29 Aug — A fire broke out on the Cheng Ho (Zheng He) cruise ship, a replica of famous Imperial vessel of China’s Ming Dynasty and the only one in Singapore, just as it finished its tour of the city state’s southern islands on Sunday night.

According to Channel NewsAsia reports, all passengers were evacuated immediately and no one was injured in the fire, which was believed to have started just as the ship was about to dock at the Clifford Pier. It took some 20 officers of the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) to bring the fire under control.

The SCDF said that the fire in the engine room had severely smoked out the compartment on the ship and visibility was very low.

The cruise ship, which is predominately yellow and bears the dragon and the phoenix, makes three tours of the southern islands every day. Cheng Ho a great navigator of the Ming Dynasty, sailed from China to many places throughout South Pacific, Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf and distant Africa in seven epic voyages from 1405 to 1433.

Malachite green scare eased in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 29 Aug — Scare about malachite green in Hong Kong has been eased since the government promised to strengthen inspection on freshwater fish. Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare & Food Carrie Yau said the government is considering whether it should introduce law amendments stipulating that all fish traders must buy fish from registered fish farms or approved places.

However, Yau said while the proposal could further ensure food safety, residents would have fewer choices when buying fish. She promised that the government will consult the public before making any decision. She hoped consumer confidence in freshwater fish can be restored after the malachite green scare.—Xinhua

Blast rips ferry in Philippine south, 30 injured

MANILA, 29 Aug — Some 30 people were injured when a powerful explosion ripped through the passenger section of a ferry at a port on Basilian island in the southwestern Philippines, an Army general said on Sunday.

Brigadier-General Raymundo Ferrer, the island’s Army commander, said the steel-hulled ferry Dona Rosana was boarding passengers in Laminat Port when a blast occurred near the vessel’s cafeteria, triggering a small fire.

The blaze was contained within minutes, but blast damage was extensive. “We’re still trying to determine what kind of explosive device went off,” Ferrer told reporters.

“We have evacuated the ship and sent the wounded people to nearby hospitals,” he said. Investigators were collecting evidence at the blast site. It was suspected that a home-made bomb had been placed alongside rows of tanks of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in the ferry’s pantry.

Jimmy Andong, a town official, said six passengers had suffered third-degree burns. He said the military were sending two helicopters to transfer the critically injured for treatment in the southern port city of Zamboanga. Witnesses said passengers panicked after the explosion, some jumping overboard as fire raged in the ferry’s kitchen on the lower deck.—Reuters

Unidentified drone crashes in Iran

TEHERAN, 29 Aug — An unmanned “drone” aircraft has crashed into mountains in the central Iranian province of Lorestan, an Interior Ministry official said on Sunday, but it was unclear where it came from.

“We have not yet identified it,” a ministry spokesman said.

Drones have been the subject of feverish media speculation in Iran, with commentators asking if the United States would use them to spy on Iran after US forces employed them in Afghanistan.

Most of the key sites of Iran’s disputed nuclear programme lie in the centre of the country. Washington accuses Iran of seeking nuclear arms, a charge Teheran denies. — Xinhua

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Quakes jolt Indonesia's Banda Aceh

JAKARTA, 29 Aug — Two tectonic earthquakes rocked Banda Aceh, capital city of Aceh Province, and its surroundings respectively at 21:00 pm and 11:43 am local time on Sunday, official news agency Antara quoted sources as saying.

The scale and epicentre of the latest quake was not specified yet, while the earlier one measured at 5.5 on the Richter Scale with its epicentre at 5.74 degrees Northern Latitude and 94.38 degrees Eastern Longitude, said Akbar, an operator at the meteorology and geophysics Centre.

While no casualty was reported yet, the quake sparked panic among residents and prompted them to flee to safer places, sources said.

MNA/Xinhua

First Chinese invested int’l school opens in Beijing

BEIJING, 29 Aug — Beijing City International School (BCIS), the first international school invested by a Chinese businessman, was opened Sunday, which has so far recruited more than 100 students from 21 countries and regions.

With 460 million yuan (about 57 million US dollars) of investment by Ni Haohua, President of the Biling Education Group, a real estate enterprise in east China’s Zhejiang Province, the school is in Chaoyang District where foreigners densely inhabit and foreign embassies are located.

There are already 12 international schools before the BCIS, all of which were invested by foreigners.

“Arrival of BCIS marks not only a distinct but exciting addition to the educational landscape of Beijing,” said the school head Christopher Edmonds-Edmunds. The school strives to provide a unique blend of education which draws up the best of both the Western and the Eastern. Chinese language and culture education is the main feature of this Chinese invested school. All students are encouraged to study Chinese language.

MNA/Xinhua

China ratifies international treaty for tobacco control

BEIJING, 29 Aug — China’s top legislature ratified the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control here on Sunday, making the treaty a nation-wide regulation for banning tobacco vending machines.

The Standing Committee of the 10th National People’s Congress (NPC), China’s top legislature, approved the appeal for passing the treaty the Chinese Government signed in 2003.

The NPC Standing Committee supported the treaty by announcing that China will ban tobacco vending machines of any kind on the territorial area of the People’s Republic of China, including Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions.

According to the treaty, the world’s first legal instrument designed to reduce tobacco-related deaths and diseases, all tobacco vendors should place a clear and prominent indicator inside their points of sale about the prohibition of tobacco sales to minors, in case of doubt, request buyer to provide appropriate evidence of full legal age. Similar regulations were enacted in China in 1999 to prohibit tobacco sales to minors.

Wang Dongsheng, scholar with Renmin University of China, said it is unrealistic to protect minors from smoking only by vendors’ self-conscience in China, noting that concrete legal enforcement and punishment are essential.

The treaty also bans tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship on radio, television, print media and Internet within five years and prohibit tobacco sponsorship of international events and activities.

A recent random survey conducted by State Tobacco Monopoly Administration among 220,000 people in 183 cities shows that there are more than 300 million smokers in China, five million among them are minors.

According to Chinese Association on Smoking and Health and tobacco control, about 1.2 million people die of tobacco-related diseases each year in China, one fourth of the total figure of the world. China sold 1,797.95 billion cigarettes in 2003, making it the world’s largest cigarette market.

MNA/Xinhua

Widespread flood alert in northern Thailand

BANGKOK, 29 Aug — Torrential rains hit Thailand’s northernmost province of Chiang Rai on Saturday night, inundating more than 500 villagers’ homes, making several roads impassable for small vehicles, reported the Thai News Agency on Sunday.

More than 20 houses in two villages are now under water — in some areas measured at over one metre deep after a reservoir burst and poured down a nearby mountainside.

A reservoir in another area also burst, spewing waters into four villages, causing more than 500 houses to be submerged.

Meanwhile, a highway from Chiang Rai to Mae Sai District is also flooded and small cars are unable to pass through waters as deep as one metre in some areas. Relief officials in flat-bottomed boats have been sent to flooded areas to provide assistance to displaced victims as waters continue to rise in key rivers.

People living near river and low-lying areas have been alerted to be on watch for flash floods and mudslides.

MNA/Xinhua

Indian PM leaves for Kabul

NEW DELHI, 29 Aug — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Sunday morning left for Kabul on a two-day visit to Afghanistan, the first by an Indian Prime Minister in nearly 30 years, according to Indo-Asian News Service. The Prime Minister’s path-breaking visit will see an expansion of India’s help for the reconstruction of the war-ravaged country and closer bilateral ties on curbing the resurgence of the Taleban militia.

MNA/Xinhua

Hong Kong promotes language education

HONG KONG, 29 Aug — Hong Kong Standing Committee on Language Education Research will allocate 300 million HK dollars (38.46 million US dollars) from the Language Fund to increase the Professional Development Incentive Grant Scheme’s coverage. According to a government Press release, the additional allocation will allow the scheme to support at least 10,000 additional language teachers for their professional development, benefiting a total of 17,500. The scheme, launched in 2004, aims to encourage more on-the-job language teachers, particularly those who do not have a degree or attend any training courses, to upgrade their professional qualifications.

MNA/Xinhua

1,878 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 29 Aug — As of Monday, 29 August, 2005, at least 1,878 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 1,457 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

Since 1 May , 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,739 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 1,348 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

MNA/Xinhua
Philippine Govt urges all sectors to cooperate in saving energy

MANILA, 29 Aug— The Philippine Government said that all sectors of the Philippine society must cooperate in the government’s energy conservation programme to control the impact of oil price rise.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye on Saturday said the whole country would suffer from the soaring oil prices “if we do not act as one to confront the challenge”.

“The whole national team must get its act together … The looming oil crisis that threatens the economy, already weighed down by heavy financial obligations, must be our singular point of focus,” he said.

He said different organized sectors, the civil society and the Church must extend all possible assistance and partnership to the government in its energy saving efforts.

Budget and Management Secretary Romulo Neri also said the country would have to cope with the looming oil crisis brought about by the continuous increase in fuel prices at the international market.

Neri also ruled out the possibility that the Philippines can get cheaper oil products from any new channel of oil supply.

“It’s a market commodity. We cannot go around begging for special prices,” Neri said in a radio interview.

Hu Jintao vows to promote women’s cause

BEIJING, 30 Aug— Chinese President Hu Jintao vowed to promote women’s cause here on Monday when addressing the opening ceremony of the meeting commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

“We will adhere to the basic state policy of gender equality, and constantly promote gender equality and harmonious development between men and women,” said Hu.

China will give full attention to the imbalance, inadequacy and disharmony in women’s development, focus on such key areas and issues as poverty alleviation, employment and health, and interests of women and steadily enhance women’s capacity for self-development, Hu said.

“We will continue to implement the scientific concept of development, and seek to advance women’s cause in the process of developing our economy and society,” he said. He elaborated that the question of women, in essence, is an issue of development, and it can only be solved through development.

The President vowed to strengthen international exchanges and cooperation and jointly advance women’s cause worldwide.

“The improvement of women’s status and role necessitates unmitting efforts from governments and peoples of the world as well as active international cooperation,” Hu said.

Finally, he said China will, as always, act on the purposes of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and continue to work for the comprehensive implementation of the “Beijing Declaration”, the “Platform for Action”, and the “Millennium Development Goals”.

The United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women was held from 4 to 14 September in Beijing, 1995.

US copter under fire in Iraq; one US soldier killed

BAGHDAD, 29 Aug— A US Army helicopter made a forced landing on Monday night under hostile fire in northern Iraq, and one soldier was killed and another injured, the US military said.

The incident occurred in Tal Afar, a guerrilla-ridden city 260 miles northwest of Baghdad, the military said.

No further details were released.

Residents of Tal Afar, reached by telephone from Mosul, said the helicopter came down about 6:30 pm in the southwestern part of the city.

US troops fought guerrillas last year in the Turkomen city and managed to re-store control enough to hand it back to Iraqi authorities.

However, Iraqi authorities lost control, in part because of the city’s volatile ethnic mix.

The US military has bolstered its force around Tal Afar last spring and has been trying to restore full control to the strategic city, which sits along major trade routes to Syria.

Indonesian researcher claims to invent anti-bird flu ingredients

JAKARTA, 29 Aug— Indonesian researcher Ir Sumardi Msc claimed that he invented anti-bird flu ingredients, whose effectiveness had been proven at the Veterinary Centre of the Agriculture Ministry in Yogyakarta, official news agency Antara reported on Sunday.

Msc said that the anti-bird flu ingredients were obtained from herbal extracts that had been marketed in some areas of East Java in limited volume.

Sumardi, a lecturer at the Food Technology Faculty of Soegiapanantra University in Semarang, said that at least 50 percent of 12 chickens facing about four million bird flu viruses in the first stage of the clinical test, survived after being given the herbal extracts.

“The herbal extracts turned out to be effective to counter bird flu virus if they were administered to healthy chickens,” he said, adding that he will apply for a patent for his invention.

Next week, Sumardi is scheduled to meet with the Agriculture Minister after reporting his invention to the Central Java governor.

His invention will be a piece of good news to animal breeding farmers after a number of people and thousands of chickens in Indonesia had died after being infected with avian flu, Antara said.

China adopts law to penalize offenses against public order

BEIJING, 29 Aug— The Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress (NPC) passed a law on penalties for offenses against public order on Sunday, which cover streetwalkers, pimps and football hooligans for the first time.

The law is to replace a set of regulations of the same nature promulgated 25 years ago.

“The phenomenon of streetwalkers or pimps soliciting customers for prostitution in public places, especially the streets, has become a serious problem. Relevant people deserve to be punished as the phenomenon has gravely eroded social values and affected public order,” said Yang Jingyu, chairman of the Law Committee of the NPC Standing Committee.

There was no provision on this specific issue in the previous regulations.

According to the law, to take effect as of 1 March, 2006, a person will be detained for a period less than five days or fined a sum below 500 yuan (approximately 61.65 US dollars) if he or she is found of finding customers for prostitution in public places.

The 119-article law, a guide on issuing penalties on offenses against public order, also contains provisions on penalizing football hooligans and other offenses.

Meanwhile, it has removed the clause of forbidding “begging activities of vagrants” that disrupt public order and infringe upon the right of the person and a few others in the previous regulations to conform with spirits of modern public administration, says a law expert.

Legislation on penalties for offenses against public order is considered to be closely linked with interests of the people. In 2003 alone, Chinese police handled five million cases in this field, involving more than 10 million people.

Anti-war protestors hold a huge banner to protest against the Iraq war near President Bush’s ranch in Crawford, Texas, on 27 August, 2003. Internet

Afghan traffic police officers stand near the destroyed King’s Palace in Kabul on 29 August, 2005, next to the site of a ceremony to lay the foundation stone of the new Parliament building. — Internet

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

Antara
Philippine Govt urges Congress to pass anti-terrorism bills

MANILA, 29 Aug—The Philippine Government Saturday called on the Congress to pass the two anti-terrorism bills it has drafted to give more teeth to the government’s campaign against terrorism.

"The threat of terrorism does not sleep and our campaign is, and should be, relentless and steadfast," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye.

In her State of the Nation Address (SONA) on 25 July, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo also urged the Congress to act on bills, considered as a priority administration measure. Bunye said the absence of a strong anti-terror law had made the country more vulnerable to both homegrown and foreign terrorists.

Under existing laws, Philippine law enforcers could only hold suspected terrorists for three days and 36 hours within which to file charges against the suspects, he said. Moreover, suspected terrorists could only be charged with physical injuries, possession of explosives, damage to property, and homicide or murder, he added.

"Most of the cases we could file against terrorists areailable, so it is possible that the suspect who is released after a few days in prison would be the same person who would commit a terrorist act following his release on bail," he said.

Meanwhile, the presidential National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales said on Saturday that terrorist-related attacks could take place in September in the country as terror groups continue to receive financial support from abroad.

Gonzales, who did not identify the groups suspected to be involved in the attacks, said the Philippine National Police and Transportation Department will start implementing stricter security measures in the coming week. He also said terrorist organizations will continue to thrive while Congress fails to endorse two anti-terrorism bills.

Organic Food Fair opens in N-E China city

HARBIN, 30 Aug—The fifth China Organic Food Fair opened on Sunday in Qiqihar of Heilongjiang Province in Northeast China.

The five-day event, cosponsored by China’s Agriculture Ministry and Heilongjiang provincial government, provides 520 booths, and the exhibition covers 4,000 square metres of floor space, according to sources with the provincial government.

With "Green, Health, Cooperation and Hope" as its theme, the fair is expected to lure nearly 400 enterprises from more than 10 countries to show their products featuring health.

Qiqihar, known as one of the world’s major habitats of red-crowned cranes, also ranks as one of China’s organic food bases. The last four fairs were staged in Qiqihar beginning from 2001.

Vietnam receives more foreign visitors in first eight months

HANOI, 30 Aug—Vietnam welcomed over 2.3 million foreign visitors in the first eight months of this year, posting a year-on-year rise of 22.7 per cent.

The country’s biggest tourism markets in the period included China’s Mainland with 527,140 visitors, the United States with 230,940, and South Korea with 211,510. The Vietnam National Administration of Tourism told Xinhua on Monday.

Among the 2.3 million arrivals, the number of tourists surged the most — by 34.6 per cent to nearly 1.4 million, while that of business visitors dropped 8.6 per cent to nearly 304,150.

"This year, Vietnam is expected to host 3.4 million international arrivals, up 17.2 per cent. It will also receive some 16 million local visitors, up 17.6 per cent," the administration said, adding that the country is likely to earn around 33 trillion Vietnamese dong (nearly 2.1 billion US dollars) from tourism services in 2005.

The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) has recently forecast that Vietnam will receive 3.36 million foreign arrivals in 2005, 3.64 million in 2006 and 3.89 million in 2007, accounting for 5.8 per cent, 5.8 per cent, and 5.75 per cent of the total visitors to the 10-member Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), respectively.

Coal mine cave-in kills five in Central China

ZHENGZHOU, 30 Aug—A colliery cave-in killed five miners in Dengfeng City of Central China’s Henan Province, said an official with the provincial work safety administration on Sunday.

The tragedy occurred at 11:50 am on Saturday, in the Xuzhuang Xinghua No 2 Colliery, where 29 coal miners were working in the colliery. 24 miners evacuated from the scene while the other five were trapped underground.

The coal mine director organized rescue efforts without reporting to local government in time. Local work safety bureau got report at about 11:20 pm on Saturday and sent 300 rescuers to the spot. All the five were bodies were found at 15:30 on Sunday.

INTERNET

Philippines records economy growth of 1.4% in second quarter

MANILA, 30 Aug—The Philippines recorded a 1.4-per-cent economy growth in the second quarter this year, slightly higher than the 1.1 per cent in the previous three months, the National Statistics Office (NSO) said on Monday.

The NSO said in a statement that the growth rate in the April to June period, however, was higher than market-expected 1.3 per cent.

The NSO attributed the increase of the economy growth rate to the resilient consumers spending, which has cushioned the impact of weak exports, slow farm output and high oil prices.

According to the NSO, the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) grew 4.8 per cent in the year through the second quarter, and, for the first half of the year, GDP climbed 4.7 per cent from a year ago. The Philippine Government has set its goal of GDP growth this year at 5.3 per cent, which, as economists forecast, will be missed due to high oil prices and a rising tax burden.

10th anniversary of 4th World Conference on Women opens

BEIJING, 30 Aug—A meeting to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women opened here Monday, with more than 800 delegates around the world to review women development in the past ten years and look beyond.

Beijing Plus Ten, centring on the theme of “Action for Equality, Development and Peace”, will review the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action passed at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the 2000 Millennium Development Goals.

The 800-odd delegates will also discuss new issues in women development and try to put forward solutions to promoting women development and gender equality.

Chinese President Hu Jintao, Sri Lanka President Chandrika Kumaratunga, Esthonian President Arnold Ruetel and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour delivered speeches at the opening ceremony chaired by Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi.

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INTERNET
Whatever it may be, the destructive elements cannot disturb peace, stability and progress of Myanmar and the development momentum of the drive for building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Internal and external destructive elements in addition to BBC, VOA, RFA and other broadcasting stations under the colonialists are indeed common enemies of the entire people of Myanmar. It will be very easy to ascertain if it is authentic, plain gossip or the poison. It should be put on the national touchstone.

Novel Union and the USA. He was put on record as the doctor of propaganda War.

After World War II, the US and Western Euro-

2. VOA and BBC broadcasting stations aired good of Myanmar until 1988. BBC once aired a broadcast that Myanmar Socialist Programme of the Revolutionary Council was for the well-being of farmers that the world should emulate. BBC and VOA misunderstood the 1988 un-

rest of Myanmar that it was an opportunity for them and applied disinformation and black journalism. I presented in news stories, articles and publications an item about the interview invented by Christopher Gunnes in 1988 to fuel the unrest.

On 28 July 1988, the BBC correspondent in collu-

sion with Ne Min, Htay Aung, Htay Kywe and Ko Ko Latt deceived Ma Aye Nyein Thu of Kamayut Township, a student as well as a Red Cross member, of the drive for building a discipline-flourishing demo-

cratic nation. Internal and external destructive ele-

ments of the latter. However, such naive absconders,

their destinations. Oxygen that is present in the air is necessary for all forms of life on earth. The benefits of air are diverse. Radio pro-

grammes of authentic平 gossip or colonial poison

on the national touchstone

Tekkatho Myat Thu
acres at mile post-35 by Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Road in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, on October 2003. The test run of the factory as the first phase started on April this year, and the test run as the second phase is scheduled from December 2006 to March 2007. Tablets and capsules are to be produced first and then injections, syrup, embrocation and powder. He said arrangements are being made to grow raw industrial crops in the fields of Hto and Thantingyi, in Ngaphe and Thayetlaung townships and in Nyangbinwin region. He also reported on factory investment, personnel affairs, progress in construction of factory buildings and running of machinery and requirements, and Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw on assistance being rendered.

The Secretary-1 said the Head of State has given guidance that arrangements should be made to ensure the continuous supply of household medicines for the public. In addition, measures are to be taken for production of medicines for the common diseases such as malaria, TB, hypertension, diabetes and diarrhoea and dysentery. The Secretary-1 stressed the need for timely completion of the project and measures to be taken for speedy distribution of medicines to the public. Then the Secretary-1 and party viewed the production process.

The project is being undertaken with the aim of producing various kinds of medicines, reducing imports, distributing medicines and medical equipment to central and upper regions and creating job opportunities for local people. Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and party proceeded to the Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) of the Ministry of Health. At the hall, Minister Dr Kyaw Myint reported on implementation of the tasks regarding the guidance given by Senior General Than Shwe and Vice-Senior General Maung Aye during their inspection tours. Director-General Dr Thein Tun reported on area of the MRD (Upper Myanmar), construction progress, strength of the staff, holding of local and foreign meetings and sending trainees abroad, holding of seminars and workshops on traditional medicine research, conducting of medical research with the assistance of WHO and establishment of a herbal garden. In response to the reports, Lt-Gen Thein Sein said the Head of State has given guidance to carry out research extensively in every sector and to nurture and train researchers and experts. Only when the results of research come out quickly and smoothly, will effective treatment for the public be made. People have had faith in Myanmar traditional medicine since yore. Particularly, rural people are using traditional medicine extensively. He said it is necessary to keep record of production of medicine and making research with the use of modern machines.

It is also needed to study the potency of traditional and foreign medicines that have been on the market, and if they are not fit for the people, reports can be made to responsible officials.

The Secretary-1 urged the officials to strive for the improvement of public health care services.

Later, the Secretary-1 and party viewed the electronic library and reading room and the herbal garden in which 9502 herbal plants (362 kinds) are being grown. The Secretary-1 and party inspected construction of the runway, 10,000 feet long and 200 feet wide, and the apron near Anisakan Airport, PyinOoLwin.

They were conducted round by Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and officials. The Secretary-1 then gave instructions.
The Secretary-1 and party went to No 1 Iron and Steel Plant of No 3 Mining Enterprise of the Ministry of Mines in PyinOoLwin. Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint said the Head of State gave guidance on production of 25,000 tons of iron ore and steel annually. He said the ministry drew a project and made preparations for the tasks in June 2004. He said the ministry stockpiled iron ore, coal, lime, magnesium oxide and chromite, major raw materials for production with the assistance of other ministries. He said two EAF furnaces were used in August 2004 due to power supply and installation of new spare parts. The plant produced more iron ore and steel than in the past due to the systematic repair work. He said the ministry will continue to make efforts to reach the target set by the Head of State.

The Secretary-1 said the Head of State had fulfilled requirements for boosting production in State-run factories and also laid down objectives for No 1 Iron and Steel Plant. Ways and means are to be sought for realization of the objectives in cooperation with the related ministries, he added.

The Secretary-1 inspected fire-proof brick and local and foreign raw materials and production process of iron ore, steel, steel balls and rods.

No 1 Iron and Steel Plant produces iron, steel balls and rods needed in special projects, railroads, factories, farm equipment factories, heavy industries, industrial producers’ cooperative societies and industrial zones.

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No 1 Iron and Steel Plant produces iron, steel balls and rods needed in special projects, railroads, factories, farm equipment factories, heavy industries, industrial producers’ cooperative societies and industrial zones.

Next, the Secretary-1 made a speech. He said that the Head of State has given guidance on cultivation of new crops that are capable of penetrating foreign market, growing of 100,000 acres of coffee, the ministry is taking measures for the entrepreneurs to acquire techniques and quality strains, loan, water and fertilizer. He also reported on cultivation of coffee in the State-owned coffee plantations, growing of shade trees in the coffee plantations, production of coffee factories, research work on coffee, cooperation with companies abroad, export of coffee and turnovers.

Secretary-1 Li-Gen Thein Sein inspects Catimor and Arabica plantations at coffee research and technological dissemination centre of Myanmar Farm Enterprise in PyinOoLwin. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Catimor and Arabica plantations at coffee research and technological dissemination centre of Myanmar Farm Enterprise in PyinOoLwin. — MNA

The Secretary-1 and party went to coffee research and technological dissemination centre of Myanmar Farm Enterprise in PyinOoLwin in PyinOoLwin. Managing Director of MFE U Myint Shwe said that the Head of State gave guidance on seeking new export items and cultivation of 100,000 acres of coffee in PyinOoLwin and Nawngkhi Township.

Arrangements are being made to use 20,000 acres in 2004-2005, 40,000 acres in 2005-2006, 40,000 acres in 2006-2007 out of the reclaimed land. In this regard, altogether 23,062.15 acres of land were allocated to 323 private entrepreneurs and four organizations.

Under the instruction of Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, altogether 41,225 acres of virgin and fallow land were reclaimed in Interkyaukgyi region in Yaksaw Township for growing of coffee and the reclaimed lands were already allocated to entrepreneurs.

In order to successfully implement the project for cultivation of 100,000 acres of coffee, the ministry is taking measures for the entrepreneurs to acquire techniques and quality strains, loan, water and fertilizer. He also reported on cultivation of coffee in accord with the guidance, efforts are to be made to cultivate coffee in PyinOoLwin and Nawngkhi regions where there are plots for cultivation.

The government will provide necessary assistance to those who want to grow coffee on a manageable scale, he stressed and called on the ministry to take measures for allotment of plots, distribution of quality strains and techniques and acquisition of loan.

Secretary-1 Li-Gen Thein Sein inspects Electronic Library of Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) in PiwnOoLwin. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein inspects Catimor and Arabica plantations at coffee research and technological dissemination centre of Myanmar Farm Enterprise in PyinOoLwin. — MNA

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The government will provide necessary assistance to those who want to grow coffee on a manageable scale.
Projects for development...

(from page 16)
school, faculty members, educational researchers, scholars, those in educational management, students and the people contribute to educational development, he said.

He said the success of the ten tasks of basic education sector of the 30-year national education promotion project including completion of basic education level, uplift of basic education, development of opportunities for modern teaching and learning, cultivation of qualified citizens and promotion of basic education activities with the cooperation of the people depends on hard work and efforts of teachers in different regions.

He also said that progress of schools, promotion of education and full supply of teaching and learning aids much depends on organizational power of the teachers. He said educational tasks of the basic education teachers are not ordinary ones. Discharging educational tasks is building the basic foundations for national development. Especially, development of the education sector and national education promotion tasks are one of the most basic parts of nation-building tasks, he pointed out.

The government has been striving to achieve all-round development, to become strong national economic life, to develop human resource, to build infrastructures on development, to raise health and education standards and to narrow the gap between rural and urban development with the strength of the people while overcoming political and economic crises and pressures. Nowadays achievements have been made, he added. The national convention, the basic step of the seven-point road map, is now ready to be held soon.

He urged the teachers to discharge the national duties and promotion of national education tasks and to make efforts for success of the seven-point road map upholding lofty aims of development of the country on the right path to the national interest and perpetuation of the Union as long as the world exists.

In conclusion, he urged them to discharge the national duties and promotion of national education tasks and to participate in the efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point road map for emergence of a peaceful modern developed nation.

Next, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein greeted the teachers. The five-week course is being attended by 1,529 teachers from states and divisions in lower Myanmar. — MNA

Myanmar U-23 defeat Philippine 6-2 in its debut of ASEAN U-23 Championship

YANGON, 30 Aug — Myanmar U-23 defeated Philippine 6-2 in AFF U-23 Youth Championship for 2006 held in Bangkok of Thailand at 5.45 local time.

Myanmar scored a hat-trick each by Yan Paing and Marla. Myanmar will face Timor Leste in the second match of group-A on 1st September. — MNA

Myanmar U-17 advances to semifinal in ASEAN U-17 Championship

YANGON, 30 Aug — Myanmar U-17 advanced to the semifinal in the second place of group-A in ASEAN U-17 Championship held in Bangkok of Thailand.

Thailand beat Myanmar 2-1. Pyai Phyo Oo scored the opening at 33rd minute.

Myanmar will meet the first winner of the group-B on 2nd September. — MNA

28 armed group members exchanged arms for peace from May to July

YANGON, 30 Aug — The State Peace and Development Council has been upholding to Our Three Main National Causes in making all-out efforts to gain national reconsolidation and to ensure equitable development of all parts of the nation. In consequence, national armed group members come to realize constructive efforts and benevolent attitude of the government and destructive acts, and have been exchanging arms for peace individually or in groups.

In the period from May to July, sergeant Aik Kyaw and corporal Aik Shen of SSA (Ywet Sit) armed group bringing along with a pistol, an AK-47, two magazines and 96 assorted rounds of ammunition, and sergeant Aik Haung Yan of Company 3, Battalion 678 with an AK-47, a magazine, and 30 rounds of ammunition in the Triangle Region Command; private Phu Mar, Ail Laws, Kar Lein and Sai Naw of Battalion 242, Brigade 759 with an M-16, an M-22, three magazines, and 70 rounds of ammunition, and private Ne Min of Battalion 4 of ABSDF in the Eastern Command; Major Khangyi Pyi Lin of APA, private Saw Ei Saw of Brigade 1 of KNU, and Phar Kyaw in charge of Bilin Township administrative region, private Saw Ei Htoo of special battalion with an AK-47, a carbine, three magazines and 40 rounds of ammunition, sergeant Saw Wah Pway of Battalion 6, Brigade 6, with a pistol, a magazine and four rounds of ammunition in the South-East Command; corporal Saw Khai Khar and private Tar Seik of Battalion 11, Brigade 4, with an M-16, a magazine, 20 rounds of ammunition, a hand grenade, and a mine; corporal Ah Tun and private Saw Aung Htoo of Battalion 12 with a pistol, a magazine and five rounds of ammunition, and private Thet Naing of BCP with a pistol and four rounds of ammunition in the Coastal Region Command; Lance-corporal Huang Tar Kye-O and private Bwe Kyawn Nom of CNA in the North-West Command; second lieutenant Saw Saw of Battalion 5, Brigade 2, and Saw Nt Sin of headquarters, second lieutenant Kyaw Thadoe, private Saw Gawe Mu and Saw De Moe of Battalion 5 with an AK-47, a magazine and eight rounds of ammunition, privates Saw Li Wah and Saw Tha Htoo of Battalion 6, and private Win Myint of headquarters with a nine-barrelled gun, two rounds of ammunition and a hand grenade in the Southern Command respectively.

Officials of the respective military camps gave warm welcomes to the 28 members and provided assistance for them. There are many armed group members who have tendency to exchange arms for peace. — MNA

Sports Administration’s Course opens

YANGON, 30 Aug — Under the programme of International Olympic Committee, the opening ceremony of Olympic Solidarity Programme National Sports Administrators Course (1/2005) was held this morning at Youth Training Camp, in Thuwunna.

Vice Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin made a speech.

Altogether 31 trainees from the ministries, Sports and Physical Education Department of states and divisions, and Myanmar sport federations are attending the course which will last up to 2 September. — MNA

The New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 31 August, 2005

Myanmar U-23 advances to semifinal in ASEAN U-17 Championship

YANGON, 30 Aug — Myanmar U-17 advanced to the semifinal in the second place of group-A in ASEAN U-17 Championship held in Bangkok of Thailand.

Thailand beat Myanmar 2-1. Pyai Phyo Oo scored the opening at 33rd minute.

Myanmar will meet the first winner of the group-B on 2nd September. — MNA

28 armed group members exchanged arms for peace from May to July

YANGON, 30 Aug — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe met athletes of Yangon Command who will take part in Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Youth Football Tournament (2005), Taekwondo, basketball, Myanmar Taing and chess contests at the hall of Yangon Command yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, station commanders, senior military officers, chairmen of the sports sub-committees, managers, coaches and athletes.

The commander delivered a speech. He spoke of the need to prepare for systematic training in the respective categories and to collect new talented athletes for new generation. He urged them to achieve success in every sport event. — MNA

Donation made: Patron of Buddha Pujaniya Hsimi 9900 (Insein)U Soe Win and officials accept cash and rice donated by basic education schools in Insein Township through Education Officer U Yan Aung and Principals for First Buddha Pujaniya of Cintamani Pagoda on 30-8-2005. — MNA

COMMANDER MAJ-GEN MYINT SWE MEETING WITH ATHLETES OF YANGON COMMAND. — MNA
YANGON, 30 Aug—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of the Western Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe on 27 August went to Kyaukpyu Airport and inspected repair and extension of the runway.

After hearing reports on future tasks, the commander and minister attended to the needs. They also inspected No 1 Bridge of Myanma Port Authority and Ngapalway Jetty in Kyaukpyu and fulfilled the requirements.

At the meeting with townswelders, departmental officials and members of social organizations at Yanye, the commander and minister donated exercise books and cash.

On 28 August, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Central Executive Committee Member Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with USDA members in Yanye Township and presented cash donation amounted K 500,000 for Yanye Township USDA through the township USDA Secretary.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister went to Konbaung-1 Model Village.

At the meeting with social organizations at the model village, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe donated cash and exercise books to the village school. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspects communication offices in Mandalay

YANGON 30 Aug—Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Maj-Gen Thein Zaw arrived at the auto telephone exchange and fulfilled the requirements.

Next, Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and officials arrived at the auto exchange in Pyigyigayun Township.

Officials reported on communication tasks to the Minister, who then fulfilled the requirements. Next, Minister inspected the mobile telephone exchange and Pyigyitagon post office.

Then, the minister and party visited Mandalay GPO and gave necessary instructions to officials. On 27 August, the minister visited Myittha Microwave exchange. — MNA

Performing Arts Competitions, Anyeint, Drama and Magic Show continue in Mandalay

YANGON 30 Aug—The 5th Performing Arts Competitions, Anyeint, Drama and Magic Show of the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare of the Ministry of Defence continued for the second day at No 3 Mobile Public Relations Unit in Mandalay yesterday.

Present were Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Defence, writers Chit San Win and Chit Oo Nyo, script writer Academy winner U Nyein Min, judges from University of Culture (Mandalay) and Fine Arts Department (Mandalay) and enthusiasts.

No 1 and No 2 Mobile Public Relations Units took part in drama contest. On 28 August No 3 and No 4 Mobile Public Relations Units participated in the drama contests and Seinthauph Ayeint troupe of No 1 Mobile Public Relation Unit took part in the contest. — MNA

Prize presentation ceremony of Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held

YANGON 30 Aug—The organizing committee of Yangon North District held a prize distribution ceremony of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at the hall of the Pyimtainganyo Township hall at 4 pm on yesterday.

Guest House of Hlaingthaya Township, the District All Private Bus Lines Control Committee, Union Seinthauph Anyeint and Pyimtainganyo Township participated in the drama contests.

Present were Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Defence, writers Chit San Win and Chit Oo Nyo, script writer Academy winner U Nyein Min, judges from University of Culture, Mandalay Fine Arts Department and enthusiasts.

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Workshop on environment concludes

YANGON, 30 Aug—The Third National Workshop on National Performance Assessment and Strategic Environment Framework for the Greater Mekong Subregion Project Phase II organized by the Myanmar National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA) in cooperation with Asian Development Bank (ADB) concluded at the Sedona Hotel today.

First, presentation of the final fact sheets and EPA report were presented by the project national consultants.

In the afternoon session, case studies were presented by the national consultants.

Next, presentations on Programme finalization of the EPA report and case studies were made by the project secretariat from UNEP-PRC-AP.

The workshop came to a close in the evening with Key Summary and Recommendations delivered by Joint Secretary of the NCEA Daw Yin Yin Lay.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 31 August, 2005
Private school fees in Britain outstrip inflation

LONDON, 29 Aug — The cost of sending children to private day schools in Britain has risen by more than three times the rate of inflation over the last 20 years, according to research from the Halifax bank on Sunday. In 2005 the average annual cost of educating a child in a private day school was £8,388 compared against £1,806 pounds in 1985 — an increase of 564 per cent against a 103-per-cent hike in inflation.

Parents who sent their children to board also felt the impact on their wallets. Annual boarding fees in 2005 of 18,282 pounds were more than four times the 4,045 annual cost in 1985. Over the last 20 years average annual earnings in real terms grew by just 36 per cent against a 50.5 per cent rise in private school fees of 129 per cent. School fees now account for 36 per cent of the British average annual income of £27,452 pounds compared with 22 per cent of 1985 average earnings. Boarding fees represented 69 per cent of average incomes in 2005 compared with 43 per cent in 1985 while day school fees took up 31 per cent of income compared with 19 per cent in 1985.

Despite the expense of private education, most parents are opting for this route. The percentage increase in the number of day and boarders attending private schools has been almost twice the increase in the number of pupils attending state school over the last 20 years. The number of pupils going to private schools increased by 7.5 per cent in 1985/86 and 2003/04 to 659,500 from 613,700. In contrast there was a rise of only 4.9 per cent in the number of children attending state schools — 9,391,600 from 8,951,500. government figures showed, the Halifax said.

MNA/Reuters

Two Serbs shot dead in southern Kosovo

KOSOVO, 29 Aug— Two Serb civilians were killed and two injured overnight when their car was shot at in southern Kosovo, a local political leader and police sources said.

Serbs have been the target of frequent attacks in Kosovo by ethnic Albanians since the end of the 1998-99 war which led to the withdrawal of Serb forces from the mainly Albanian southern Serbian province and the arrival of UN Administration. The four Serb men were fired on from another car shortly after 11 pm (2100 GMT) as they drove near the town of Stipce near Kosovo’s southern border with Montenegro, town mayor Stanko Vakoljvic told Reuters.

“They were shot at from a Mercedes which had left minutes earlier,” he said. — MNA/Reuters

46 kilos of cocaine seized at Bogota Airport

BOGOTA, 29 Aug— Anti-narcotics authorities in Colombia seized Sunday 46 kilos of coke at the capital city’s El Dorado Airport.

The drug, hidden inside a car bound for Mexico, was discovered by police agents at the airport, said police sources.

Col. Oscar Gonzalez, director of the airport’s police agents, said that the success of the seizure was in large part due to information provided by officials from the Attorney General’s office and their participation in the bust.

MNA/Xinhua

Britain receives terror warning prior to bombings

LONDON, 29 Aug — British Foreign Office’s top official warned the Downing Street more than a year before the July 7 bombings that the war was fuelling Muslim extremism in Britain. British newspaper The Observer said on Sunday.

The paper published a leaked letter from Foreign Office’s Permanent Secretary Michael Jay to Cabinet Secretary Sir Andrew Turnbull, who provides administrative support to British Prime Minister Tony Blair, dated 18 May, 2004.

Expired drugs sold rampant in Zimbabwe

The MCAZ said authorised authorities move in large part over previous years. In 2005 the average annual cost of educating a child in a private day school was £8,388 compared against £1,806 pounds in 1985 — an increase of 564 per cent against a 103-per-cent hike in inflation.

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MNA/Xinhua

Seven tons of cocaine bound for US seized in Ecuador

QUITO, 29 Aug— The Ecuadorian police and the US Coast Guard intercepted on Saturday seven tons of cocaine aboard an Ecuadorian fishing boat near the Galapagos Islands.

The Ecuadorian police said Sunday that the drugs came from Colombia and were bound for the United States.

Police seized the boat 200 miles south of the Galapagos Islands, and arrested the eight crew members, all Ecuadorians.

The operation, called Neptune, was undertaken by the Intelligence Unit of the Anti-Narcotics Police Command of the Ecuadorian Police of Guayas, which was investigating a drug trafficking network established by Colombians and Ecuadorians.

MNA/Xinhua

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Reg. No. 4/3789/2004
Used in respect of:-
“Hormone contraceptive, pharmaceutical preparation for treatment of menopausal conditions, pharmaceutical preparation for treatment of disease or disorders in genital organs, pharmaceutical preparation for treatment of acne, pharmaceutical preparation for treatment skin diseases” (International Class 5)
FLUDARA ORAL
Reg. No. 4/3790/2000
FLUDARA
Reg. No. 4/3792/2000
Used in respect of:-
“Pharmaceutical preparations against leukaemia” (International Class 5)

DRIVE WITH CARE
New oil refinery inaugurated in Indonesia

**JAKARTA, 29 Aug** — President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono officially inaugurated a new oil refinery in Balongan, Indramayu, West Java Province on Sunday. The Langit Biru refinery will boost the country’s oil production in order to reduce the country’s dependence on imported fuel, official news agency Antara reported.

Susilo said that the refinery could also help save the state budget from rocketing oil prices on the international market.

The President said that if the country had to rely solely on imported fuel, the cost of the subsidy would continue to soar.

“The higher the oil price (internationally), the higher the cost of the subsidy and the heavier the country’s burden,” he said. He said that with current oil prices, the cost of the subsidy had reached 140 trillion rupiahs (about 14 billion US dollars), more than a quarter of this year’s total state budget.

After the inauguration, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Purnomo Yusgiantoro said the Langit Biru refinery could save the budget about 580 million US dollars per year.

The plant could refine 52,000 barrels of oil per day, he said. State oil and gas company Pertamina has nine refineries, with a total capacity of about one million barrels a day. — MNA/Xinhua

25 die of gastroenteritis in northwest Nigeria

**LAGOS, 29 Aug** — At least 25 people have lost their lives due to the outbreak of gastroenteritis in Lilo Village in Nigeria’s northwestern state of Zamfara, the official News Agency of Nigeria reported Saturday.

According to the report, some 500 people, mostly children, are currently receiving treatment at a camp constructed at the centre of the village.

The cause of the outbreak is reportedly connected with the use of infected water from the stream by the villagers, because of lack of potable water in the area.

A medical team made up of 10 health personnel has been dispatched to the village to help treat affected persons at the camp.

According to Bala Sabon Gari, head of Lilo Village, the state government has sent drugs and other necessary medical facilities to the area.

Chairman of local government Aminu Aliyu said they had purchased and distributed drugs worth 200,000 naira (about 1,500 US dollars) to the victims as an interim measure.

MNA/Xinhua

Cholera kills hundreds as rain pounds West Africa

**DAKAR, 29 Aug** — Cholera outbreaks triggered partly by heavy rains battering West Africa have killed hundreds of people in the past few months, prompting appeals for medicine to help thousands of sufferers, UN officials said on Friday.

The disease has struck as far afield as tiny Guinea-Bissau, where the government has banned sales of water in markets to combat the waterborne disease, to giant Congo, where 16 people traveling in a military convoy died of the infection.

“It is the height of the rainy season and alarm bells are ringing after the increase in cases,” said Sophie Thome, information officer at the regional UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Senegal’s capital Dakar.

Cholera can kill victims within 24 hours by inducing vomiting and diarrhoea that cause severe dehydration, but is treatable using a simple mixture of water and rehydration salts.

Often associated with heavy rains that can flood latrines or contaminate wells, the disease usually only kills the poorest people who cannot afford basic healthcare. “There are several factors as to why the epidemic is so bad including heavy rains and sanitation issues,” Claire-Lise Chaignat, coordinator of the World Health Organization’s (WHO) global cholera task force, told Reuters. — MNA/Reuters

Shock wave therapy helps some stroke sufferers

**NEW YORK, 29 Aug** — After a stroke, some patients develop muscle spasm in their hand and wrist. A small study now indicates that the condition can be relieved with focused shock wave therapy, and the benefits may persist for at least 12 weeks after treatment.

Shock wave therapy is commonly used to break up kidney stones, and it has also proven useful in the treatment of various bone and tendon diseases, but there's not much known about its use for abnormal muscle tension, or "hypertonia," Italian researchers note.

Dr P Manganotti and Dr E Amelio, from the University of Verona assessed the outcomes of 20 patients with stroke-related hypertonia in the upper limbs who were first treated with sham stimulation and then, one week later, with shock wave therapy.

The treatment consisted of pressure pulses from a "lithotripter" device aimed at hypertonic muscles in the forearm and hand. Much lower energies were used than is customary for dealing with kidney stones, so the procedure was painless and patients did not need anaesthesia.

MNA/Reuters

Susilo asks public not to speculate on currency

**JAKARTA, 29 Aug** — President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono urged the public Sunday in Indramayu not to buy dollars following the weakening of the rupiah, which on Saturday hit 10,430 rupiahs per US dollar, its lowest level since January 2002, local media reported.

“The real shame is that dollars are being hoarded. I ask everyone not to add to the problem if they love the country,” he said. Susilo, on the sidelines of inauguration of a new oil refinery in Indramayu, said that the government and the central bank would soon introduce measures to halt the slide of the rupiah. — MNA/Xinhua

1,000 refugees die weekly in war-ravaged N Uganda

**KAMPALA, 29 Aug** — One thousand internally displaced persons die every week in the war-ravaged northern Uganda, according to a preliminary analysis report undertaken by the United Nations’ agencies and non-governmental organizations.

The report, named Health Mortality Survey for northern Uganda, was quoted by local media as saying recently that on average there are 1.54 deaths per 10,000 people per day instead of the internationally accepted one death per day, adding the infant mortality rate was 3.18 per 10,000 deaths per day instead of two deaths per 10,000.

The report was conducted among 1.3 million internally displaced persons in Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts between January and July 2005.

According to the report, the leading cause of death in the region apart from violence is malaria and HIV/AIDS.

Sam Okware, the acting director of medical services at the Ministry of Health, said that the report will be instrumental in helping the Ugandan Government to prepare for the next national emergency action plan.

David Nabarro, World Health Organization representative in Kampala, said the situation in the war-torn northern Uganda could have been worse without the work of security forces and humanitarian agencies. On Wednesday, the international charity organization World Vision’s officials in Kampala described the situation in the region as pathetic and needed urgent help. — MNA/Xinhua
Manchester United ready to challenge for Premiership title

LONDON, 30 Aug—Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson claimed his side was ready to challenge for the English Premiership title after beating Newcastle 2-0 at St James' Park.

Goals from Wayne Rooney and Ruud van Nistelrooy clinched victory for the Old Trafford club and left Ferguson eying the future with far more optimism than his counterpart Graeme Souness.

Ferguson, whose side was yet to concede a goal, said: "There is a look about us that we've had in the past when going for titles. There's a great feeling among the players."

Ferguson's side had to put on a battling show from Newcastle, who slumped to another defeat because of two blunders by Jean Alain Boumsong.

The defeat increased the pressure on manager Souness, whose side has picked up only one point and still not scored a Premiership goal this season.

Souness failed to turn up for the post-match Press conference, and his assistant Alan Murray explained that Souness was a strong character and would handle the situation.

Murray also dismissed that Emre and Kieron Dyer had to be substituted because of injuries before half-time. "There are a lot of positives for us from this game. We matched United until we lost our key players," he added.

Wenger fears over Henry's exit

LONDON, 30 Aug—Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger has revealed that Thierry Henry is stalling on a new contract and feared that the striker could walk out on the Gunners.

"We are ready right now to negotiate a new long-term contract with Thierry — but I have the impression he is not," Wenger told the News of the World.

The 28-year-old striker's current Gunners contract ends in summer 2007. "Thierry is my priority. He is the new captain and he's the one who must lead this club into the new stadium, Wenger said.

The French international needs two goals to break Ian Wright's all-time Arsenal scoring record of 185 goals.

"I cannot imagine Thierry not being part of the project but at the moment we have to wait," Wenger added.

Williams sisters advance in US Open

NEW YORK, 30 Aug—Defending champion Serena Williams was eliminated by fellow Russian Ekaterina Bychkova in the first round of the US Open tennis championships here on Monday.

The fifth-seeded Kuznetsova lost to 20-year-old Bychkova, who ranked 97th in the world, 6-3, 6-2, becoming the first Williams sister to lose in the opening round here.

Bychkova reached the second round in her first appearance in the main singles draw of a Grand Slam tournament. Another of Russia's 2004 Grand Slam champions, Maria Sharapova, was slated in her first appearance in the main draw.

Fifth-seeded Kuznetsova's loss means that the world number three Zheng Jie scored a 6-2, 3-6, 6-0 vicotory over Iveta Benesova of the Czech Republic to reach the second round, while her fellow Peng Shuai was defeated by Emma Laine of Finland 3-6, 6-2, 6-2.

The 16-year-old Chan, ranked 261st in the world, slumped to another defeat because of left symptoms. In other matches, China's number three Zheng Jie scored a 6-2, 3-6, 6-0 vicotory over Iveta Benesova of the Czech Republic to reach the second round, while her fellow Peng Shuai was defeated by Emma Laine of Finland 3-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Cristie Kerr of the US holds up the Wendy's Championship for Children trophy, on the 18th hole at Tarstan Fields Golf Club, after winning the championship in Dublin, Ohio, on 28 August, 2005. Kerr won the tournament by one stroke with a 17-under-par 270 over Paula Creamer and Annika Sorenstam.—INTERNET

James dropped from England's World Cup qualifiers

LONDON, 30 Aug—David James paid the price for his poor display in England's 4-1 defeat in Denmark as he was dropped by Sven-Goran Eriksson for England's forthcoming World Cup qualifiers against Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Manchester City custodian let in all four goals in England's defeat in Copenhagen and has now been replaced by West Brom's Chris Kirkland.

Eriksson insists it is not the end of the line for James, but admitted his display in the Three Lions' recent defeat had prompted him to look elsewhere.

"I have spoken to David James today and explained to him that, on this occasion, I think it's best not to select him," stated the England chief.

"He has always been extremely professional for me and I have assured him that the door is not closed, and that I will be monitoring his form at Manchester City very closely."

"Chris Kirkland is a brilliant prospect who has suffered badly with injuries, but he is now started playing regularly again, so I feel the time is right to have a good look at him."

Also dropped is Chelsea's Glen Johnson, but there is a surprise first call-up for Liverpool starlet Stephen Warnock.

Challton's Luke Young replaces Johnson in the squad and could depu-tize for the injured Gary Neville, although brother Phil and Liverpool's Jamie Carragher are other options.

Ericsson will consider at right-back.

"Right-back is an issue, the Swede continued, "I know Jamie Carragher and Phil Neville don't play for their clubs but they can do the job. Luke Young is also doing very well at the moment." Charlton's Darren Bent keeps his place in the 22-man squad following his explosive start to the Premiership campaign while Cristal Palace's Andy Johnson is also brought back into the international fold after missing out against Denmark through injury.

Michael Owen is selected despite being suspended for the Wales game, but there is no place for Alan Smith who opted to sit out the Denmark game in favour of improving his fitness with Manchester United's reserves.

Despite the snub, Eriksson claims Smith is still under consideration, adding: "I know (Sir Alex) Ferguson is trying to make him a holding midfielder and that won't happen overnight.

"I hope for him and England he will be successful. You have to consider him a centre-forward but also a midfielder."

Liverpool's Steven Gerrard and Chelsea captain John Terry are both included in the squad despite carrying injuries.

Following are the full squad:

Goalkeepers: David James (Sheffield Wednesday), Tim Howard (Everton), Scott Carson (Derby County), Scott Carson (Derby County), David James (Sheffield Wednesday), Tim Howard (Everton), Scott Carson (Derby County).

Defenders: Matthew Upson (Birmingham City), Gary Neville (Manchester United), Rio Ferdinand (London), Rio Ferdinand (London), Matthew Upson (Birmingham City).

Midfielders: Sam midfielder Sidwell (Chelsea), Sam midfielder Sidwell (Chelsea), Sam midfielder Sidwell (Chelsea).

Forwards: Michael Owen (Newcastle United), Michael Owen (Newcastle United), Michael Owen (Newcastle United).

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Bychkova reached the second round in her first appearance in the main singles draw of a Grand Slam tournament. Another of Russia's 2004 Grand Slam champions, Maria Sharapova, was slated to open the night session against potent-ially dangerous Greek Eleni Daniilidou.

However, the Williams sisters remain-ed on course for a fourth-round showdown. Eighth-seeded Serena Williams, the reigning Australian Open champion who has been dogged by left ankle and knee problems, defeated Chi-nese Taipei's qualifier Chan Yung-Jan 6-1, 6-3.

The 16-year-old Chan, ranked 261st in the world, managed to put up a bit of resistance in the second set, with a resistance break to lead 3-1.

Chan had put Williams under pres-sure with two break points in the second game of the set, then did earn the break in the fourth game as Williams double-faulted.

She had a chance to make it 4-4 after Williams fired a return long in the next game, but the American instead held on and forced a break of her own to close the gap to 3-2. She finished by winning the last five games to take the match.

Wimbledon champion Venus Williams defeated Japan's Rika Fujiwara 6-3, 6-1, showing little ill effect from her weeks off the court recovering from flu symptoms.

In other matches, China's number three Zheng Jie scored a 6-2, 3-6, 6-0 vicotory over Iveta Benesova of the Czech Republic to reach the second round, while her fellow Peng Shuai was defeated by Emma Laine of Finland 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2.

"She didn't play her game today," said Peng Chiau's coach Ma Weikai. "She was too eager too win in the second and third sets." Peng, who is China's number one, walked away after the match with- out any word.—MNA/Xinhua

Italy squad for World Cup qualifiers

ROME, 30 Aug—Italy coach Marcello Lippi has named the following 22- man squad for the World Cup qualifiers away to Scotland and Belarus on 3 and 7 September.

Goalkeepers: Morgan De Sanctis ( Udinese), Angelo Peruzzi (Lazio)

Defenders: Andrea Barzaghi (Palermo), Fabio Cannavaro (Juventus), Fabio Grosso (Palermo), Marco Materazzi (Inter Milan), Alessandro Nesta (AC Milan), Cristian Zaccardo (Palermo), Gianluca Zambrotta (Juventus).

Midfielders: Simone Barone (Palermo), Mauro Camoranesi (Juventus), Daniele De Rossi (AS Roma), Mauro Esposito (Cagliari), Gennaro Gattuso (AC Milan), Giandomenico Mesto (Regina), Andrea Pirlo (AC Milan).

Forwards: Francesco Totti (AS Roma), Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus), Alberto Gilardino (Juventus), Vincenzo Iaquinta (Udinese), Luca Toni (Fiorentina), Christian Vieri (AC Milan).

MNA/Xinhua

Members of Italian men's eights carry their boat following a training session in Gifu, Japan, on 28 August, 2005. The championships begin on 29 August and continue until 4 September.—INTERNET
Denmark asks US to stop unauthorized CIA flights

STOCKHOLM, 30 Aug — The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has asked the US Government to put a stop to unauthorized flights by the CIA into Danish airspace, Ritzau news bureau reported on Monday.

The government is opposed to unauthorized flights by the CIA through Danish airspace, a position it has expressed to the United States, according to Foreign Minister Per Stig Moeller. “The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has made it quite clear to US officials that Denmark does not want its airspace used for purposes that are in conflict with international conventions,” wrote Moeller, in response to an inquiry from Frank Aaen, spokesman for military affairs for the Red-Green Alliance.

Reports surfaced in May that civil airplanes secretly registered by the CIA had been sighted over Denmark. Human rights organizations claim that the planes are used to transport terror suspects to places where torture is conducted. Moeller had originally denied that the government had knowledge of transports taking place in Danish airspace that violate “international conventions”, according to Ritzau.

Aaen was not satisfied with the ministry's statement, however. “The government must have found out that there is a problem when Denmark's closely ally apparently misuses Danish airspace.

Nevertheless, they continue using cautionary formulations in the hope that nobody notices anything. It would benefit the government if it clearly rejected these flights instead of producing a half-finished song,” said Aaen. — MNA/Xinhua

U Maung Tin, Chairman of Administrative Board of Hninzigom Home for the Aged, accepts K 100,000 donated recently by families on behalf of daughter Daw Khin Thun Myint of No 66, Daw Thein Sin Street, Kantawkalay, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, in memory of late parents U Tin Pe and Daw Khin Nyo. — MNA

Flood Bulletin

| Issued at: 12:30 hrs MST on 30-8-2005 |

An earthquake of slight intensity (3.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (near Hmawbhi) about (26) miles North of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (03) hrs (02) min (58) sec MST on 30th August, 2005.

Earthquake Report

| Issued at: 04:00 hrs MST on 30-8-2005 |

An earthquake of slight intensity (3.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (near Hmawbhi) about (26) miles North of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (03) hrs (02) min (58) sec MST on 30th August, 2005.

Temperature on 30-8-2005 was 71°F. Minimum temperature on 30-8-2005 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 30-8-2005 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 29-8-2005 was 1.1 hrs approx. Rainfalls on 30-8-2005 were 1.38 inches at Mingaladon, 1.38 inches at Kaba-Aye, 0.12 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 69.96 inches at Mingaladon, 73.07 inches at Kaba-Aye and 78.74 inches at central Yangon. Minimum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from West at (11:40) hrs MST on 30-8-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Bay of Bengal.

Special Feature: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday’s tropical depression over the South China Sea has weaken to a low pressure area.

Forecast valid until evening of 31-8-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is 80%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 31-8-2005: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 31-8-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.
Prime Minister felicitates
Malaysian counterpart

YANGON, 31 Aug— On the occasion of the 48th Anniversary of the National Day of Malaysia which falls on 31 August 2005, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dato’ Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia.—MNA

Projects for development of the education and national education promotion implemented

Special refresher course No 57 for basic education teachers opened

YANGON, 30 Aug— Special refresher course No 57 for basic education teachers was opened at the Nawarat Hall of the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division this morning. On behalf of the Myanmar Education Committee Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein attended the ceremony and made a speech.

It was attended by the ministers, the attorney-general, the mayor, the deputy ministers, members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the director-general of SPDC office and departmental heads, the rector of CICS (Phaunggyi) and heads of department, instructors and trainees. In his speech delivered on behalf of the Secretary-1, Minister Dr Chan Nyein said as it is known to all teachers that national education promotion is crucial for the building of a developed and prosperous country. As teacher development plays an important role in enhancing the national education, the government has been conducting special refresher courses for teachers.

Opening of the courses is also aimed at enabling the teachers to know teaching methods, prevailing conditions of the State and efforts of the government and to have the sense of serving the interests of the nation. By attending the special refresher courses, teachers will gain more knowledge and experiences, and their capabilities will improve. Only then will the education of their students improve. He went on to say that teachers are responsible not only for discharging duties in education sector but for serving interests of the State.

He said education programmes were implemented at different levels in basic education sector in 1998. The national education special four-year project was launched in 2000 in combination with basic education and higher education sectors. The 30-year national education promotion project was undertaken in the second year of the special four-year project in accord with the work programmes. Efforts and cooperation of teachers from basic education sector (See page 10)