Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance on implementing hydro electric power projects based on resources of nation

10 hydel power projects being implemented throughout the country

Notes of contract related to Yeywa Hydel Power Project signed

YANGON, 2 Sept — Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance that the electric power sector is a drive for development of the State. The development of the electric power sector and the growth of socio-economy of the State are inter-related. In implementing the enhancement of the electric power development projects, it is necessary to carry out the tasks step by step, based on natural resources of the country and progress of other circumstances. The Ministry of Electric Power is implementing 10 hydel power projects throughout the nation in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. This being so, Yeywa Hydel Power Project is the biggest project among them.

Yeywa Hydel Power Project is being implemented on Myitnge River, 31 miles southeast of Mandalay. The 790-megawatt turbines will be installed at the plant of the project to produce 3,550 million units of electricity yearly.

A ceremony to sign the notes of contract agreement related to Yeywa Hydel Power Project being implemented by Hydro-electric Power Department was held at Hotel Nikko, here, at 11 am today.

(See page 8)
Towards industrial development

In an effort to build a modern and developed nation, the government is enlisting national forces and relying on own resources, is making efforts in all aspects.

In this regard, development of the industrial sector has been accorded special priority. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on running of factories and mills at full capacity and fulfilled the requirements in this connection.

The Head of State has given guidance, calling on the Ministry of Industry-1 to produce 25,000 tons of iron ore and steel annually in striving for development of the industrial sector. In accord with the guidance, the ministry drew a plan and made preparations for the move beginning June 2004.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, accompanying officials concerned, on 28 August 2005, inspected No 1 Iron and Steel Plant of No 3 Mining Enterprise of the Ministry of Mines in PyinOoLwin and gave necessary instructions.

Iron ore, coal, lime, magnesium oxide and chrome, which are major raw materials for industrial production, are being stockpiled. In the process, the technocrats are trying their utmost, making better use of advanced machinery. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Mines in collaboration with other ministries is taking steps for acquisition of other raw materials.

The plant has been producing more iron ore and steel than in the past after undergoing systematic repair. The Ministry of Mines hand in hand with other related ministries is to seek ways and means in order to meet the target set by the Head of State.

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

Therefore, the Ministry of Mines making the most of own technocrats and own natural resources to make integrated and well-coordinated efforts together with other related ministries for meeting and exceeding the targets in accordance with the guidance given by the Head of State, while taking steps for development of the industrial sector of the State.

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

Nutrition Week activities launched in Kengtung

YANGON, 2 Sept — A ceremony to launch the Nutrition Week activities was held at the hall of Kungtung Township Development Affairs Committee yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Chairperson of Shan State (East) MCW Supervisory Committee Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, officials, teachers, students and guests.

The commander explained matters related to the nutrition week activities. Next, the commander and wife presented prizes to the winners in the essay competition.

Chairperson Daw Kyu Kyu Hla gave away prizes to outstanding District MCWAs in the cooking contest for expectant mothers and breastfeeders.

After the ceremony, the commander and wife together with guests viewed the test in content of iodine in salt, documentary photos of the Nutrition Week activities and prize winning works in the essay contest and posters.

Later, the commander, wife and officials gave Vitamin A pills, ferrous sulphate tablets and refreshment to children under 6 months to one year.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspect tasks for upgrading of Yangon International Airport. — TRANSPORT

YANGON, 2 Sept — Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Nau Aung inspected the project for upgrading of Yangon International Airport this afternoon.

Director-General U Tun Hlaing of the Department of Civil Aviation reported on renovation of the arrival lounge and progress in building an annex; Director U Kyaw and Managing Director U Tun Myint Naing of Asia World Co Ltd, on laying of concrete over the space of the apron, progress in constructing drains, car park, and octane tank, and stockpiling of construction materials; Chief Engineer (Auto-Exchange) U Han Win of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, on installation of auto-exchange, and Network in the airport; and Chief Engineer (International Relations) U Zaw Tint, on installation of High Speed Internet.

The ministers called for cooperation of related ministries for the airport to meet the international standard. Next, they inspected the project site, communication equipment in Internet Cafe and installation of seats at the departure lounge.

Minerals Minister receives Chairman of Ivanhoe Ltd

YANGON, 2 Sept — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received Chairman of Ivanhoe Myanmar Holding Ltd Mr Robert M Friedland and party at his office yesterday evening.

Also present at the call were Managing Director U Saw Lwin of No 1 Mining Enterprise of the Ministry of Mines and officials.

On-job Training Course No 23 for Auditors opens

YANGON, 2 Sept — The On-job Training Course No 23 for Auditors was opened at the training school of Auditor-General’s Office this afternoon, with an address by Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lu Maung. Also present were Deputy Auditor-General Daw Thin Thin, Director-General U Myo Myint of the Auditor-General’s Office, officials and trainees.

Altogether 107 auditors are attending the two month course.

Efficiency enhancement course for religious affairs officers concludes

YANGON, 2 Sept — The efficiency enhancement course for religious affairs officers concluded at the foreign missionary division of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, here, this morning, attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung gave a speech, and presented certificates to thetrainees. Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko presented prizes to the outstanding trainee officers.

Later, the deputy minister gave away gifts to the instructors.

Special Appellate Bench hears nine cases

YANGON, 2 Sept — The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (YANGON) U Thein Soe, Supreme Court Judges U Chit Lwin and U Tin Aye sitting at the Court Room No 1 this morning, delivered judgment of three Special Civil Appeal Cases and six Special Criminal Appeal Cases, also heard three Special Civil Appeal Cases under section 7 of the Judiciary Law, 2000.
India’s cellphone market expected to reach $24b by 2009

MUMBAI, 1 Sept — Indian cellphone market is expected to grow at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 35.6 per cent to reach 24 billion US dollars by 2009, according to a report by Gartner.

The Indian cellular services market recorded the highest growth across Asia-Pacific and Japan region in 2004, with a CAGR of 67 per cent, Gartner said in a statement here on Wednesday.

“The capability and capacity to invest in penetrating semi-urban and rural markets will be important determinants for increasing market share and creating sustainable business in the Indian cellular market place”, Gartner principal analyst (Asia Pacific) for Telecoms said.

With declining service costs and the introduction of low cost handsets, the barriers to entry for cellular services would come down substantially creating a significant market opportunity, she added.

Mobile data, which accounted for seven per cent of service revenue in 2004 is also expected to rise to 20 per cent by 2009, according to Gartner.

Operators, however, would have limited success in generating incremental revenue from mobile data services on account of limited wallet share for spending beyond basic voice services and the high cost of data services which act as a barrier to entry for mass market adoption, Gartner said. — MNA/Xinhua

Ford to invest 2.83b rupees in West Bengal

KOLKATA, 1 Sept — Alfred Brush Ford, scion of US automobile pioneer Henry Ford, has decided to invest in three projects at Mayapur in the eastern Indian state of West Bengal that hold potential for creating 15,000 jobs and arrival of three million tourists.

“More than 15,000 new jobs are expected to be generated either directly or indirectly. We also expect three million tourists to visit annually,” ABF director John Robert Sims said at a presentation on the projects.

The projects to be executed by Alfred Ford’s company ABF International envisage setting up of a Village Industries Park, a Tourist Hospitality complex and a Vedic Planetarium at Mayapur, home to the global headquarters of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON).

The company will pump in 2.83 billion rupees initially through foreign direct investment route, ABF senior Vice-President Alister Taylor said.

On indirect investment the company “expects to bring in double the amount” she said. — MNA/PTI

Indonesians satisfied with President

JAKARTA, 1 Sept — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono remains popular after 10 months in office despite some disappointment over the performance of his economic team, a poll showed on Wednesday. Almost 65 per cent of 1,000 people polled by the Indonesian Survey Institute from August 13-16 said they were satisfied with the performance of the ex-Army general who became the country’s first.

But barely 40 per cent of respondents were satisfied with the performance of his economic ministers while 43.7 per cent said they were unhappy.

Some 36 per cent said economic conditions had been improving under Yudhoyono’s administration. A quarter of the respondents said conditions had become worse. — MNA/Reuters

China-US textile talks fail

BEIJING, 1 Sept — Talks between China and the United States over China’s surging textile exports have failed to bridge deep differences between the two sides, a US industry official said on Wednesday.

Cass Johnson, President of the US National Council of Textile Organizations, said the American negotiating team would fly home from Beijing on Thursday.

Johnson told Reuters that US manufacturers would respond to the failure of the talks by filing petitions with Washington next week seeking emergency curbs on more categories of Chinese textiles.

China Southern Airlines to buy 10 latest Boeing aircraft

BEIJING, 1 Sept — China Southern Airlines Co will buy ten Boeing B787 aircraft, a new model, the company announced on Wednesday.

According to a contract signed with Boeing Company Tuesday, all the aircraft shall be delivered between July 2008 and August 2010.

The list price of each B787 aircraft, according to Boeing’s web site, is between 125 to 135 million US dollars.

The latest Boeing product, the B787 consumes 20 per cent less fuel compared with similar planes. Additionally, its maintenance cost will be 15 per cent less than other aircraft of the same level.

China Southern Airlines said its B787’s will be mainly used for long-distance flights, especially international lines.

Earlier this month, Chinese Airlines signed a six-billion-US-dollar deal with Boeing to purchase 50 Boeing B787 jetliners.

China Southern Airlines said the new planes can better meet the demand of China’s fast-growing civil aviation industry. They can help airlines reduce operating expenses, provide better services to passengers and enhance competitiveness.

China Southern Airlines Co ranks first among Chinese airline companies numbers of aircraft, lines and passengers. In 2004, the company transported 40 million passengers and became one of the top ten global airline companies.

S Korean bath house blast kills 4, injures scores

SEOUL, 2 Sept — At least 4 people were killed and more than 40 others injured when a boiler exploded at a South Korean public bath house on Friday, sending naked and burned bathers fleeing into the busy street to seek help, police said.

Reports said the explosion shattered glass ad sent flames and scalding water shooting out from the bath house on the second and third floor of a block in the southern city of Taegu.

Three female bodies were found at a beauty salon on the first floor, police said and local reports added the three appeared to have been killed by the collapse of the bath house above.

Police said they also found the body of a man in a nearby attached parking lot.

“We are searching for more bodies,” Taegu Police said by telephone.

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“We are searching for more bodies," Taegu Police said by telephone. — Internet

Colleagues welcome Reuters cameraman

Haider Kadhim (facing camera) at the Reuters office after being released from detention at a US military base in Baghdad on 31 August, 2005. — Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 3 September, 2005 — Internet

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Haider Kadhim (facing camera) at the Reuters office after being released from detention at a US military base in Baghdad on 31 August, 2005. — Internet
Third fire in one week in Paris, no casualties
Paris, 1 Sept — A major fire broke out on Wednesday evening in a toy store warehouse near Pompidou Centre and Paris City Hall, a Fire Brigade spokesman and witnesses said.

The fire started at around 8:20 pm (1820 GMT), more than 100 firefighters as well 22 fire engines from eight fire stations were mobilized to tackle the blaze. The fire was controlled within a few hours, according to the Fire Brigade.

No people were inside the building when the fire broke out, the spokesman said.

Three fires have occurred recently in the French capital, leaving a total of 48 dead, mostly African immigrants. — MNA/Xinhua

Singapore sets up Financial Industry Disputes Resolution Centre
SINGAPORE, 1 Sept — The Financial Industry Disputes Resolution Centre has been set up in Singapore to serve consumers at low cost, Channel News Asia reported on Wednesday night.

Consumers who face disputes with financial institutions like banks but do not have the resources to go to court may resort to the one-stop centre for free mediation as the first step. If the mediation fails to reach resolution, consumers can go for adjudication just at a cost of 50 Singapore dollars (about US$30) as administrative fees. While decisions made by the centre are binding on the financial bodies, consumers can choose to pursue their claims by other means.

About 400 financial institutions have agreed to abide by the centre's ruling for possible disputes, according to the report.

Established as an independent body, the directors of the centre comprise representatives from the legal, banking, insurance and consumer sectors to ensure the fairness of its resolutions.

Managing Director of the Monetary Authority of Singapore Heng Swee Keat was quoted as saying that the move shows the financial sector's intention to “enhance fair dealing and raise professional standards”. — MNA/Xinhua

Quake jolts Aceh
JAKARTA, 1 Sept— An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter Scale shook the Indonesian tsunami-stricken province of Aceh at 14:30 local time (07:30 GMT) on Wednesday.

Local meteorology and geophysics agency said the epicentre was located 50 kilometres south-east of the provincial capital of Banda Aceh, reported the Antara news agency.

The tremor was felt in the eastern and southern coasts of the province. There is no immediate report of damage. — MNA/Xinhua

Bangladeshi “IT” market expands to $235m
Dhaka, 1 Sept — Bangladeshi IT market moves forward with its domestic IT spending amounting to 235 million US dollars in 2004, posting a 9-per-cent rise compared to the previous year.

The United News of Bangladesh, a private news agency in the country, on Wednesday quoted a Singapore-based market research study as saying that despite mounting social and political upheavals, the Bangladeshi IT market continues to overcome challenges and post solid growth.

It said the IT market in Bangladesh is heavily dependent on hardware, which represents more than 75 per cent of total IT spending. The software market is stifled by the early state of market development and prevalent piracy which exceeds 90 per cent in the consumer market.

The study said the government sector accounts for over 40 per cent of total spending and non-government organisation investment is a major driver for market expansion. Besides, these two key market segments, the finance and telecommunications industries are vital, collectively these four segments represent over 70 per cent of the country's total IT spending.

Personal computers (pc), which represent the largest portion of the market, registered shipment in excess of 135,000 in 2004. PC market is led by the commercial desktop segment, which represents over 70 per cent of total shipments followed by the consumer desktop market with a 26-per-cent share.

Similar to other emerging markets, assembled pc and small local brands represent roughly 75 per cent of total pc shipments in the country, according to the study. — MNA/Xinhua

Another “Reuters” cameraman ordered held in Abu Ghraib
BAGHDAD, 1 Sept— A cameraman for Reuters in Iraq has been ordered by a secret tribunal to be held without charge in Baghdad’s Abu Ghraib Prison until his case is reviewed within six months, a US military spokesman said on Wednesday.

Ali Omar Abraham al-Mashhadani was arrested by US forces on August after a search of his home in the city of Ramadi. The US military has refused Reuters requests to disclose why he is being held. He has not been charged.

His brother, who was detained with him and then released, said they were arrested after Marines looked at the im- ages on the journalist’s cameras.

Lieutenant-Colonel Guy Rudssill said, referring to a hearing of the Iraqi-US Combined Review and Release Board held at a secret location in Baghdad on Monday, Mashhadani would be entitled to a review of his case within 180 days and would be held at Abu Ghraib.

Reuters Global Managing Editor David Schlesinger said: “I am shocked and appalled that such a decision could be taken without his having access to legal counsel of his choosing, his family or his employers.” — MNA/Reuters

Would-be leader raps Blair on Iraq
LONDON, 1 Sept — Former British finance minister Kenneth Clarke, bidding to take the reins of the opposition Conservative party, launched an attack on Thursday against Tony Blair’s Iraq policy which the Conservatives had backed.

“The disastrous decision to invade Iraq has made Britain a more dangerous place,” Clarke, 65, said in a speech in London.

The Conservatives, party of Winston Churchill and Margaret Thatcher, have long been seen as the most pro-American of Britain’s major parties. The party backed Blair’s decision to support US President George W Bush in war in Iraq in 2003.

But that made it difficult for them to challenge Blair’s foreign policy, the area where he was seen to be most vulnerable during an election in May. Clarke, a critic of the war, was one of the few exceptions in his party’s ranks.

“The decision by the British government to become the leading ally of President Bush in the Iraq debacle has made Britain one of the foremost targets for Islamic extremists,” he said in the speech, a key address in his bid to lead the party.

Suicide bomb attacks in London last month which killed 52 people drew new attention to the question of whether Blair’s support for the war made Britain more vulnerable.

Clarke, one of the Conservat-ives’ best known and experienced figures who has served as health, interior and finance min-ister, is bidding to become the party’s fifth leader in eight years. — Internet
**White paper says China will never seek hegemony**

**Beijing, 1 Sept— China will never seek hegemony and will remain forever a staunch force for safeguarding world peace and promoting common development, said a white paper issued here on Thursday.**

China, holding high the banner of peace, development and cooperation, will remain committed to pushing forward the process of international arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, according to the white paper titled China's Endeavours for Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.

The white paper is published to fully elaborate on Chinese Government's policies and positions on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation and give a systematic account of China's involvement in the international arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation affairs.

The Chinese nation loves peace and advocates that nothing is more valuable than peace and all nations should live in peace and harmony, said the paper.

Subjected to untold external aggression and suppression in its modern history, China fully understands how precious peace is, it said.

At present, the Chinese people are concentrating on development and nation-building along a road of peaceful development. China needs a long-lasting and stable international environment of peace for her development, which, in turn, will promote world peace and progress, said the paper. — MNA/Xinhua

**UN urges US restraint after Iraqi journalist shot**

**United Nations, 1 Sept— The United Nations' educational and cultural arm on Wednesday deplored the killing of Reuters sooudman Waleed Khaled in Baghdad and urged military forces in Iraq to ensure journalists can do their work.**

Khaled, an Iraqi, was killed on Sunday by shots to the head and chest while on news assignment. Iraqi police said US troops fired on him. A US military spokesman said they were still investigating.

Koichiro Matsuura, the director-general of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO, also condemned the injuries inflicted on Khaled's colleague, Reuters cameraman Haider Kadhim, who was wounded in the same incident.

"Despite the tense security situation in Iraq, it is paramount that all those willing to help establish democracy in Iraq be mindful of the right of the media to exercise their profession freely," Matsuura said in the statement.

"I trust that the ongoing US investigation will explain the circumstances of events fully and pave the way for improvements in the future," he said. "This is essential as the ability of the Press to report freely on the situation in Iraq plays a key role in the future success of the democratic reconstruction of the country." UNESCO is based in Paris but a copy of the statement was released at UN Headquarters in New York. — MNA/Reuters

**S Korea to curb real estate speculation**

**Seoul, 1 Sept — South Korea announced a set of new measures on Wednesday to curb rising real estate price.**

The new policy measures are focused on increasing tax rates on multiple housing owners in particular, aimed to restrain real estate speculation, according to the South Korea Overseas Information Service of the Government Information Agency.

The South Korean Government will impose a uniform 50-per-cent capital gain tax on owners of more than one residence from 2007, and the taxation will be based on market prices.

Owners of residences valued at more than 600 million won ($82,524 US dollars) will be levied with a composite real estate tax ranging from 1 percent to 3 percent depending on market prices.

This rule is difference from the current one, which stipulates people who own residences valued at more than 900 million won ($737,896 dollars) to subject to a composite real estate tax of at least 1 percent.

The new set of measures will be brought to South Korean National Assembly for approval in the fall.

The comprehensive anti-speculation measures came amid concerns that there are signs of a bubble in South Korea’s residential real estate market, which may undermine efforts to boost the domestic economy. The South Korean Government introduced similar anti-speculation measures in 2003, which had prevented property prices from increasing sharply until this year. — MNA/Xinhua

**India, Pakistan to sign MoU on drug trafficking**

**New Delhi, 1 Sept — India and Pakistan would shortly sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to put in place a regular institutional mechanism to intensify mutual cooperation and liaison on drug control matters.**

In a joint statement, issued Tuesday after the two-day home-secretary level deliberations, both India and Pakistan noted with satisfaction the continuing cooperation and exchange of information between narcotic control agencies of both countries.

India’s Home Secretary V K Duggal, reading the joint Press statement, said both sides underlined the need for cooperation between India’s probe agency Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Federal Investigation Agency of Pakistan.

It was also agreed that experts from the two sides would meet at a mutually convenient date in the near future to work out modalities for implementation of the arrangement of cooperation between the two agencies. — MNA/Xinhua

**80 fire-fighters tackle blaze in central Paris**

**Paris, 1 Sept— Eighty fire-fighters were fighting a blaze in the centre of Paris on Wednesday close to the Pompidou Centre and Paris City Hall, a fire brigade spokesman and witnesses said.**

Twenty-two fire engines from eight fire stations were mobilized to tackle the blaze, which sent a thick plume of smoke into the evening sky, the fire brigade said. It was not immediately clear if there were any casualties.

A fire spokesman said initial reports put the blaze in a stone but local residents told a Reuters correspondent on the scene that an apartment block was ablaze.

The blaze was the latest in a spate of fires in the French capital which have killed 24 people, mostly Africans, and raised questions over fire safety and the treatment of immigrants.

After the latest fire on Monday, in which seven people died, President Jacques Chirac demanded action on fire safety to prevent further tragedies. — MNA/Reuters

**Four charged with plotting terror attacks in LA**

**Los Angeles, 1 Sept— The imprisoned founder of a radical Islamic group and his three followers were indicted on Wednesday for plotting attacks on Los Angeles-area military facilities and synagogues, the Israeli consulate and El Al airlines, authorities said.**

The four men had purchased firearms with silencers, investigated making bombs and were ready to carry out attacks when two of them were caught robbing a gas station to fund the operation, US Attorney Debra Yang told a news conference in Los Angeles. "The evidence in this case indicates that the conspirators were on the verge of launching their attack," she said, adding that the arrest had exposed "a chilling plot based on one man's interpretation of Islam".

She declined to elaborate on the timing or nature of the attack but said it could have included "shooting up military facilities" or bombing a synagogue and may have been planned to coincide with the Jewish holidays in October.

"Had these four defendants succeeded in their alleged plots, their attacks would have taken an undefined number of Americans," US Attorney-General Alberto Gonzales told a separate news briefing in Washington. Prosecutors say Kevin James, a 29-year-old gang member from Los Angeles who was serving a sentence for attempting to rob and possess a weapon in prison, had formed the radical organization Jam'iyat Ul-Islam Is-Saheeh at a California correctional facility in the late 1990s and preached violence against the United States and Israel. — MNA/Reuters

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**Chinese actress Charlie Yeung (L), Kim So Yeun (C) and Zhang Jingchu arrive at the Cinema Palace in Venice on 31 August, 2005.** — Internet
Iran eyes Indian support as nuclear row escalates

**NEW DELHI, 1 Sept—** Iran’s top nuclear negotiator held talks with Indian leaders on Wednesday to garner support for Teheran’s controversial nuclear programme and stave off a threat of sanctions, Indian officials said.

Ali Larijani’s two-day visit to the Indian capital came ahead of a trip to Teheran by Indian Foreign Minister Natwar Singh, aiming at building contacts with Iran’s new leadership.

India is facing a delicate balancing act as it tries to maintain a longstanding friendship with Iran while moving closer to Washington, which wants Teheran to halt what it says is a secret nuclear weapons programme. Larijani reaffirmed that Iran was committed to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which he said allows Teheran to process and acquire eight aircraft for its own military.

“Meanwhile, Iran should abide by its international obligations but has refused to join Western condemnation of its nuclear programme. "We are old friends and we have a lot of experiences to share," an Indian Foreign Ministry official told Reuters. —MNA/Reuters

India’s Japanese encephalitis toll reaches 360

**LUCKNOW/NEW DELHI, 1 Sept—** Fifty-seven more people, mostly below 14 years, died due to Japanese encephalitis in northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, taking the toll to 360 as fresh cases Wednesday continued to flood hospitals.

While 47 deaths occurred in Maharajganj, Balrampur, Basti, Deoria, Kushinagar, Sidharth Nagar and Sant Kabir Nagar districts, three each died in Ambedkar Nagar, Lucknow and Lakhimpur Kheri and one in Unnao since Tuesday, Uttar Pradesh Health Department officials said. —MNA/PTI

Pakistan acquires “P-3C” surveillance aircraft

**ISLAMABAD, 1 Sept—** Pakistan, a key ally in the US-led war on terrorism, said on Wednesday that it had acquired eight P-3C Orion surveillance aircraft from the United States, which would help boost its naval capabilities.

The Pentagon notified the US Congress of the plan to supply the planes to Pakistan in November, raising concerns in India which has since considered the aircraft for its own military.

The Pentagon said at the time the aircraft would improve Pakistan’s border security and its ability to restrict movement of militants. However, Pakistan Navy spokesman Captain Aamir Naeeem Baig said the aircraft were designed for maritime surveillance and could not be used for chasing militants along the land border with Afghanistan, where Islamic guerrillas are most active.

A statement from the Pakistan Navy said the aircraft, worth up to $700 million US dollars, were being provided free by the United States and would be fitted with modern avionics and missions systems by the manufacturer, Lockheed Martin Corp.

The Bush Administration also approved shipment of two F-16 fighter jets to Pakistan in July after Washington lifted a two-decade ban on the supply of the planes to Pakistan.

Pakistan’s fleet of P-3Cs now stands at 10 with the induction of eight new planes. —MNA/Reuters

Landslide kills 10 in Indonesia, dozens missing

**PADANG, 2 Sept—** A landslide in Indonesia’s Sumatra Island triggered by torrential rains buried at least 10 people in their homes and left more than two dozen missing, a rescue official said on Friday.

The landslide occurred on Thursday near Padang City, about 940 km (580 miles) northwest of the capital, Jakarta, after two days of heavy rains.

Rescue official Yal Effendi said 10 bodies had been recovered and 12 people found safe. But with more people reported missing, it is estimated that 34 could be buried in the rubble.

The search was suspended on Friday afternoon because of heavy rain, Effendi said.

Also on Thursday, a police helicopter carrying seven people came down in bad weather in the Rung Hatta national park, 30 km (18 miles) east of Padang, a police spokesman said.

At least one of the passengers had survived the crash and had been found on the outskirts of the thick forest, a provincial police spokesman said.

He said the fate of the other six on board was unknown because rescue teams had yet to reach the crash site. — MNA/PTI

Chinese workers sort shoes in Beijing. European manufacturers worry markets will be flooded with cheap Chinese footwear. —INTERNET

China’s increased defence expenditure used for living improvement

**BEIJING, 1 Sept—** The increased part of China’s defence expenditure has primarily been used for purposes including the increase of salaries and allowances of military personnel to ensure the improvement of their living standards, says a white paper titled "China’s Endeavours for Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation”.

The Chinese Government has always adhered to the principle of strict control, strict management and strict supervision of defence expenditure and has established a full-fledged management and legal system, says the white paper, issued by the Information Office of the State Council on Thursday. China has moderately increased its defence expenditure in recent years, but the increase was relatively small, says the white paper. The increased part of the defence expenditure has primarily been used for the following purposes:

1. Increase of the salaries and allowances of the military personnel to ensure the improvement of their living standards in step with the socioeconomic development;
2. Further improvement of the social insurance system for servicemen, including the establishment of systems like casualty insurance, medical insurance for servicemen, housing subsidy, basic life guarantee for accompanying spouses of servicemen and social insurance subsidy;
3. Support for the structural and organisational reform of the military and proper resettlement of the 200,000 servicemen recently discharged from active service;
4. Increased investment in the development of high-calibre talents in the military, and refined incentive mechanism for talented people to ensure the achievement of the PLA’s Strategic Project for Talented People; and
5. Moderate increase of equipment expenses to improve the PLA’s defensive combating capability under the conditions of modern technology, particularly high technology. —MNA/Xinhua

Eastern Africa to form Standby Brigade

**KAMPALA, 1 Sept—** Defence chiefs in eastern Africa are in final stages of forming the Eastern Africa Standby Brigade (EASBRIG), a senior Ugandan military official has said.

The Ugandan Army spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Shaban Bantariza, told Xinhua by telephone on Wednesday that Army chiefs from Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Djibouti, Sudan and Somalia, representatives from the African Union, Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) are in Uganda to discuss the proposed budget of the brigade and put together the working guidelines.

Bantariza said the defence chiefs in the region had completed threequarters of the requirements for the formation of the brigade. —MNA/Xinhua

Luambe, a five-day-old baby hippopotamus, takes a cautious look out of his pool in a German zoo. —INTERNET
Mangrove Conservation

Sein Sein Thein (Dagon University)

It was my third visit to Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Division. My two candidates for M Res degree in Dagon University and I were on a trip to Ayeyawady River mouth. The purpose of the trip was to investigate the river fishes, water birds and reptiles in the Bogale river and the Kadonkani river, those are forest based nature ecosystem. Survey area take all part of the intertidal mudflats of wetlands including Menmahla Island and Kadonkani reserved forest.

My major aims are to promote research activities for flora and fauna of Myanmar. I would like to educate the local people and persuade them to collaborate. And this has been used traditionally for long to protect and conserve our natural heritage.

I have done Omithological, Ichthyological, herpetological and ecological survey since 1972. The Punjaiung river, the Hlaing river, the Bawli river, the Myitkama, the Bogale river and the Kadonkani river and their flood plains were observed for three decades. Frank Kingdon-Ward (British Naturalist) said that Myanmar is a plant hunters' paradise. I agree with him. Because Myanmar has still very much undiscovered fauna and flora for us and approximately 7000 species are eradicated in the mangrove forest area, young valuable seedlings, soon after RIF operation aided by an enrichment planting with also a form of low input sustainable aquaculture mangrove ecosystem. It has six main values and functions for Ayeyawady delta.

- Maintaining the stability of coast, estuary and riparian zone
- Protecting the land behind the mangrove area from tide and river
- Trapping substances derived from lands
- Maintaining biodiversity
- Providing habitats
- Providing food for nursery or juveniles of target species for this area

I assume that mangrove ecosystem is one of the most productive, it helps maintain the foodweb, protect the soil, provide timber, charcoal and fuel wood.

Mangrove ecosystem is one of the most productive, it helps maintain the foodweb, protect the soil, provide timber, charcoal and fuel wood.

Some species have become extinct and some are on the verge of extinction. (Thabawa, 2001)

Thus, we need to conserve our natural resources sustainable development of fishes water, birds, crocodiles, turtles and tortoise and their habitats, that is the mangrove forest.

Bio-ecological survey on Bogale River.

Asian Open bill (Kayu-sok) rest at Swamp forest in Kadonkani reserve.

Notopterus notopterus

Osteobrama belangeri

Hilsa (Temalosoa) ilisa

***

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 3 September, 2005
The contract is to supply 230 kva cables and necessary equipment for construction of sub-power stations worth US$ 45.849 million to Yeywa Hydel Power Project

(From page 1)

Present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and embassy staff, and officials of China National Heavy Machinery Corporation (CHMC).

Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut delivered an address. Chairman of China National Heavy Machinery Corporation (CHMC) Mr Lu Wenjun expressed gratitude. Next, Director-General U Win Kyaw of the Hydro-electric Power Department and Chairman of China National Heavy Machinery Corporation Mr Lu Wenjun signed the notes of contract agreement.

The contract is to supply 230 kva cables and necessary equipment for construction of sub-power stations worth US$ 45,849 million to Yeywa Hydel Power Project. These equipment will be supplied to Meiktila Sub-Power Station through 75 miles long Yeywa-Meiktila 230 KV double power lines, and that to Bellin Sub-Power Station through 28 miles long Yeywa-Belin 230 KV double power lines.

Electricity generated from Yeywa Hydel Power Project will be imported from the People's Republic of China under the programme of friendly relations and economic cooperation between Myanmar and China. Electricity generated from Yeywa Hydel Power Project will be supplied to Meiktila Sub-Power Station through 75 miles long Yeywa-Meiktila 230 KV double power lines, and that to Bellin Sub-Power Station through 28 miles long Yeywa-Belin 230 KV double power lines.

Moreover, Bellin Sub-Power Station and Meiktila Sub-Power Station will be linked with 60 miles long 230 KV double power lines. Furthermore, another 22 miles long 230 KV double power lines will be built between Yeywa Hydel Power Station and Shwesayan Sub-Power Station. In addition, electricity produced from Shweili Project will be combined at that of Shwesayan Sub-Power Station for supplying power to the nation through the national grid.

Entries invited to Military and Marching Song Contests to mark 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day

Yangon, 2 Sept — The Military and Marching Song Contest Sub-committee, under the Poem and Arts Competition Organizing Committee chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, announced today that Military and Marching Song Contest to mark the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2006 will be held.

There will be only one category for the marching song contest while the military song contest is divided into two categories, level-1 and level-2. First, second and third prizes as well as consolation prizes will be awarded in every level. Rules and regulations of the competition are as follows:

In the marching song contest, song must be composed based on the twelve objectives of the State, the objectives of the 61st Anniversary Armed Forces Day and the twelve fine traditions of the Tatmadaw.

Composers and vocalists of level 1 are not permitted to compete at level 2 of the military song nor are those who stood first, second and third at level 2 of the level 2 of the last year's military song contest. They are not to enter the level-1. Only one song is allowed for individuals or groups. Entry songs must be in accord with military song competition methods.

Military songs must be in melody and modes as well as in own tune. The time designed for the song must be between four and six minutes. The entry songs are to be with strong vocal and suitable music. Only a song must be recorded on the entry cassette or reel. A suitable title may be given. Words of the entry song together with its typed copies and an original of its music notes must be attached to the cassette or reel.

The brief biography of the entrant and the singers together with three passport size color photos must be sent. Those tentatively selected will be informed. The tentatively selected songs must be recorded and are to compete for the final. Entry songs should be sent to the Sub-committee for the military and marching song contests and Myanmar Radio and Television, Pyay Road, Yangon, not later than 31 December 2005. — MNA

Performing arts and magic competitions go on

Yangon, 2 Sept — Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare of the Ministry of Defence continued for the fifth day performing arts and magic competitions at the theatre of No 3 mobile public relations company in Mandalay yesterday morning.

Among the audience were Col Nyo Win of the Ministry of Defence, principals and commanding officers of the training schools under the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare, judges from the University of Culture (Mandalay) and Fine Arts Department (Mandalay) and guests.

Modern music band and song contests (Men & women) were held in the morning and magic contest in the evening. — MNA

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

All this needs to be known
Strive with might and main for carrying….

(from page 16)

family members, and instructed them to carry out agriculture and livestock breeding tasks on a manageable scale and cooperate with local people for undertaking nation-building tasks.

In Thayawady, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on education, health, social and economic matters of the township presented by Chairman of Thayawady Township Peace and Development Council U Aung Soe Moe.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the Government is implementing the plans for per cent development of all parts of the country. Local authorities and the people are to harmoniously cooperate in the regional development tasks. Especially, it is necessary to strive with might and main for carrying out agriculture and livestock breeding tasks. He stressed the need to extend cultivation of suitable crops of 10 main crops, three new items of crops and three perennial crops. The target has been set to grow 10,000 acres of rubber plantations in Thayawady District within three years. Hence, Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise starts its functions to set up the rubber nursery. Departmental personnel, entrepreneurs and local people are to participate in the tasks for achieving success of the plan.

He added that domestic poultry farming and fish breeding should be undertaken for development of the livestock breeding sector. Service personnel are to make field trips to the grassroot level for performing their tasks with goodwill. After the meeting, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than cordially conversed with those present and arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

Courses of MPT conclude

Yangon, 2 Sept — e-Government Workshop Training Course, Messenger Refresher Course, and Subscriber Line Construction for Rural Telecommunication Course organized by Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telecommunications concluded at the training school of MPT. The concluding ceremony was attended by the vice chairman and members of e-National Taskforce, departmental heads of the ministry and guests.

Vice-Chairman of e-National Taskforce U Aung Myint spoke on the occasion and presented completion certificates to trainees.

e-Government Workshop Training Course lasting 6 weeks was attended by 35 trainees of 31 ministries and the other courses by 27 trainees.

Want to question you, BBC

* You brew concoctions
  Intending to destroy Myanmar’s existing tranquillity
* Aiming turned such destruction
  That’s the way it looks forward, BBC.
* It began with hanging out BBC
  Dependant Western media.
* That BBC in tandem
  Western media, turns upside down
  Making fabrications, rumours
  Further acts, Myanmar’s history
What they did in ’88
  All Myanmars will not forget.
* That happening in ’88
  All that dirt, we had to remove
  Piece by piece, we had to rehabilitate
  We had to strive to remove darkness
Being light where darkness was
  But now, once again, “news” concocted
And BBC let it out
Your intent is clear as can be.

Into what is at peace, you drive a wedge
Into those within the nation, the multitudes
It tries to scare, and disturb well-being
Of food, clothing and shelter
You take pride in hurting trade, sowing sadness
And in so doing, you hoist your banner
By doing so, do you think you’re bestowing human rights?
Owning up, you BBC.

Po Wa (Trs)

Site for construction of monastic education school inspected in Muse

Yangon, 2 Sept — Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended a ceremony to donate cash for the publication of Pali Myanmar dictionary (500 copies) at Khele Monastery in Pyay on 29 August morning.

On 30 August, the minister inspected the site chosen for construction of a monastic education school in Muse. Next he visited monasteries in Muse and offered robes and alms to monks. In the evening, the minister paid homage to Maha Myat Muni Pagoda in Nankham and offered alms to members of township Sangha Nayaka Committee.

After inspecting the office of head of township Religious Affairs Department, the minister visited Zeya Thukha Monastic School in Mokhama where he paid homage to the monastery Sayadaw and encouraged the students.

The minister, also a member of Myanmar War Veterans Organization, visited State University of Medicine and offered robes and alms to monks. In the evening, the minister visited State University of Sangha and offered robes and alms to monks.

Central Organizing Committee, inspected the 1000-acre plantations of MWWW in Ohnmaukh village in Nawngkio on the morning of August 31.

In the evening the minister visited State University of Sangha and offered robes and alms to monks.

Special course for doctors concludes

Yangon, 2 Sept — The special course for doctors 3/2005 of the Ministry of Health concluded at the training school of health staff in Dagon Township with a speech by Director-General Dr Tin Win Maung of the Health Department.

Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Win Maung presents prize to an outstanding trainee. (News on page 2) — MNA

Win Maung, Director-General of Civil Service Affairs Department Col Kyaw Zan Hla and Rector of Central Institute of Civil Service U Win Maung presented the completion certificates to the trainees. Altogether 54 trainees attended the 2-week course. — MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

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*(2-9-2005)*
Irrigation facilities inspected in Sagaing Division

**Yangon, 2 Sept—** Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commando North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspected irrigation facilities in Sagaing Division on 28 August.

They inspected Yaykhar Dam and its sluice gate on Yaykhar Creek in Salingyi Township. Officials of the Irrigation Department reported on work progress and benefits of the 815-foot-long and 31-foot high facility to some 1,000 acres of farmland to water supply.

They viewed the mixed-cropping plantations of sunflower and groundnut, and pigeon pea and groundnut along the main road in the township, and the storage capacity of the dam, spillway and control tower. They inspected inflow of water into Ngwetha Dam in Salingyi Township that benefited about 3,000 acres of farmland, control tower, spillway and irrigation of the fields.

They observed cultivation of monsoon paddy with the use of water from No 1 canal. In the meeting with local farmers, they discussed measures for boosting production of crops and per acre yield, effective application of the agricultural methods disseminated by relevant department for meeting the targets, and requirements.

They met with officials concerned and local farmers at Inndaw River Water Pumping Station Project near Inndaw Village, Hrbandaw Village-tract, Budalim Township.

They saw over the pumping of water for Chindwin River waterworks, canals and paddy fields.

**Yangon, 1 Sept—** Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, economic growth and development of human resources are three essential factors for rapid development of the nation. Hence, the Government is implementing the three plans — the development of border areas and national races, the development of 24 regions, and five rural development tasks. Furthermore, the Government is undertaking development tasks in all parts of the country.

**In conclusion, he urged all to develop the agricultural sector of Bago Division.**

Next, Chairman of Bago Division (West) PDC Brig-Gen Hla Min delivered an address. After the ceremony, the demonstration of the seedling machine and Leyar-16 power-tillers was held.

**Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and officials gave away prizes to outstanding farmers in cultivation of monsoon paddy for 2005-06.** Later, they viewed round the booths of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and private entrepreneurs.

**MNA**

**Conclusion ceremony of ploughing for early monsoon paddy cultivation held in Bago Division (West)**

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than addresses the ceremony to mark completion of ploughing fields for cultivation of monsoon paddy in Bago Division (West). — MNA

**Yangon,** 1 Sept — Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence attended the conclusion ceremony of ploughing for early monsoon paddy cultivation in Bago Division (West) for 2005-06, at Ngwetha Village-tract of Pyay Township yesterday morning.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commando of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Chairman of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Hla Min, Brig-Gen Khin Oo of Inma Station, local authorities, departmental officials and local people.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, economic growth and development of human resources are three essential factors for rapid development of the nation. Hence, the Government is implementing the three plans — the development of border areas and national races, the development of 24 regions, and five rural development tasks. Furthermore, the Government is undertaking development tasks in all parts of the country.

They observed cultivation of 3.6 million acres of monsoon paddy. Cultivation duties have been assigned to put 1.6 million acres of monsoon paddy in Bago Division (East) and 1.2 million acres in Bago Division (West).

He urged all to make concerted efforts for growing monsoon paddy to be able to meet the target of 2.8 million acres of monsoon paddy. He added it is necessary to make preparations for implementing the target of over 400,000 acres of summer paddy. Furthermore, rubber and Thitseint (Belleric myrobalan), coffee and pepper are to be grown in the suitable areas, and live-stock breeding tasks are to be carried out.

In conclusion, he urged all to develop the agricultural sector of Bago Division.

**Yangon, 2 Sept—** The Myanma Electric Power Enterprise today announced that some power lines of Hlawgar Power Plant and sub-power stations in Bago will be repaired or replaced with new ones from noon until 2 pm on 4 September.

During that period, there will be a temporary interruption in the supply of electric power for some townships in Bago, Thayawady, Pyapon and Thaung Districts, and Taikkyi, Okkan, Tamway, Dawbon, Dagon Mwet (East), Dagon Mwet (North), Dagon Mwet (South), Mingala Taungnyunt, Thingangyun, South Okkalapa and Thakasta Townships in Yangon Division.

And Ailhon, Hlawgar, Ywama and Thakata power plants will supply electric power to the remaining townships in Yangon City during the period. — MNA

**Temporary power cut on 4 September**

Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister Maj-Gen Hla Min view the irrigation area of Ngwetha Dam in Salingyi Township. — MNA
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 3 September, 2005

MWAF President back from PRC

YANGON, 2 Sept — A Myanmar delegation led by President of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Than Nwe arrived back here by air this morning after attending the meeting to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, the People’s Republic of China, from 29 August to 1 September.

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Commander Maj-Gen Sein Soe Naing and wife, senior military officials of the command, local authorities, health professionals and social organizations. Maj-Gen Sein Soe Naing and wife presented prizes to winners in secondary level essay competition on nutrition week activity. The commander, wife and officials gave Vitamin A pills to the children under 5 years of age and expectant mothers. — MNA

Commander inspects agricultural tasks in Myaungmya District

YANGON, 2 Sept — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung together with officials inspected the construction projects of Pannawady bridge over the Pannawady river (Myintkasei), which is 22 miles away from Pathein on 30 August morning.

Senior Engineer Daw Si Si Than conducted them round the project where the commander gave necessary instructions.

It is of bailey type which is 1260 feet long and 26 feet wide including the approaching bridges. The bridge is located on Pathein Myaungmya motorway. The commander and party then proceeded to 400-acre agriculture educative camp in Kyonwba village and heard reports on cultivation of monsoon paddy and delivery of paddy strain, and then the commander fulfilled the requirements.

The commander and party also inspected the camp.

In Myaungmya District, 1,061,507 acres have been cultivated with the paddy in 2005-2006, 3,505,171 acres of land have been put under monsoon paddy in Ayeyawady Division.

Afterwards, the commander and party also attended the ceremony of unveiling healtheducative signboards, organized by Ayeyawady Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association, held at Myaungmya BEHS No 1.

Daw Than Nwe, wife of the commander unveiled the signboards and the ceremony ended. — MNA

Nutrition week launched in Mon State

YANGON, 2 Sept — A ceremony to launch nutrition week of Mon State was held at Mon State Peace and Development Council office yesterday morning.

It was attended by Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Nang and wife, senior military officers of the command, local authorities, health professionals and social organizations.

Maj-Gen Soe Nang delivered a speech on the occasion. Dr Tun Win Kyaw then gave a talk on the nutrition week activities.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Nang and wife presented prizes to winners in secondary level essay competition on nutrition week activity. The commander, wife and officials gave Vitamin A pills to the children under 5 years of age and expectant mothers. — MNA

Hurricane “Katrina” feared to cause global energy crisis

LONDON, 2 Sept — A hurricane that paralyzed the Gulf of Mexico’s oil industry on Wednesday may lead to a global energy crisis, The Financial Times said on Thursday.

Small quantities of oil from its strategic emergency stockpile to help ease the shortage caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Fears that oil prices could spiral out of control prompted the US Government to say it would tap its emergency oil reserves, causing prices to dip momentarily below $70 a barrel. But relief was short-lived, with many seeing the statement as a mere gesture, said The Financial Times.

Hurricane Katrina threatened to paralyze the region’s oil industry, which produces about 40% of the United States’ oil. The storm cut production by 1 million barrels a day or 5% of US output.

The US Government agreed to lend refiners small quantities of oil from its strategic emergency stockpile to help ease the shortage caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Nearly 1,000 people were feared dead and many more left homeless when Hurricane Katrina swept through southeastern America.

While people are still focusing on rescuing the survivors and bringing life back to normal, there were growing worries that the economic impact could be felt around the globe, according to the newspaper. Some analysts were cutting their US growth forecasts, saying soaring oil prices would hurt consumers spending.

US President George W Bush, who cut short his vacation and returned to Washington, called the hurricane “one of the worst natural disasters in our nation’s history”.

“This recovery will take a long time. This recovery will take years,” he said.

With nine refineries on the Gulf Coast closed, US wholesale oil prices shot to a record 2.65 dollars per gallon, up 34 per cent since the storm, and supplies ran short in some parts of the country.

Chevron and other retailers have started rationing, bringing back memories to older Americans in the 1970s oil embargo.

The US Government agreed to lend refiners small quantities of oil from its strategic emergency stockpile to help ease the shortage caused by Hurricane Katrina.
China urges US to ease export limits to solve trade imbalance

BEIJING, 1 Sept — China on Tuesday urged the United States to ease export limit in a bid to solve the trade imbalance between the two countries. “The best way to re-solve Sino-US trade imbalance is to expand bilateral trade cooperation. Restricting China’s exports by unilateral actions will not solve problem...” He Yafei, director of the Foreign Ministries Department of Americas and Oceania Affairs, said at a Press briefing.

Statistics showed that China exported 124.95 billion US dollars of goods to the United States in 2004, up 35.1 per cent. Its imports from the United States last year grew 31.9 per cent to 44.68 billion US dollars.

He said the US trade deficits against China is related with the different economic and trade patterns of the two countries and the tendency of globalization.

"It should be taken fairly and objectively. " The Chinese official said China does not pursue a trade surplus with the United States in a long run. “We hope to achieve a trade balance.”

"China wants to import more US products and also hopes that the United States would ease the export limits to China, especially the limits on those of high technology,” he said.

He described the US trade deficit against China as “complementary”, saying that statistics showed that the Chinese goods with reasonable price and high quality saved US consumers 20 billion US dollars each year and helped the United States lower inflation.

China-US trade reached a historical high of 169.62 billion US dollars in 2004, up 34.3 per cent from a year ago, according to Chinese Customs statistics. — MNA/Reuters

Suits laws pile up over Air National Guard cuts

WASHINGTON, 1 Sept — Tennessee’s governor filed a motion on Tuesday to block the final report of a US military base-closing commission, adding to a pile of lawsuits the panel faces over Air National Guard cut-backs.

"We hope to achieve a trade balance.”

"China wants to import more US products and also hopes that the United States would ease the export limits to China, especially the limits on those of high technology,” he said.

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China-US trade reached a historical high of 169.62 billion US dollars in 2004, up 34.3 per cent from a year ago, according to Chinese Customs statistics. — MNA/Reuters

Austria suggests economic partnership for Turkey

Austria’s Kleine Zeitung newspaper published on Wednesday, he said such an alternative could be similar to existing arrangements with some non-EU countries.

"We will insist that Turkey fulfills the language and more and are open to negotiation, part of an earlier suit brought by a governor’s consent allowing states to maintain federal laws — rooted in mission for changes or mission’s decision to bring you closer to us...” Schuessel said.
Sino-US cooperation in copyright protection effective

Nanjing, 1 Sept — China and the United States have conducted effective cooperation in copyright protection since a mechanism was set up for the purpose last month, a Chinese official said here on Tuesday.

Liu Yuzhu, head of the culture market department of the Ministry of Culture, made the remark at the first joint meeting of the Sino-US film copyright protection mechanism, held in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province.

China's Ministry of Culture (MoC) and the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television (SARFT) inked a memorandum with the United States' Motion Picture Association (MPA) in mid-July following the bilateral consensus on protecting intellectual property rights reached early last month.

According to the memo, the MoC, SARFT and the MPA will hold joint meetings on a regular basis. The two sides will exchange publications and release information on films and home video products, work out schemes to jointly crack down on pirated home video products and protect film copyrights.

In the first half of this year, the cultural authorities of China investigated 349,000 audio-visual studios and stores, confiscating 94.21 million pirated discs and tapes, Liu revealed.

"The Chinese Government is determined to and capable of protecting intellectual property rights and the rights of all foreign copyright owners will be guaranteed in China," he said. "All activities infringing upon copyrights will be dealt with harshly according to law."

Michael C. Ellis, Senior Vice-President and Regional Director of the MPA, expressed the hope that the two sides would further enhance bilateral cooperation to protect the rights of film makers and distributors.

— MNA/Xinhua

US warships, hospital ship join “Katrina” relief

Washington, 1 Sept — The US military on Wednesday added Navy ships, including two helicopter assault vessels and the hospital ship Comfort, and elite search troops to a relief effort in the wake of killer Hurricane "Katrina".

The moves came as the Army Corps of Engineers also worked to help civilian engineers close a major break in a protective levee that has caused the flooding of most of New Orleans two days after "Katrina" ripped ashore.

The Pentagon said about 8,200 National Guard troops have been mobilized by state governors in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to take part in the relief effort, and other states were planning to send additional troops and equipment.

Other states were planning to send additional troops and equipment, according to Brad Sweetly, a spokesman for the National Guard Bureau at the Pentagon.

The military’s Northern Command said the big Navy hospital ship Comfort was preparing to depart Baltimore and the helicopter carrier USS Bataan and another Navy ship were already conducting helicopter rescue missions off the Louisiana and Mississippi coast.

The USS Iwo Jima, another helicopter ship, was also preparing to sail from Norfolk, Virginia, with three other vessels and arrive in five days, the Navy said.

— MNA/Reuters

Sri Lanka to develop 200 industrial villages to boost economy

Colombo, 1 Sept — The Sri Lankan Small and Rural Industries Ministry will develop 200 selected industrial villages investing 600 million rupee (around six million US dollars) in 2006, the Daily News reported on Wednesday.

This is under the new efficient plans and projects to achieve the objective of developing small and medium enterprises (SMEs) while promoting value-added product manufacturing industries in the country.

Project Director Aruna Gunawardana said that the project considers the promoting of imagination, creativity and capability of local SMEs, making the target of increasing their contribution to the national economy.

— MNA/Xinhua

East Chinese provinces bracing for typhoon “Talim”

Fuzhou, 1 Sept — Both Fujian and Zhejiang provinces in east China have been busy preparing for typhoon "Talim", which is expected to land on the two Chinese Mainland regions Thursday afternoon.

The typhoon is moving northwest at a speed of 20 kilometres to 25 kilometres and might produce strong winds ranging from whole gales to hurricane in scale after sweeping through northern Taiwan Island late Wednesday night and early Friday, local meteorological departments warned.

Liu Dezhang, deputy governor of Fujian, declared his province was fully aware of the impending typhoon, the 13th of the year, and had made thorough preparation.

The provincial meteorological observatory of Fujian issued an alert against the typhoon early on Wednesday, warning of possible strong winds and torrential rains. — MNA/Xinhua

HK Maritime Museum to open in September

Hong Kong, 1 Sept — Hong Kong Maritime Museum, a brand new museum in the city, will open on September 8, said the museum curator here on Tuesday.

The museum, funded by Hong Kong’s international shipping community, preparation work for the museum began in 2003. The museum is intended to celebrate the history of shipping on the South China coast and the role Hong Kong has played.

As told by Assistant Curator of the museum Kenneth Wong at a Press briefing, there will be over 500 different exhibits on display, ranging from a 2,000-year-old Han Dynasty pottery boat to a futuristic video introduction of naval architects’ vision of the future of the ship.

Historical and modern ship models, paintings ceramics, trade goods, interactive games and some other items in the museum will tell the long history of humanity’s interaction with Asians seas.

— MNA/Xinhua

Robotic arm can improve motor control after stroke

New York, 1 Sept — A computerized robotic arm trainer appears to be more effective than electrical stimulation in improving motor control and strength in stroke patients who are left with severe arm paralysis, German investigators report.

The effectiveness of the Bi-Mana-Track robotic arm trainer (Reha-Stim Company, Berlin), which helps the arm muscles to contract and flex, was compared with electrical stimulation, which applies electrical pulses to the affected limb.

Dr. Stefan Hesse, from Klinik Berlin, and associates recruited patients 4 to 8 weeks after stroke causing severe arm paralysis. Twenty-one patients were randomly assigned to the arm trainer group and 22 to electrical stimulation group.

In addition to regular physical therapy, all of the patients received 20 minutes of the intervention therapy every work day for 6 weeks, according to the report in the medical journal Stroke. Patients in the arm trainer group performed 800 repetitions per session, while those in the electrical stimulation group performed 60 to 80 wrist extensions per session.

At the end of the 6-week trial, the average motor function score was 24.6 in the arm trainer group and 10.4 in the electrical stimulation group. After 3 months, those in the arm trainer group still had higher motor scores (30.0 versus 16.6). Average scores for upper limb muscle strength were also higher in the arm trainer group — 21.8 versus 6.8, respectively, at week 6 and 22.6 versus 6.9 at week 18. Muscle tone did not differ between groups.

The greater improvement achieved with the arm trainer "is probably attributable to the greater number of repetitions and the bilateral approach", Hesse's group concludes. They recommend confirmation of these findings in a larger, multicentre clinical trial.

— MNA/Xinhua

Petr, a young Yellow-footed Rock Wallehyl, peeks out from the safety of her keeper’s shirt during a photocall at Sydney’s Taronga Zoo on 1 September, 2005. — Internet
Ronaldinho extends contract with Barcelona

MADRID, 1 Sept — Barcelona forward Ronaldinho extended his contract on Wednesday by two years until 2010. The deal also included an option to continue if both club and player agreed.

“We’re very happy because we’ve fulfilled his dream to stay at the club for many years,” Ronaldinho’s brother and agent, Roberto de Assis, told Radio Marca.

Ronaldinho’s buyout clause was raised to 125 million euro (154.3 million US dollars).

No details were available about Ronaldinho’s salary.

The 25-year-old Brazilian forward helped Barcelona win the league last season for the first time in six years.

Barcelona is trying to extend the contracts of key players, and has also sought to improve the deals of its young prospects.

Ronaldinho, the current FIFA World Player of the Year, joined Barcelona from Paris Saint-Germain for 30 million euro (37 million US dollars) in 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

Tottenham agree fee for Jenas

LONDON, 2 Sept — Tottenham Hotspur have agreed a fee for Newcastle United midfielder Jermaine Jenas, the Premier League clubs said on Wednesday.

Jenas, 22, travelled to London on Wednesday for a medical and to discuss personal terms.

Jenas moved to Newcastle under former manager Bobby Robson for five million pounds (9.04 million US dollars) in February 2004 having made his name as a teenager with Nottingham Forest.

MNA/Reuters

China bags three golds out of five at Asian championships

INcheon, 2 Sept — China bagged three out of five gold medals offered at the opening day’s competition of the 16th Asian championships here on Thursday.

Defending champion Li Meiju, who took the seventh in the Helsinki world championships, won the first gold with a throw of 18.64 metres.

Chinese teenager Xie Limei dethroned compatriot Huang Quyuan in the women’s triple jump. The 18-year-old, who emerged by winning this year’s New York Grand Prix, took the gold with 14.38 metres.

China’s third gold came from the women’s 10,000m, where Bai Xue outsprinted Japanese Yuko Sato with 400 metres to go, winning in 33 minutes 34.74 seconds.

In the men’s discus throw, Iran’s Elshan Hadadi won the gold with a new Asian record of 25.25 metres. The previous mark of 25.16m was set by Chinese Li Shaojie in 1996.

The day’s last gold went to Japan’s Mito Sugimoto in the women’s 1.500m in a time of four minutes 12.69 seconds.

The opening day also saw Olympic champion Liu Xiang easily reach the final of the men’s 110m hurdles.

Liu, who won the silver at the Helsinki world championships early last month, clocked 13.65 seconds in his heat, reaching the final to be held on Friday afternoon.

As the only Olympic champion competing in the event, Liu was cheered by an enthusiastic Korean crowd and said there will be no problem to award the fans with a gold.

“I feel great,” he said.

“There’s no problem to win.”

Liu’s compatriot and defending champion Shi Dongpeng, who improved his personal best to 13.29 seconds this season, won Heat two at a time of 13.88.

MNA/Xinhua

Africa’s most expensive soccer star joins Black Stars

ACCRA, 2 Sept — Africa’s most expensive player, Michael Essien and three other key foreign legions of the Black Stars, joined their colleagues on Wednesday at the Obuasi camp ahead of the penultimate World Cup qualifier against the Cranes of Uganda on Sunday.

Team doctor, Martin Engman told the GNA Sports in a telephone conversation that the Chelsea midfielder, Essien; John Mensah of Chievo Verona of Italy, Isaac Boakye of Augsburg (Germany) and Israel-based Emmanuel Addoquaye Pappoe have all left their European bases and were expected at the Conocot Grove Hotel in Obuasi.

A 15-member squad including eight local components have begun camping to fine tune before the crunch duel at the Baba Yara Stadium in Kumasi.

Inspirational skipper Stephen Appiah, Dan Edusei, Joetex Frimpong, midfielder, Essien; John Mensah of Chievo Verona of Italy, Issac Boakye of Augsburg (Germany) and Israel-based Emmanuel Addoquaye Pappoe have all left their European bases and were expected at the Conocot Grove Hotel in Obuasi.

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Powerful typhoon strengthens, heads for Okinawa

TOKYO, 2 Sept — A powerful typhoon churning towards Japan’s Okinawa Islands strengthened by Friday to a Class Five storm — technically the same strength as Hurricane Katrina, which devastated New Orleans — and experts said it could also threaten Japan’s southernmost main island.

Typhoon Nabi — Korean for “butterfly” — increased in power to super-typhoon status, the strongest designation Japan uses for typhoons, by Saturday morning.—MNA/Reuters

Flood Warning
(issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 2-9-2005)
According to the (06:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo is (597) cm. It may exceed the danger level (600) cm during the next (24) hrs commencing noon today.

Flood Bulletin
(issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 2-9-2005)
According to the (06:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thainwin River at Hpa-an (722) cm. It may fall below the danger level (750) cm during the next (4) days.

Saturday, 3 September
View on today:

7:00 am
Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Saya-daw U Ottamathara
7:25 am
To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
Morning news
7:40 am
Nice and sweet song
7:50 am

8:00 am
Accounts 296545, Administration 296161, Production 297032 (Office) /297028 (Press).

5:45 pm
Games for children
11:30 pm
ASLEEP IN JESUS
Saw Ba Tun
Age 62
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rtd)
Saw Ba Tun of 960 (B), Shwe Hninzi School Road, Mayangone Township, son of (U Gabriel Ba Tun & Matron Daw Thein Yin), beloved husband of Naw Primrose, loving father of Lynn Ba Tun-Wade Devul, Tha Taw Ba Tun Nidha, and Lt. Tha Kler Ba Tun, Kabi Ta Tun and Irene Angel Ba Tun was called to his Heavenly Home on 2-9-2005 in Pyinmana. Funeral service will be held at Judson Church, Pyay Road, at 1 pm on 4-9-2005 (Sunday), and thence to Yayway Christian Cemetery for entombment. Bereaved family

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 3 September, 2005

U Mya Han and Daw Khin Hon (Sein Panthee Textile Shop) of Room 4, Building 18, Sabee Street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, present K 115,000 for a day’s meal for the aged and for construction of the three-storey hospital for the aged to Chairman of Hninzigon Home for the Aged Administrative Board U Maung Tin. — MNA/Reuters

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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

Myanmar U-17 team cruises into final with 2-1 win over Laotians

Yangon, 2 Sept — The AFF U-17 Youth Championship 2005 continued in Bangkok, Thailand, at 4 pm local time.

In the semifinal match, Myanmar selected youth team beat Laotian team 2-1 and entered the final.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than tours Pyay, Thayawady

Yangon, 2 Sept — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Li-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Chairman of Bago Division

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets officers and other ranks and families of local battalion in Pyay. — MNA

More tours for local tourists

Yangon, 2 Sept— The Myanmar Tourism Services is taking systematic steps for local tourists to visit places of interest across the nation with peace of mind.

Its tours include ones starting from Mandalay in addition to those starting from Yangon. Those starting from Mandalay cover the Mandalay-Muse-Mandalay tour, the Mandalay-Bagan-Popap-Mandalay tour, the Mandalay-Kalaw-Pindaya-Inlay-Mandalay tour, the Mandalay-Kengtung-Tachileik-Mandalay tour and the Mandalay-Magway-Shwesetaw, the Mandalay-Myitkyina-Putao-Mandalay tour.

There is a special tour from Mandalay to PyinUlnwin by buses of the MTS. Arrangements have been made for the visitors of the tour to put up at hotels under the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism at reasonable prices. Contact is to be made to the MTS, of No. 77-91, Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon (Tel 252859 or 387002) or Mandalay Office Branch, corner of 27th and 68th Streets, Mandalay (Tel 02-60356 or 02-60357) for further information. MNA

Myanmar U-17 team cruises into final with 2-1 win over Laotians

Yangon, 2 Sept — At the 6th minute of the first half, a Laotian player wearing jersey No 9 scored an opening goal.

Myanmar youth strikers penetrated the opponents’ with linkage of strikers penetrated the opponent’s with linkage of attacks. At the 31st minute, Myanmar striker Tin Zaw Moe was rewarded an equalizer.

When the first-half whistle blew, the match ended with a 1-1 draw.

In the second half, both teams opened up full attacks side by side, but the score line did not change till the final whistle.

At the 7th minute of the second extra time, the second and winning goal for Myanmar selected youth team came through striker Thayawady Phyo Oo. Myanmar youth team beat Laotian team 2-1.

On 4 September, Myanmar youth team will play against the winning team from the semifinal match between host Thai team vs Malaysian team, in the final match at 6 pm local time. — MNA

Ayeyawady delta is rich in flora and fauna for the people and Ayeyawady has many valuable young mangrove seedlings (regeneration) like Kunaco, Myinka, Madama. These are shaded and suppressed by undesignable and aggressive weed like species such as Kaya, Houtkyicduang, Myaung Nwe, Theinbein, Thainboung and Kaya.

Page 7. SEIN SEIN THEIN (DAGON UNIVERSITY)