Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Commander, Minister inspect roads and bridges in Taninthayi Division

YANGON, 6 Aug — Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun on 4 August inspected Kyweku-Kyanuphya Bridge in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.

At the briefing hall,Superintending Engineer U Ba Wan reported to the commander and minister on installation of steel beams and finished tasks at the main bridge, and progress of approach roads and approach bridges construction. Next, responsible senior engineers also reported on progress of construction work for Laynya-Mandaing Bridge on Taninthayi-Bokepyin-Kawthoung Road, progress of Taninthayi-Bokepyin-Kawthoung Road construction and construction tasks to upgrade the roads in Myeik District. Afterwards, the minister urged them to carry out finished work meeting set standard and to make efforts for timely opening of the bridge and attended to the needs.

Next, the commander and the minister inspected Kyweku-Kyanuphya Bridge in a motorcade.

Next, the minister also inspected progress of a bypass construction, and Papyin Bridge and Alechaung Bridge constructions on the bypass.

The minister made arrangements to supply machinery and fuel for the construction tasks.

Later, the minister also visited Hlaingthaya township the other day. The nursery school and the primary schools owed their emergence to the donations of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development and wellwishers.

The education sector plays a pivotal role in building a developed nation. This being the case, the Government has laid down the 30-year long-term national education promotion plan so that a constant learning society will come into existence.

Since 1999, the task for ensuring the enrollment of all children of school-age at basic education primary schools has been carried out every year under the leadership of the Government and with the cooperation of the people. As a result, the school enrollment rate has increased dramatically and 1.2 million children of school-age have enrolled at basic education primary schools all over the nation.

The texts prescribed for the basic and higher education sectors of our country are of international level. Moreover, multimedia classrooms have been opened in almost all high schools the length and breadth of the nation to make the teaching more effective. This is the result of the leadership of Myanmar Education Committee, active participation of educational staff and enthusiastic cooperation of the people. And the national educational standard has become higher and higher since the opening of multimedia classrooms.

Under the leadership of the Government, the entire people are actively taking part in nation-building endeavours and the result is that the number of new schools has been increasing and the school enrollment rate has also become higher and higher. Therefore, we would like to urge all the people to continue cooperating with the Government to raise the momentum of development in the education sector.

Signboard to mark the supply of drinking water put up in Taungdwingyi Township

YANGON, 6 Aug — Ministry for Cooperatives Lt-Gen Tin Ngwe met with delegates of cooperative societies that will take part in the Kunning Trade Fair 2003, at the ministry this morning.

At the meeting, the delegates reported on arrangements for the fair. The minister delivered a speech, saying that it is the ninth time Myanmar has taken part in Kunning Trade Fair held in Yunnan Province, the People Republic of China, since 1995. Extraordinarily, he added that the purpose of the fair 2003 is to help lay a foundation for the first China-ASEAN trade fair to be held in Yunnan in 2005, and there will be private booths for ASEAN nations. The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will participate in the trade fair. And the cooperative societies will exhibit jade, jewellery, silverware, cotton puppets, gold embroidery works, molih kyauk paintings and wooden handicrafts there, he said.

Afterwards, on behalf of the delegates, Director of the Golden King Cooperative Society U Zaw Moe Thein pledged to follow the instructions of the minister.

Cooperatives Minister meets delegates to Kunning Trade Fair

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Do not be frightened whenever intimidated

Minister Col Thein Nyunt unveils the signboard to mark the supply of clean water in Taungdwingyi Township. — MNA
Arab nations won’t recognize Iraq Council

CAIRO, 6 Aug—Arab League members decided Tuesday not to recognize Iraq as US-appointed Governing Council, saying they will wait until a government is elected.

Arab officials welcomed the council’s creation as a first step toward new leadership in post-Saddam Hussein Iraq. But the decision Tuesday showed that Arab governments are keeping some distance from the body — dismissed by many in Iraq and across the Arab world as a puppet of Iraq’s US and British occupiers.

The decision means Iraq’s seat at the 22-member Arab League will remain empty for the time being.

“The council is a start, but it should pave the way for a legitimate government that can be recognized,” league Secretary-General Amr Moussa said after a committee of foreign ministers met to forge a unified stance on how to deal with Iraq.

The top American administrator in Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, said in late July that general elections could be held in Iraq within a year to replace the council.

The Iraqi Governing Council did not send representatives to Tuesday’s meeting in Cairo. Council members had bristled at earlier hints from Moussa that the Arab League would not embrace it.

“We don’t want to go where we are not welcome,” council member Nasser Kamal al-Chardeehi told Qatari satellite television last month. No immediate comment was available Tuesday from the Governing Council in Baghdad.

Last month, members of the council appeared before the UN Security council, but were not granted a seat at the United Nations.

The Arab League was deeply divided by the US-led war to topple Saddam — most sharply opposed it, but Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and several other nations actively helped the invasion. Many Iraqis felt they were betrayed by their fellow Arabs who supported Saddam.

The 25-member Iraqi Governing Council held its first meeting 13 July and later named a nine-member presidency. It has the power to name ministers and approve the 2004 budget, but final control of Iraq still rests with Bremer.

In Cairo Tuesday, Bahrain’s foreign minister, Sheikh Mohammed bin Mubarak, said Arab countries will work to help Iraqis restore “sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.” Bahrain currently holds the rotating Arab League presidency.

The Bahraini minister said Arab countries still want to take part in humanitarian reconstruction projects in Iraq.

The one-day meeting was attended by the foreign ministers of Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Lower ranking representatives from the Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Sudan and Tunisia also attended.

Iraq hits Blair’s ratings

LONDON, 6 Aug—The Iraqi war hangover is continuing to undermine the public’s faith in Tony Blair and his New Labour Government, a new poll suggested yesterday.

The populous poll for The Times found 34% support for Labour, two points down on July. Mr Blair’s worst was good news for the Liberal Democrats, who were on 25% - four points up on last month. The Conservatives were on 32%, also down two points. The poll contained further good news for Labour, with 60% of respondents saying they had personal trust rating of plus 23% - compared to Tory leader Iain Duncan Smith’s plus 10% and Mr Blair’s minus 4%.

Populus interviewed 1,000 people over the weekend, and asked voters to rate the main party leaders by marks out of 10.

Mr Blair recorded 4.92, down from 5.75 in May. Mr Duncan Smith was unchanged at 4.35, and Mr Kennedy scored 5, up from 4.89 when the question was last asked in May.

However among the leaders’ own supporters, it was Mr Blair who still enjoyed the strongest ratings. He rated plus 75% among Labour supporters, compared with plus 60% for Mr Duncan Smith and Mr Kennedy among theirs.

US seizes trucks, ships smuggling oil from Iraq

BAHRAIN, 7 Aug — US authorities said Tuesday they had detained around 150 people and seized scores of fuel trucks and a dozen oil barges in the past two weeks to try to stem rampant smuggling of oil out of Iraq.

“There has been widespread theft and smuggling of oil and oil derivatives out of the southern part of the country since even before the war, and we will put a stop to it,” a spokesman for the US-British administration in Iraq said.

“ar in the past two weeks we have seized in the region of 100 land-based oil tankers, arrested around 150 people — some of whom have been released — and detained some 12 oil barges.”

Naval patrols from Bahrain, home of the US Fifth Fleet, are trying to hunt down the smugglers in waters off the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr, the spokesman said.

In some cases, smuggling boats have raced from Iraqi shores into Iranian waters to try to evade capture, before moving into international waters. The spokesman declined to say if US authorities were in contact with Iran over the issue.

Since Saddam was toppled in April, Iraq has experienced widespread lawlessness, ranging from casual looting to sabotage of oil pipelines and the systematic theft of copper from telecommunications and power lines.

So much copper has been smuggled out of Iraq that it has affected world prices, while sabotage of the northern Kirkuk pipeline has held up oil exports desperately needed to kickstart the economy.

No date has been set to reopen the pipeline.

Iraq, which produced about 2.8 million barrels per day of oil before the war, now imports some essential oil products, including petrol, diesel and cooking gas.

Indonesia, Malaysia to step up cooperation in agriculture

JAKARTA, 6 Aug—The Malaysian Government has expressed its wish to step up its cooperation in agriculture with Indonesia in facing the era of free trade.

Visiting Malaysian Agri-

culture Minister Efendi Norwawi said on Monday that the cooperation should be stepped up by increasing the volume of trade between the two countries, the national news agency Antara reported.

“The value of our countries’ trade is still at a low level, so we have to increase it,” he told his Indonesian counterpart, Bungaran Saragih. In ad-

dition, he said, he had talked with Saragih, Norwawi is scheduled to meet with Indonesian Fisheries and Maritime Minister Rocham Dahrud to discuss the two countries’ cooperation in fishery.

During his three-day visit to Indonesia, the Malaysian minister and his entourage will visit a number of agricultural and fishery research centers.

China vows to revitalize SARS-hit restaurants, hotels

BEIJING, 6 Aug—China Monday vowed to revitalize restaurants and hotels hit by the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak and to realize a 9 per cent annual growth in retail sales.

Vice-Minister Zhang Zhiqiang of the Ministry of Com-

merce (MOC) said that due to SARS, Chinese hotels lost 65 billion yuan (about 7.9 billion US dollars) in the first six months of the year, and the catering industry suffered a 15.5 per cent year-on-year decrease in May.

That pulled back the increase of the total volume of retail sales, raised unemployment, reduced residents’ income and hindered farmers’ income growth because of the negative impact on the sale of agricultural products, Zhang said.

Though the restaurants and hotels are recovering after SARS was controlled, great efforts were still needed due to the tough market situation, he said.

In a plan issued Monday afternoon, MOC said that China would help restaurants and hotels to recover by cutting tax and help them enhance sanitation, improve logistics, set up chain stores and cultivate customer loyalty.

Those enterprises should strictly abide by the laws on food sanitation and the protection of wild animals, which were popular with some Chinese clients. Restaurants were also told to divide dishes into individual portions rather than the traditional method of sharing communal dishes, to reduce transmission of virus, the MOC plan said.

The ministry encourages enterprises to hold promotion activities and large-scale promotion fairs in cities including Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai and Chongqing will be the priority.

Paleontologists dig at a site in France. Scientists in Russia’s Saarc far east have unearthed three skeletons of gigantic dinosaurs, one of which may be a unknown species.

US troopers prepare to take an injured soldier to a medical facility after an attack on the police station, on 5 August, 2003, in Fallujah, 65 km (40 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq. A US soldier and two Iraqi police men were injured when an RPG (rocket propelled grenade) struck the station.

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US accused of intimidation in Iraq uranium flap

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug—Former US Ambassador Joseph Wilson, a key figure in the Iraq-Niger uranium controversy, accused the Bush Administration on Monday of using intimidation tactics to stifle criticism about its handling of prewar intelligence on Iraq.

Wilson was sent by the CIA to Niger in 2002 to investigate a report that Iraq was trying to obtain uranium from the African country, but returned to say it was highly doubtful such a transaction had occurred.

President George W Bush made the Iraq-uranium claim in his January State of the Union speech. Critics have said the Iraq-Niger assertion, which later was found to be based partly on forged documents, showed the administration had tried to hype intelligence to make a case for going to war.

Wilson, on a panel of speakers at the National Press Club, said there had been several attempts to discredit him, but mainly through an article by Chicago columnist Robert Novak that said two senior administration officials said Wilson’s wife was a CIA operative, even one in the weapons of mass destruction business, what that senior administration official is doing is a breach of national security,” Wilson said.

The reason for it was not to smear me or even smear my wife,” Wilson said. ‘The reason was to intimidate others from coming forward.”

He said when intelligence analysts see attempts to discredit him and the suicide of David Kelly, a British weapons expert on Iraq, they will be reluctant to step forward.

Kelly became embroiled in the biggest political crisis for British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s government after the BBC used the former UN weapons inspector as its main, anonymous source for an explosive report that the British Government had exaggerated the case for war in Iraq.

Democrat senators Tom Daschle of South Dakota and Charles Schumer of New York last week called for an investigation into who exposed Wilson’s wife.

China's summer tourism suffers multiple woes

PARIS, 6 Aug — France, one of the world’s biggest tourist destinations, is struggling this summer as forest fires, oil spills, economic downturn and the strength of the euro deter visitors, its Transport and Tourism Minister said on Monday.

Forest fires have hit business in the south-eastern Riviera region, while the beaches were going poorly. “It is true that in the Riviera region, for years the most visited country in the world.

Minister Gilles de Robien told RMC radio in an interview on Monday, confirming the report from the National Tourism Observatory (ONT) for both June and July when compared to the same period last year.

Forest fires last week forced tourists to leave campsites, villas and hotels in the Riviera region near the Mediterranean.

Russia to export huge amount of fighter jets before 2010

MOSCOW, 6 Aug — Russia is estimated to export up to 90 Su-30 and 100 MiG-29 fighter jets before 2010, according to a report issued by the Centre for Strategies and Technologies Analysis (CSTA).

“The expert forecast that Vietnam, China and Brazil would each import 24 Su-30 fighters. Eight of such type jets will be delivered to Indonesia, and one will be exported to India. CSTA is a group of independent experts specializing in research on military issues and the export of arms and military equipment.” — MNA/Xinhua

Oil retreats as Iraq export pipeline declared safe

NEW YORK, 6 Aug — Oil prices eased Monday as the US Army said Iraq’s key oil export pipeline to Turkey, due to resume pumping in the next few days, was untouched by an explosion last week.

Traders had feared that Thursday’s blast near the Baiji refinery would scupper US plans to resume pumping on the export pipeline over the next few days.

West Texas Intermediate on the New York Mercantile Exchange closed down 47 cents, about 1.4 per cent, at 31.80 US dollars a barrel after striking a seven-week high on Friday. In London, international benchmark Brent crude fell 46 cents to 29.53 US dollars a barrel, after striking a four-month high on Friday.

The US Army Corps of Engineers said the pipeline from northern Iraq to the Turkish Mediterranean port of Ceyhan was unaffected by the explosion.

Iraqi residents near the Baiji refinery said last week they suspected the fire was the work of saboteurs. Iraq oil production has recovered slowly since the end of the US-led invasion and is now almost half prewar levels.

China reports progress in lunar prospecting satellite research

BEIJING, 6 Aug — China has completed plans for a lunar prospecting satellite and has now started to work on sample designs.

Ye Peijian, an official in charge of the research programme with the China Research Institute of Space Technology, said breakthroughs had been made in a number of key technologies including ultraviolet sensors and specialized satellite antennas.

Iraqi firemen extinguish a blazing truck and a shop after an explosion in Baghdad, on 6 August, 2003. A truck parked outside a shop selling chemicals exploded on Wednesday, killing at least one Iraqi and setting the shop ablaze. — Internet

Frédéric Yerly

Most Germans against involvement in Iraq

BERLIN, 6 Aug — A clear majority of Germans oppose their country’s participation in the postwar reconstruction in Iraq, according to a poll result reported Monday.

The poll, conducted for N-TV by the TNS Emnid Institute, showed that 61 per cent of the 500 surveyed on August 1 were opposed to Germany’s involvement in the Iraq reconstruction. Only 34 per cent were in favour.

In April, the exact 61 per cent of Germans questioned supported a German role in the postwar process of Iraq, according to TNS Emnid.

The change of mind in many Germans could probably be attributed to almost daily attacks on US soldiers in Iraq, some experts said. Up to now, the German Government has refused to be militarily involved in Iraq, but promised to offer humanitarian or economic support to the postwar Iraq.

Chinese Vice Premier meets Japanese Minister

BEIJING, 6 Aug — Chinese Vice Premier Huang Ju said here Tuesday China and Japan should learn from the history, face up to the future, seize opportunities and make joint efforts to develop bilateral friendship.

At a meeting with visiting Japanese Land, Infrastructure and Transport Minister Ogi Chikage, Huang welcomed Ogi to visit China on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship, saying this year was worth commemorating for both China and Japan.

Huang went on to say that in recent years, non-governmental contacts between the two sides have flourished and tourism had played an active role in such bilateral exchanges.

China hoped the two sides would enhance exchanges, understandings and cooperation, Huang said.

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UN says Iraq needs $5 billion from donors for 2004

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug — Iraq will need $5 billion from a planned meeting of international donors in October just to keep its crumbling infrastructure going and basic services from grinding to a halt, a senior UN official said on Tuesday.

Ramiro Lopez da Silva, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Iraq, told a small group of journalists that Iraqi Finance Ministry officials estimate the cost of keeping the country’s institutions and services running at $20 billion for 2004. That includes recurring costs covered in the annual budget.

On the revenue side, da Silva said, Iraq could expect little income beyond what its ramshackle oil industry can earn, although debt forgiveness and the repatriation of seized and frozen funds may also help ease the burden.

Given Iraq’s problems in cracking up oil exports, most estimates forecast total income of $15 billion or less in 2004 — leaving a gap of at least $5 billion that donors must fill.

“That is just to keep things going,” da Silva said. “If you want a qualitative leap, a quantum leap in living standards and conditions, you would need much more.”

But donors may be reluctant to commit funds given the lack of security in Iraq and concerns about banking a military operation. Even if money is pledged it may not materialize — much of the cash promised to Afghanistan has yet to arrive.

“How realistic it is to expect an inflow of $5 billion is something we will have to see in October,” da Silva said. Before the war many US officials said Iraq would quickly be able to pay for its own reconstruction, largely through oil revenues. Some US officials say Washington was taken by surprise by the extent of disruption to the country caused by the war, and by the high cost of reconstruction. Do the security situation in Iraq was a key concern for donors. If the current lawlessness persisted, few countries would be keen to commit funds. — Internet

US civilian worker killed in Iraq, three troops injured

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug — A US civilian contractor was killed in a blast in Iraq while three US soldiers and a trio of Iraqi policemen were wounded in a separate rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) attack, dealing further severe blows to reconstruction efforts.

The employee of Kellogg, Brown and Root (KBR), contracted by the army to help rebuild Iraq’s crumbling oil infrastructure, was killed when his vehicle ran over an explosive device near Saddam Hussein’s hometown of Tikrit.

KBR identified the man as an employee but said the blast was caused by an anti-tank mine.

He was believed to be the first US civilian fatality here since US President George W Bush declared an end to major combat in Iraq on 1 May.

It was not clear if the contractor, driving in a five-man convoy, was targeted by assailants or if he hit the explosive on accident.

KBR, a unit of oil giant Halliburton, formerly run by US Vice President Dick Cheney, has been contracted by the Army Corps of Engineers to repair and operate oil wells in Iraq.

The three US soldiers and three Iraqi police officers were cut down in an RPG attack against the police station in the flashpoint town of Falluja west of Baghdad, an AFP correspondent reported. A 15-year-old child was also wounded shortly after the 3:30 pm (1130 GMT) attack, struck by a bullet when the US military convoy raced out of the station to evacuate their wounded.

“Three soldiers were hit, and three policemen were injured,” police officer Mohammed Abdel Zaki, who was in the station when it was attacked, told AFP. Zaki said he believed two of the Americans were killed, but US military were unable to confirm the report. — Internet

US says pneumonia cases in Iraq seem ‘sporadic’

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug — Medical experts investigating a spate of serious pneumonia cases among US troops in Iraq and nearby nations have found no evidence the illnesses were spread from one person to another, officials said on Tuesday.

Lt Gen James Peake, the Army’s surgeon general, last week sent two teams of investigators to determine the cause of more than 100 pneumonia cases recorded since March 1 among troops deployed for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 15 most seriously ill troops — 14 men and one woman — were put on ventilators to help them breathe. Of these, two soldiers who had served in Iraq died, one in June and one in July, said Col. Robert DeFrateis, chief of preventive medicine in the Army surgeon general’s office.

Ten of these 15 cases occurred in Iraq, with others reported in Kuwait, Qatar and as far away as Uzbekistan. DeFrateis told a Pentagon briefing.

DeFrateis said investigators, trying to determine any relationship among the cases, found that two of the 15 cases were caused by the streptococcus bacterium, the most common cause of bacterial pneumonia. Both patients recovered, he added.

He said investigators have not pinpointed the cause of the other cases including the two deaths, but were narrowing down the possible culprits. DeFrateis noted that the cases were spread out over time and that the troops involved all were in different places and in different military units.

Putin in Malaysia for talks on trade, arms, terror

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 Aug — Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in Malaysia on Monday evening for talks covering trade, arms and counter-terrorism.

Putin was greeted by Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar but his schedule in Kuala Lumpur will only fully begin on Tuesday when he meets Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad and attends a business forum, before returning home via Uzbekistan.

US army military policemen carry their wounded comrade into the police station in Falluja, 40 km west of Baghdad, on 5 August, 2003. At least two US soldiers were wounded on Tuesday when a rocket-propelled grenade was fired at a police station in the restive town of Falluja. — Internet

Thai products to hit world stores within 3 years

BANGKOK, 6 Aug — Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak has pledged to ensure that “one tambon, one product” (OTOP) goods will be on display in large stores across the world within three years, reported Thai News Agency on Tuesday.

He expressed confidence on Monday that foreigners would be willing to pay high prices for Thai local products that require time and skills to make.

Opening an exhibition of OTOP products from the upper southern region in southern province of Surat Thani, the Deputy Prime Minister said that within the next couple of years, the government’s continual promotion of OTOP products would pay off, and that OTOP products would be on sale in shops and restaurants throughout the world.

The British store Tesco and the French supermarket Carrefour have already agreed to distribute OTOP products abroad, Somkid said. The prize-winning OTOP products from Thailand’s 76 provinces would gain global recognition, and would help attract tourists into Thailand, he added. — MNA/Xinhua

Demonstrators stage a “die-in” before the gated A-bomb dome on the hour at which the atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima on 6 August, 2003, the 58th anniversary of the nuclear inferno. In an annual ritual of remembrance for the more than 230,000 people who ultimately died from the blast, thousands gathered to pray at Peace Memorial Park, close to ground zero. — Internet
Arab League rules out sending troops to Iraq, seeks end occupation

CAIRO, 6 Aug — Arab foreign ministers ruled out a US request to send troops to stabilise Iraq at a meeting and discussed ways to end its occupation, Arab League secretary general Amr Mussa said.

"There was an agreement that (sending) Arab forces cannot be considered in the current circumstances," Mussa told reporters.

"We should work to put an end to the occupation and allow the Iraqi people form a national government," he added.

Bahraini Foreign minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Mubarak al-Khalifa, who chaired the meeting at the 22-member Arab League headquarters, announced the set up of a seven-member committee to follow up the Iraqi issue, made up of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Syria, Qatar, Jordan and Tunisia.

An Arab official explained that the US request of sending troops was "discussed informally and struck off the agenda because there was no hope of reaching a consensus" at the meeting of ministers from 11 states and the Palestinian Authority.

He said many members considered sending troops to help the Americans would be tantamount to helping the occupation.

Egyptian state-run newspaper Al-Ahram on Tuesday ran an editorial along those lines. "Arab nations refuse on principle to play policeman to protect the Americans or quash Iraqi resistance," it wrote.

"From the American point of view, it would be ideal to have Arab troops in Iraq... It imply Arab recognition of the occupation to the extent of helping secure its continuation."

The Bahraini foreign minister said the Arab League was open to a dialogue with members of the US-sponsored Iraqi Governing Council but did not recognise this body as a legitimate government.— Internet

Arabs call Iraq Council “step in right direction”

CAIRO, 6 Aug — A group of Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo on Tuesday welcomed the formation of a US-appointed Governing Council in Iraq as a step towards the formation of an elected national government.

Iraqis and most Arabs have been wary of accepting the 25-member Governing Council, which roughly reflects Iraq’s diverse ethnic and religious communities, as a legitimate representative body. The Council was set up in July.

The ministers have called for elections as soon as possible to let Iraqis choose their own government.

“We believe the creation of the Council is a step in the right direction. We hope it will lead to a new Constitution, an election and a creation of a government,” Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Mubarak al-Khalifa told a news conference.

He was speaking during a break in a meeting of 11 foreign ministers from Arab states and the Palestinian Authority at the 22-member Arab League’s Cairo headquarters. Bahrain currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the League.

Sheikh Mohammed said the pan-Arab body and individual Arab states were ready to meet any Iraqi delegations, but he would not be drawn on whether a delegation from the Governing Council would be allowed to take up Iraq’s seat at the Arab League.

MNA/Reuters

Grenade attack wounds two US soldiers in Iraq

FALLUJA, 6 Aug — At least two US soldiers were wounded on Tuesday when a rocket-propelled grenade was fired at a police station in the restive town of Falluja west of Baghdad, a Reuters witness said.

Photographer Faleh Kheiber said the grenade hit the police station, and watched an ambulance drive two wounded soldiers from the scene.

After the attack, a crowd of Iraqis gathered, chanting slogans in support of ousted president Saddam Hussein.

The US military said it had no immediate information on the incident. Falluja, 32 miles west of Baghdad, is a hotbed of anti-American anger. US troops shot dead 17 Iraqis in the town in April during two demonstrations, and since then American soldiers have come under repeated attacks in the town.

MNA/Reuters

Eight people die in accident in Ghana

NAMOPO, 6 Aug — Six people died on the spot and two others later in hospital when a bus on which they were travelling collided with a cargo truck at Mampong, about 90 kilometres north of the Ghanaian capital, Accra.

According to Ghana News Agency on Monday, a 10-year-old boy survived the accident, with minor injuries, but his parents died.

Kwaku Ayessa Opade-Addo, chief superintendent of police, said the truck’s driver, in an attempt to avoid a calf, swerved into another lane.

The bus driver saw the cargo truck veer into his lane and swerved into the other lane to avoid a collision but the truck veered back into its lane and hit the bus head-on.

MNA/Xinhua

China’s Yang Hao shows her trophy of the “Best Server” during an awarding ceremony after the final of the 2003 World Grand Prix women’s volleyball tournament in Andria, Italy, on 3 Aug. 2003. China beat Russia 25-22, 28-26, 25-21 in the final, winning the champion of the grand prix. — Xinhua

Malaysia, Russia call for UN leading role in Iraq

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 Aug — Malaysia and Russia agreed that the United Nations should play a leading role in post-war Iraq, so that other UN members could participate constructively, Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said on Tuesday.

Briefing reporters on the outcome of the talks between two delegations headed by visiting President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, the minister said the talks also focused on international issues including Iraq and the situation in West Asia.

On Iraq, the minister said that both leaders shared the same view that the pre-emptive invasion of that country by the United States-led coalition may not have been the most appropriate action for no weapons of mass destruction had been found there.

And the Prime Minister has informed (Putin) that we will not be involved with the reconstruction of Iraq except in rendering humanitarian assistance," he said.

"Both leaders agreed that the way to assist Iraq is to bring it under the total control of the UN so that an international force can come in," he said.

Given the present unsatisfactory situation, he said, Mahathir and Putin concurred on the need for the world body to assume a central role in international relations and in upholding the multilateral system.

On the restive Chechnya, Syed Hamid said that Malaysia considered the matter as that of Russia’s internal affairs.

"What we are interested in is to see a peaceful settlement of the issues involving Chechnya," he said.

On bilateral issues, he said relations between Malaysia and Russia were set to enter a new phase with pledges for cooperation in fields such as defence, aerospace, economy, education and combating terrorism.

The Russian president, arrived here in Monday afternoon for the first visit to the South East country.

MNA/Xinhua

Tanzanians urged to cooperate with police

DAR ES SALAAM, 6 Aug — Tanzanian President Benjamin Mkapa insisted on Monday that Tanzanians should cooperate with police for maintaining people’s safety and their property.

The President made the remarks when he officially unveiled 53 police houses on Pemba Island, the second largest island in Tanzania.

The President stressed that if every citizen can help police forces a great deal in fulfilling their responsibilities more efficiently, the society may enjoy more peace and harmony.

The President promised to try his best to build modern police forces in Tanzania, so that they can carry out their responsibilities. Tanzania used to be famous for its nationwide safety and harmony, but in recent years, some criminal cases have caused panic among people.

Just several months ago, three policemen were shot dead and one was severely injured while on duty. — MNA/Xinhua
Acid used for producing heroin seized in eastern Afghanistan

KARLSTAD, 6 Aug — Afghan authorities have seized over four metric tons of acid used for making heroin in an eastern border area, a local reporter on Tuesday.

The contraband acid amounted to 4.7 tons was seized in Shinwari District of Nangarhar Province bordering Pakistan on Monday, the state-run Arman Mille said in a report.

The chemical liquid, hidden among tons of wheat, was discovered on fire on local law enforcement agencies on Monday, it said.

Afghanistan has become the world's largest supplier of opium, with an output of 3,400 metric tons last year, mainly due to the lack of law and order in rural areas especially after the collapse of the Taliban regime in late 2001.

The government has intensified its fight against the rampant narcotics cultivation across the country, and so far dozens of tons of poppy, heroin and hashish have been seized and destroyed, officials said.

However, the cultivation of poppy and production of heroin are being run by the farmers who were hired by high profile choose to cultivate the poppy crop.

A kilo of heroin could fetch some 200 US dollars in local black market.

In some areas, almost every farmer decide to de-vote their land for opium poppy instead of wheat or rice, in fears that more strict measures would be taken by the government to enforce a ban on poppy cultivation, a reporter just coming back from a far eastern province told Xinhua.

The Afghan Government plans to eradicate the poppy cultivation in the country within 10 years.

Nangarhar, like Zabil and Helmand in the south, is one of the provinces known for poppy cultivation in Afghanistan.

China, Russia launch new science cooperation project

SHENYANG, 6 Aug — Preparation for the sino-Russian Science and Technology Cooperation Project between the Chinese and Russian governments for broad-based research, has been launched in Liaoning Province, northeast China.

The centre, taken up by Shenyang Engineering College, Russia’s Tomsk Polytechnical College and the Siberian branch of the Russia Academy of Sciences, will concentrate on research into aeronautics and astronautics, bio-engineering, energy and environment materials, laser technology and environmental sciences. Yao Jun, an official with Shenyang Engineering College, said the college will earmark 26.52 hectares of land for the construction of the centre, which is anticipated to be completed in 2005.

Work on establishing five institutes will begin later this year and 10 institutes will be formed by December of 2005, with 500 million yuan (about 60 million US dollars) in funding from the Shenyang college.

Yao said the centre, to be jointly owned by the two sides, will cooperate with enterprises and institutions from China and other parts of China in commercialize Russian technology and their common research achievements.

The centre also be open to the science and education communities of China, Russia and other countries, he said.

The Chinese also plans to invest one billion yuan (121 million US dollars) in a high tech industrial park cater- ing to Russian technology in Shenyang, which is not from Russia’s Far East region and is a major industrial base of China.

The centre plans to set up a Russian-Chinese science park in Russia in a bid to introduce Chinese high-technology, practi- cal technology and products to Russia, said Yao. With the progress in China-Russia relations, several demonstration bases for technological cooperation between the two countries have been established in China.

Malaysia keen to act as springboard for Russian goods

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 Aug — Malaysia is very interested in acting as a “spring- board” for Russian goods into the region, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said on Tuesday.

“We are very keen to become the gateway for Russian products in the re- gion,” he said during a question and answer ses- sion at the Malaysia-Russia Business Forum here.

Present on occasion was visiting Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin, who arrived here on Monday for a two-day official visit to Malaysia, the first by a Russian head of state to the country. Trade between Ma- layasia and Russia is cur- rently valued at RM62 million.

When asked what Malaysia was interested in, said, adding that Malaysia imports steel, aircraft and other related products from Russia, while very few Russian products made it to Malaysia, despite the coun- try’s wide range of exports.

He said bilateral trade should be fair as much as possible and at the same time, there should be a bal- ance. As such, it is impor- tant that both countries know what each has to of- fer, he said. Mahathir said such information is crucial at the moment, especially since many Malaysian prod- ucts reach Russia through third parties.

One way of tackling this is to have more visits and contacts by business- men of both countries, the prime minister added. The visits will allow better understanding and help cement relations and enhance business between Malaysia and Russia, he said.

Mahathir also told the forum that at one stage, Ma- layasia exported automobiles to Russia but due to some problems, the deal was ter- minated. Expecting a potential of motor vehicle sales in Russia, Mahathir proposed the setting up of an automotive manufacturers’ assembly line in that country.

He observed bilateral trade does not only involve buying and selling but also the transfer of technology.

“When we have more trade, it is inevitable that the exchange of knowledge will be enhanced,” he said, add- ing “we believe Russia has sufficient scientific and technological know-how which Malaysia desires to have.”

Bilateral trade stood at 1.34 billion ringgit (352.63 dollars price tag will make it the biggest cross-border deal ever been made.

In Япония, 6 Aug — The Chinese are anticipated to be completed in 2005.

Work on establishing five institutes will begin later this year and 10 institutes will be formed by December of 2005, with 500 million yuan (about 60 million US dollars) in funding from the Shenyang college.

Beijing throws lifeline to HK with new bridge

HONG KONG, 6 Aug — Chinese and Hong Kong governments on Tuesday hopped up the plans for a 29-kilometre-long giant bridge linking Hong Kong and China and Macao, a two-billion-US- dollars project driven by Beijing’s desire to show the world his ambition to thrive in the new millennium.

Jean-Pierre Cabestan, director of the Hong Kong-based French Centre for Re- search on Contemporary China said “Beijing is try- ing to get some help to (Hong Kong Chief Execu- tive) Tung Chee-hwa to improve his image and the efficiency of his administration in Hong Kong.”

In promoting the Hong K ong-Z h uhai-Macao Bridge and closer cross-bor- der economic ties. Beijing is throwing a lifeline to eco- nomically battered Hong Kong and Tung, analysts said.

Tung and Guangdong Governor Huang Huahua were meeting in Hong Kong to discuss economic ties, in- cluding preliminary plans for the Y-shaped bridge, whose 1-2.0-billion US dollars price tag will make it the biggest cross-border public works project.

Hopewell Holdings, which hopes to take a 50- per-cent stake in the project, said earlier on Tuesday it raised 386 million US dol- lars through an initial pub- lic offering and its shares were expected to surge on Wednesday if the bridge project is confirmed.

The bridge, promoted as a boon for Hong Kong by opening up the western Pearl River Delta for faster development, has been talked about for years but moved on a fast-track last month.

Its 29-kilometre length is still behind the United States’ Second  Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, the world’s longest bridge at 38.4 kilometres, accord- ing to the Guinness Book of World Records.

MNA/Reuters

Laos, Cambodia, Thailand to cooperate in tourism development

HANOI, 6 Aug — Laos, Cambodia and Thailand have agreed to cooperate in tourism development in their border area called the Emerald Triangle, according to a Lao news agency.

The agreement was the result of the talks among foreign ministers of Laos, Cambodia and Thailand held in Laos’ southernmost province of Champassak last Saturday.

Under the agreement, the three countries will work together to promote the exchange of experiences and tourism between organizations of both state and private sectors in tourism development.

An information centre will also be set up in Champassak to offer tour- ist information of the three countries, especially of the Emerald Triangle.

The Emerald Triangle boasts a number of fascinat- ing tourist sites, such as Preah Vihear in Cambodia, the Khmer-styled stone stupa of Wat Phou Champassak in Laos, and Phnom Rung stone shrine in Thailand. — MNA/Xinhua

Portugal seeks NATO help as it tilled in forest fires

DEGOLADOS (Portugal), 6 Aug — Portugal asked NATO for planes and hel- copters on Tuesday to help fight forest fires as the death toll from the woods blazes in two decades, whipped up by strong winds amid a heatwave, rose to 11.

The government agency Lusa said the two latest deaths were that of a 62-year-old man who showed signs of smoke poisoning and an elderly woman whose body was charred. Both were found in the small town of Oleiros, some 100 miles northeast of Lisbon.

The fires, which prompted the government to declare a national disaster on Monday, have destroyed an unknown number of homes and burned up to 135,000 acres of woods, the government said last week.

“We’ve asked for help from NATO. Some of it has already arrived,” Prime Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso told reporters during a tour of Macao, a village in the centre of some of the worst-hit areas in central Portugal.

Lusa said the requested help com- prised four to six planes and three helicopt- ers, along with their crews.

The European Commission said Portu- gal had asked the European Union for financial assistance to help it recover from the fires. The National Rescue Operations Centre said 1,500 firefighters sup- ported by 600 vehicles were battling seven blazes as temperatures fell on Tuesday.

The number of blazes was lower than in recent days, but a forecast rise to 40 Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) on Wednesday and an easterly wind could hinder operations, said a local newspaper for the country.

Firefighters were unable to say how many houses had been destroyed.

“We did what we could to save houses,” said Pedro Carvalho, one of the firefighters.

There were 1,450 fires overnight against a blaze near Degolados, a village about 120 miles northeast of Lisbon.

“But everything that was vegetable has been burned,” he said as he toured the blackened remains of a pine and eucalyptus forest. — MNA/Reuters
No way or destination in sight — 7

Tension and insurgency were ongoing in Myanmar. The Tatmadaw and the NLD had made arrangements for Daw Suu Kyi and her group to visit the development projects. The aims of the arrangements were to let her see all the nation-building undertakings and systematic plans of the State from the objective point of view, and to open the door for her to cooperate with the Government in implementing the tasks.

In addition, she told the diplomatic circle and the news agencies that the regular meetings with the officials concerned were just the work of confidence building, but not the political dialogue; that there should be a political dialogue; that the persons under detention order had to be released without leaving a single person; that the freedom to organize must be permitted; that the NLD would never change its attitude concerning the interna- tional sanctions; that the border areas must be held.

In accord with the changes in the tone of the words of Daw Suu Kyi, the external anti-Government gangs, and insurgent groups sent hard cores to the country to organize ex-convicts and those who were likely to oppose the Government to launch terrorist attacks, create disturbances and to assassinate the leaders of the State.

The terrorists and assassins sent by them, the authorities were able to arrest Thet Nwe (a) Nyein Lu and a group on 11 December 2002. They were sent to blow up explosives at a place in front of Insein Jail. The authori- ties also exposed and seized two bogus Buddhist nuns who entered Myanmar to stage a demonstration in front of the City Hall on 6 January 2003. They were also able to prevent an armed group of the insurgents from entering the State and progress of the nation.

In that situation, the BCP remnants in north-east Shan State and new generations UGs, and ex-patriates and insurgents taking refuge in the border areas drew and launched a people’s struggle project. The project was none other than a scheme to wage political and armed struggles to provide political advantage for Daw Suu Kyi and the NLD and to see that the existing Government suffer hard- ships. It was not just a coincidence that the methods of employed in the projects were in accord with the current situation.

The ex-patriates insurgents who were launching po- litical activities, with Daw Suu Kyi as the main pillar, were relying on a neighbouring country and some powers as their masters in putting pressures on the Government on multiple fronts to intimidate it, and even in conducting armed intrusions into the Myanmar territory. Soon, a big nation released an emergency announcement, which stated that Myanmar was posing as a danger and threat to its national security and foreign policy, and continued its policy of imposing sanctions on Myanmar. It is real that some powers are intensifying their pressures on Myanmar.

People’s Desire

* Use daylight as the main source of light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enter-
  prises
* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to forty million dollars equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of electricity

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Efficient use of fuel

* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
* Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US$ 5.5 million in a year
* The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered.

The ex-patriates insurgents who were launching po-

litical activities, with Daw Suu Kyi as the main pillar, were relying on a neighbouring country and some powers as their masters in putting pressures on the Government on multiple fronts to intimidate it, and even in conducting armed intrusions into the Myanmar territory. Soon, a big nation released an emergency announcement, which stated that Myanmar was posing as a danger and threat to its national security and foreign policy, and continued its policy of imposing sanctions on Myanmar. It is real that some powers are intensifying their pressures on Myanmar.

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ships. It was not just a coincidence that the methods of employed in the projects were in accord with the current situation.

The acts to transfer the State power to an indi-
vidual and an individual group through disturbances by destroying the objective conditions of Myanmar will not lead to flourishing of democracy in the nation. The rules and the method to build a genuine democracy depends on time, place and situation.

To the extent of my knowledge, the government simply elected by the people is not enough for democ-

cracy. The essence of democracy will be firm and correct only if the elected government is a true democratic gov-

ernment working in the interest of the people. The transi-
tional period will take much longer if the acts to serving the interest of the nation and the people or in building a democratic system is based on random methods, confron-
tations and coercion that are against the discipline and procedures, with no way or destination in sight.

(Concluded)

(Translation: TMT)
Regional development tasks ...

The commander also spoke on the occasion. After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, party, officials of the school, and students posed for a group photo.

Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to Zaytichoung village, Thaton Township in the afternoon. There, he watched young girls transplanting paddy and presented them cash awards.

At the town hall of Thaton, he met with local farmers and heard reports on agricultural undertakings in the town.

After hearing reports, Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on extension of sown acreage and the need to coordinate with the Myanmar Agricultural Service for necessary cultivation methods.

Next, the commander gave a speech on the occasion and Li-Gen Maung Bo attended to the requirements.

On 4 August, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and officials met officers, Tmatmadawmen and family members at Aung Soe Moe hall of regional battalion of Thaton station. He spoke at length on cooperation with departments concerned and local people for regional development, agriculture and livestock breeding and cultivation of perennial plants and pepper. He cordially met Tmatmadawmen and family members.

Li-Gen Maung Bo inspected cultivation and live- stock breeding of regional battalion. He went to No 1 Soe Moe hall of regional battalion (Myaingyally) in Hpa-an. Factory Manager Lt-Col Aung Min reported on running of the factory. Li-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions and also inspected No 2 Cement Factory. They proceeded to Hpa-an Technological College and inspected the site for new building.

Li-Gen Maung Bo and party arrived at the construction site of Hpa-an University where they were welcomed by Pro-rector U Saw Han Shein and faculty members. U Htay Myint of Yuzana Construction reported on progress of work. Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung gave a supplementary report.

Next, Director of Kayin State Development Committee U Thet Hnin Oo reported on scale model of road to the university and arrangements for extension of the road. Lt-Gen Maung Bo fulfilled the requirements and inspected the site.

Yangon Division Vegetable …

(from page 16)

Yangon Division Settlement and Land Records Department U Naing Win reported on cultivation of vegetables and livestock breeding and tasks.

Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col San Matu reported on tasks to be undertaken, Director of Yangon Division Irrigation Department U Kyaw Thein on maintenance of canals and culverts, Yangon Division Engineer of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Saw Mo Dau Liu on installation of telecommunication lines.

Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint also took part in the discussions. The commander said arrangements are to be made for cultivation of vegetables all year round and livestock breeding as the zone is within the 30 miles perimeter project.

Yangon Division Vegetable ...

(from page 16)

Zone 3 in-charge Head of Yangon Division Settlement and Land Records Department U Naing Win reported on cultivation of vegetables and livestock breeding and tasks.

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Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung receives Sri Lankan Ambassador Mr D M M Ranaraja

Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung receives Sri Lankan Ambassador Mr D M M Ranaraja

Mandalay beat Kayin State 3-0 in ISD soccer

Mandalay beat Kayin State 3-0 in ISD soccer

Journalists leave for Singapore

Journalists leave for Singapore

Minister inspects construction of railroad sections

Minister inspects construction of railroad sections

TEMPORARY INTERRUPTION OF ELECTRICITY

YANGON, 6 Aug — The old switch boards of the 33 KV Generator constructed in 1960 at the Hlawga Power Station will be replaced with new ones during the period from 6 am to 6 pm on 10 August.

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered.
Insein Myanma Locomotive Shed manufactures locomotives and coaches

(Article by Kayan Soe Myint, Photos by Ye Chan Myint)

We arrived at Insein locomotive shed of Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation on 24 July. It is about a furlong west of Yangon-Insein Road in Insein Township, Yangon Division.

The locomotive shed was constructed 128 years ago to carry out preparatory work to launch rail transportation in Myanmar. It is 26.7 acres of land and comprises a lot of workshops. It was extended by establishing 10 workshops from 1928 to 1930 compared with five at first. However, buildings and machinery were damaged in bombing during World War II.

Therefore, it was reconstructed in 1945 and there were about 1600 employees and 10 workshops at that time. At present, there are 16 workshops where 1098 white and blue colour workers are working. Repairing of steam and diesel locomotives, production of spare parts for locomotives and construction of coaches are being carried out there.

When we arrived at the locomotive shed, we met with Deputy General Manager of the shed U Saw Valentine, Assistant General Manager U Khin Zaw and Assistant Manager U Thaung Chit at the briefing hall. Next, the deputy general manager explained the production and background history of the locomotive shed.

Afterwards, we, together with officials concerned, went to the workshops.

First, we found DMU-303 coach and LRBE locomotive manufactured by the locomotive shed Insein locomotive shed not only carried out the maintenance of locomotives but also assembled DMU coaches and locomotive sheds.

Under the directive of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, a total of 14 LRBE locomotives and DMU-303 coach were assembled from 1992 to today. Now, trial run of DMU-303 coach is being carried out and it will operate on a suitable road section. Moreover, LRBE locomotives have replaced the diesel locomotives.

Officials said they will continue to conduct innovations in locomotive production to ensure success in smooth transportation using the hydraulic transmission techniques.

Myanma Railways carried out transportation using 365 steam locomotives in pre-war era. As fuel consumed by steam locomotives cost too much, diesel locomotives were imported from France in 1958 to replace the existing old ones. The imported locomotives were launched on Yangon-Mandalay railroad on 4 January, 1958.

Information Subcommittee for 11th Performing Arts Competition meets

Yangon, 6 Aug — The Information Subcommittee for the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held its first work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road here this morning.

Chairman of the Subcommittee Director-General of the MRTV U Khin Maung Htay and subcommittee members attended the meeting. Director-General U Khin Maung Htay spoke on the occasion, followed by a general round of discussions.

The Objectives of the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

— to vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens
— to preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
— to perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
— to preserve Myanmar national character
— to nurture spiritual development of the youths
— to prevent influence of alien cultures

Three mines exploded in Monywa

Yangon, 6 Aug — The government, upholding Our Three Main National Causes and the twelve objectives, has been striving for building up an all-round developed nation. However, insurgents including anti-government organizations who can not bear to see the State’s stability and distinct progress, have been constantly committing destructive acts and jeopardizing tranquility and community peace in the country.

Three mines were planted at three separate places around the embankment of Yongyi Ward in Monywa exploded about 8 am on 4 August. But, there were no casualties nor damages in the bomb blasts.

The authorities concerned had got information in advance that the anti-government organizations abroad and terrorist insurgents have been constantly committing terrorist acts by sending bombers into the nation to cause panic among the people and by detonating bombs to kill innocent people. It is learnt that the explosions were jointly committed by ABSDF insurgent group under the name of students abroad, and the remnants of the Burma Communist Party.
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

The Government has been striving for enabling the nation to keep abreast with the world’s nations in terms of development. In the process, it has laid down national development projects and region-wise development plans and work is well under way for bringing about harmonious development in economic, health and education sectors across the nation and narrowing the development gap among all parts of the nation.
The Union of Myanmar Ministry of Construction
Public Works

Extension of Invitation for Quotation

The Project Management Unit, Public Works, Ministry of Construction has invited Quotation for TRADE MARK CAUTION

Ticona GmbH, a company incorporated in Germany, of Professor-Staudinger-Str., D-65451 Kelsterbach, Germany, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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Reg. No. 3157/2003 in respect of “Unprocessed plastics”

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

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P.O. Box 60, Yangon.
Date: 7 August 2003

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Fax No. 095-1-381014 Dated: 29 July, 2003

E-mail: psyndicate@upmail.net.mm

Tel No. 25417

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. Sealed Bids are invited by the Yangon City Development Committee for supply of the following - MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT 19 Lots:

2. Commencing from 1st August 2003 a complete set of bidding document will be available at the office of Budget & Accounts Department, Procurement and Sales Section, City Hall, Yangon, during office hours by cash in FEC 500/- to be paid to the above office for each set of document.

3. Bids shall be accepted only from Bidders who officially purchased the Bidding Document (Those Purchased through Embassy must declare for whom it is purchased).

4. The Bids received will be opened in the presence of Bidders and Bidders’ Representatives who choose to attend at 15:00 hours on 29th August 2003 at the Meeting Hall (2), Yangon City Development Committee, City Hall, 420/450 Mahabandoola Street, Yangon, Myanmar

CHAIRMAN
PROCUREMENT AND SALES COMMITTEE

NEW ZEALAND TO SET UP NEW THINK-TANK FOR ECONOMY

Wellington, 6 Aug — Statistics New Zealand is planning to relocate some of its top brains to Wellington to set up a think-tank for the economy, The Dominion Post reported here Tuesday.

About 20 positions from the organization’s Christchurch office and about eight from its Auckland office will be moved to Wellington.

Deputy government statistician Ian Ewing was quoted as saying that the seven products in-

include electronic, textile, aquatic products and automotive components.

Gusmardi said the stance of each country on non-agricultural product liberalization is different from one another. He said Japan, for example, objects to the liberalization of aquatic products. He added that on non-

agricultural products, there

is an import duty of above 5 per cent at present.

In relation to the WTO conference in Cancun, Mexico, in September, Gusmardi said developed countries urged the confer-

ence to discuss new issues such as trade and investment, trade-competition, govern-

dment procurement and trade facility.

However, Indonesia and other developing countries consider that the discussion on such matters is not too urgent. — MNA/Xinhua

SPAIN ENJOYS SLIGHT GDP GROWTH IN SECOND QUARTER

MADRID, 6 Aug—The gross domestic product (GDP) of Spain grew by 2.2 per cent in the second quarter of 2003, according to a report issued by the Bank of Spain Monday. The increase re-

sulted from incentives to in-

vestments, the relative growth of exports and the recovery of national demand, with a “slight acceleration of private consumption and a high growth of public admin-

istration expenditure,” the report said. During the quar-

ter, the Spanish economy showed a “remarkable capac-

ity” for growth under exter-

nal circumstances “domi-

nated by uncertainty,” which once again delayed the recovery of the world economy. — MNA/Xinhua

WTO TO DISCUSS NON-AGRICULTURAL TRADE LIBERALIZATION

JAKARTA, 6 Aug — The World Trade Organization (WTO) will discuss trade lib-

eralization for at least seven non-agricultural products to lower import duty to zero per cent, the daily Kompas reported Tuesday.

The newspaper said the developing countries, espe-

cially Indonesia, hope the tari-

ff issue will not be man-

datory.

“We demand that the is-

sue of non-agricultural prod-

uct liberalization be held on

voluntary arrangement,” In-

donesian Ambassador for

WTO Gusmardi Bustami was quoted as saying.

The seven products in-

clude electronic, textile, aquatic products and auto-

mobile components.

Gusmardi said the stance of each country on non-agricultural product liberalization is different from one another. He said Japan, for example, objects to the lib-

eralization of aquatic products.

He added that on non-

agricultural products, there

is an import duty of above 5 per cent at present.

In relation to the WTO conference in Cancun, Mexico, in September, Gusmardi said developed countries urged the confer-

ence to discuss new issues such as trade and investment, trade-competition, govern-

dment procurement and trade facility.

However, Indonesia and other developing countries consider that the discussion on such matters is not too urgent. — MNA/Xinhua

Canadians optimistic about economy

OTTAWA, 6 Aug — A whopping 73 per cent of Canadians believe the country’s economy is good and about one-third of Canadians also believe that the economy will improve in the next year, according to a new poll published Monday.

The poll, conducted by Ipsos-Reid company for the Canadian Television and the English news paper Globe and Mail, also found that 48 per cent of Canadians who believe eco-

nomic performance will stay the same, and 19 per cent who think things will get worse.

The confidence of the Canadians translates into positive expectations for inter-

est rates, low job anxiety, home-buying intentions and optimistic personal economic forecasting, the poll found. — MNA/Xinhua

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Indonesian airport service sets up joint venture with SIA

Jakarta, 6 Aug—Indonesia-based airport service company PT Jasa Angkasa Semesta (JAS) has reached an agreement with Singapore Airlines (SIA) to set up a joint venture on maintenance services.

Under the agreement, Singapore Airlines Engineering Company (SIAEC), a subsidiary of SIA, will take a 49-per-cent stake in a new company PT JAS Aero Engineering Services while JAS will hold the remaining 51 per cent, according to reports by local wire services.

JAS president Diono Nuradin was quoted as saying that the joint venture was a follow-up of a ministerial decree ruling that no foreign aviation company is allowed to provide aircraft line maintenance services in Indonesia except for its own aircrafts.

He and SIAEC chief executive William Tan signed the agreement here on Monday.

JAS Aero, the mutually-formed company, will operate at 10 major airports in Indonesia and foreign countries.

Diono said the new company is expected to provide services to 50 per cent of 19 leading domestic carriers.

PT JAS’ main customers are Brunei Airlines, Silk Air and Eva Air while SIAEC has Lufthansa, Thai Airlines and Emirates Airlines.

Meanwhile Tan said the Indonesian joint venture is SIAEC’s fifth after China, Hong Kong SAR, Taiwan and Ireland.

A doctor in the Chinese city of Guangzhou carries out tests on the SARS virus. Health officials are concerned the potentially fatal virus could make a comeback during the winter months. —MNA/Xinhua

US auto industry faces tough competition

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug—Although its auto sales jumped to the highest level of this year in July, the US auto industry is under strong market competition pressure.

“It is tough inside the industry,” The Wall Street Journal quoted Chrysler’s senior vice-president of sales Gary Dilbs as saying. “It’s a dogfight in every segment.”

The seasonally adjusted annual sales of July stood at 17.3 million vehicles, stronger than the 16.1 million rate for the first half of the year.

The report said “a raging industry price war and a pickup in the economy fueled consumer demand.”

But if compared with the sales of a year ago, the US car and light-truck sales in July were down by 4.5 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

Power shortage eases in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 6 Aug—A power shortage in Shanghai caused by a summer heatwave eased slightly Monday with the peak load fluctuating around the safety level of 13 million kilowatts.

Shanghai has experienced two straight weeks of hot summer days so far and the temperature soared to a record high 39.6 degrees Celsius. The recent power demand of 13.62 million kilowatt-hours per day exceeded local power supply capacity.

In order to ease power shortage, the Shanghai Municipal Government has ordered the suspension of all scenic light- ing and urged local residents to cut unnecessary power use.

In addition, electricity use at local companies was also restricted to ensure sufficient energy supply for civil uses.

Statistics from the local electricity administration showed air-conditioning power usage accounted for nearly half of the total demand and more than the daily average in the corresponding period of last year.

MNA/Xinhua

San Diego zoo’s giant panda pregnant with twins

Los Angeles, 6 Aug— San Diego zoo officials announced on Monday that Bai Yun, a giant panda on loan from China, is expected to deliver twins sometime this month.

Because panda pregnancies can vary in length by as much as three months, zookeepers do not know exactly when the babies will be born — or who their father is.

In March, Bai Yun mated naturally with her new partner, Gao Gao, officials said. After Gao Gao lost interest in Bai Yun a day later, she was artificially inseminated with semen from her former mate, Shi Shi.

Shi Shi and Bai Yun are the parents of 3-year-old Hua Mei, the only surviving giant panda cub born in the United States.

An ultrasound done on Sunday showed that Bai Yun was carrying twins. The test marks the earliest a twin pregnancy has been documented, zoo spokeswoman Christina Simmons said.

Zookeepers hope to study Bai Yun’s pregnancy to add to the limited knowledge about panda gestation, Simmons said.

Although it is not unusual for pandas to give birth in late summer or early fall, female pandas are sometimes unable to care for more than one cub at a time, zoo officials said.

The second cub may be removed from Bai Yun’s enclosure shortly after birth and bottle raised, although zookeepers are tak- ing a “wait and see” attitude, Simmons said.

“If we had a single baby was not being taken care of by the mom, we would step in,” Simmons said.

MNA/Reuters

Women unaware of viral link to cervical cancer

London, 6 Aug— Many women are unaware that a virus is the main cause of cervical cancer or that birth control pills offer no protection against it, according to a survey released on Tuesday.

The human papillomavirus (HPV) is linked with about 95 per cent of cervical cancer cases and is one of the most common causes worldwide of sexually transmitted disease.

Fewer than a third of the more than 1,000 women surveyed across the UK for the Royal Gynaecological Society knew that HPV affects the cervix over 15 months had ever heard of HPV. Less than half knew it was linked to cancer.

Those that did were older women who had had an abnormal cervical smear. The average age of the respondents was 30.

“This is overall well-educated sample, aware and knowledgeable of HPV were poor,” Jo Waller of the University of Lon- don said in a report in the journal Sexually Transmitted Infections.

Zookeepers warned that women participating in cervical cancer screening are fully informed about the meaning of their results.

MNA/Reuters

Nepal’s tourist arrivals surge in July

KATHMANDU, 6 Aug—The total number of tourists visiting Nepal last month increased 31 per cent over the same period last year, according to a Press release issued by the Nepal Tourism Board on Tuesday.

Altogether 17,611 visitors from different parts of the world arrived in Nepal by air in July this year, the Press release said.

The number of Indian visitors arriving in Nepal grew by 41 per cent to 8,578, accounting for 48.7 per cent of total air arrivals in the month, while tourists from other countries recorded an overall increase of 22 per cent.

Tourist arrivals from Nepal tourism industry’s tra- ditional markets, namely the United States, Japan and France, recorded increases of 25 per cent. 9 per cent and 34 per cent respectively, while the number of visitors from Germany and Britain went down by 11 per cent and 6 per cent respectively in the month.

“The growth puts Nep- al’s tourism sector back on the recovery track. There is a wide speculation among tourism forecasters that the next five months of 2003 will show even better performance,” the Press release said.

The country’s total tourist arrivals during the first six months of the current cal- endar year increased 9 per cent compared with the first half of 2002. A total of 109,446 tourists visited Nep- al in the first half of 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

Jiangsu pours investment in pollution control of river valley

NANJING, 6 Aug—East China’s Jiangsu Province will invest 7.91 billion yuan (953 million US dollars) by the end of 2005 on 82 pollution-control projects on the Huaihe River, according to a work conference held Monday on controlling pollution in the river valley areas.

The projects are expected to ensure that water quality at main branches of the river is improved to the standard set by the government.

The projects cover treatment of sewage, garbage and industrial pollutants and pol- lution caused by water damming. They also aim to ensure supply of drinking water and ban the sale and use of phosphoric products.

Some 47 sewage treatment plants, together with related facilities, will cost 5.82 billion yuan (701 million US dollars) of the total investment.

The province will raise money through various non-governmental and industrial channels as well as from overseas to enhance local efforts in pollution control on the river.

MNA/Xinhua
Lewis will not fight again this year says Klitschko

RESSEDA (California), 6 Aug — World champion Lennox Lewis has pulled out of a December rematch with Vitali Klitschko and will not fight again this year, the Ukrainian heavyweight said on Monday.

A December 6 date had been tentatively set for a rematch of their June 21 fight in Los Angeles that ended with Lewis scoring a sixth-round technical knockout over Klitschko, who was badly cut above and below his left eye.

But according to Klaus-Peter Kohl, chief executive for Universum, Klitschko’s German-based promoter, Lewis has informed them he has no plans to fight again this year.

“If this is true, then it really caught me off guard,” Klitschko was quoted by his promoter as saying in Hamburg. “I did not expect to hear anything like this.

“I am really surprised that Lewis suddenly feels unable to have a rematch this year.

First, he put pressure on me, saying that I could not fight because of the cuts around my left eye. So I had several different exams. Then Klitschko examined me.

“Independent doctors in Los Angeles and Germany both gave me the OK to resume training right away. They both said that a fight later in the year would not be a problem for me.”

A late replacement for injured Canadian Kirk Johnson, Klitschko (32-2, 31 KOs) was the heavy underdog against Lewis (41-2-1, 32 KOs).

But he produced a heroic effort against the Briton and was leading on all three judges’ scorecards when the bout was stopped because of an ugly gash above his eye that required 60 stitches to close.

Lewis had agreed to a rematch with Klitschko but wanted assurances from an independent doctor that the Ukrainian’s wounds had healed from their June bout.

Chelsea agree fee for West Ham midfielder Cole

LONDON, 6 Aug — Big-spending Chelsea have agreed a fee of 6.6 million pounds (10.63 million US dollars) to take West Ham United’s English midfielder Joe Cole to Stamford Bridge, the cash-strapped east London club said on Tuesday.

Cole’s arrival, which is subject to agreement on personal terms and a medical, would take Chelsea’s spending on almost 44 million pounds since the fashionable club was taken over by Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich last month.

But the spending spree — which has seen midfielders Damien Duff and Geremi, defenders Glen Johnson and Wayne Bridge and goalkeeper Marco Ambrosio join manager Claudio Ranieri’s Russian revolution — is unlikely to be over yet.

The west London club, who finished fourth last season to earn a Champions League qualifying berth, are still being linked in the British media with a 15-million-pound deal to sign Manchester United’s Argentinean midfielder Juan Sebastien Veron.

Chelsea need to complete the signing of Cole by Thursday’s UEFA deadline for him to be eligible for their Champions League third-round qualifying matches against Zilina of Slovakia or Maccabi Tel Aviv of Israel later this month.

The transfer of the 22-year-old, who progressed through the youth ranks at Upton Park and broke into the first team squad in February 2001, was inevitable once West Ham were told he would not extend his contract, which has a year to run.

China plays Nigeria to tune up for World Cup soccer

DALLAS, 6 Aug — China will play Nigeria at home to tune up for the 2003 women’s World Cup soccer tournament, rescheduled in the United States in September.

Ma Liangxing, head coach of the Chinese national team, said on Monday that “it will be very helpful for us to play an African team before we face Ghana, our first group opponents, in the World Cup.”

Due to the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the World Cup was shifted from China to the United States, and the Chinese team is hard to fix up its tune-up friendly matches as many teams declined to travel to China.

“South Africa is also willing to come over, but the date is still to be fixed,” added coach Ma.

China finished runners-up in the 1999 World Cup as the United States won the penalty shoot-out, and ranked fourth in the 1995 edition in Sweden, behind winners Norway, Germany and the United States.

Beckham scores first goal for Real Madrid

TOKYO, 6 Aug — David Beckham scored in his second game for Real Madrid on Tuesday as the Spanish champions beat Japanese side FC Tokyo 3-0 in a monsoon shower to make it two wins out of two on their pre-season tour of the Far East.

England captain Beckham, who completed his move to the Spanish champions for just under 40 million US dollars on July 2, opened his account in the 38th minute, curling a brilliant free kick into the far corner from 25 metres away on a trip to Santiago Solari.

The sell-out crowd of 54,000 in Tokyo, hushed with anticipation as Beckham retreated for his run-up, exploded as the ball crashed into the back of the net after he curled it from the left of the box to the opposite top corner.

Argentine midfielder Solari added a second from an acute angle just before halftime after goalkeeper Yochi Doi had saved from Javier Portillo with Real beginning to exploit gaps in the Tokyo defence.

Substitute Ronaldo made it 3-0 in the 89th minute with a mazy marauding step-over and shot from the edge of the box as Real finished in style.

Beckham was booked after nine minutes for a professional foul and striker Solari was shown a yellow card for his challenge.
WEATHER

Wednesday, 6th August, 2003

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, rain or thundershowers has been isolated in Kachin. Chin States, upper Sagon and Magway Divisions, scattered to isolated in Rakhine, Kayin States, widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Tanintharyi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (5.35 inches), Ye (2.84 inches), Tharrawaddy (2.48 inches), Patuha (2.36 inches) and Davy (2.24 inches).

Temperature on 5-8-2003 was 31.5°C (88.7°F). Minimum temperature on 6-8-2003 was 22.0°C (71.6°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 6-8-2003 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 5-8-2003 was 4.9 hours approx. Rainfall on 6-8-2003 was 16 mm at Yangon Airport, 14 mm at Kaba-Aye and 17 mm at Yanger. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 1332 mm (52.44 inches) at Yangon, 1509 mm (59.41 inches) at Kaba-Aye, 1498 mm (58.98 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 180 mph from Southwest at 14-55 hours MST on 5-8-2003 at 180 mph. Minimum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 15 mph from Southeast.

Forecast for 7-8-2003: Minimum temperature 79°F. Minimum temperature 78°F. Maximum temperature 88°F. Maximum temperature 86°F. Minimum temperature 75°F. Maximum temperature 85°F. Minimum temperature 72°F. Maximum temperature 83°F. Minimum temperature 70°F. Maximum temperature 81°F. Minimum temperature 68°F. Maximum temperature 82°F. Minimum temperature 66°F. Maximum temperature 80°F.
Regional development tasks inspected in Mon and Kayin States

YANGON, 6 Aug.—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Mon State Peace and Development Council Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, No 44 Light Infantry Division Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Brig-Gen Myint Soe of Thaton Station and departmental officials, inspected the school buildings and the site chosen for the construction of new school building at the monastic basic school in Kawkwin village, Kyakto Township, on 3 August morning.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party paid homage to the Sayadaw of Mindala Kandaw Monastery and donated 1.8 million kyats and provisions to the Sayadaw for the construction of new school building. The commander and officials offered rice, edible oil and provisions to members of the Sangha at the monastery.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with local authorities, village elders and social organizations at the monastery and gave instructions on participation in rural development tasks as well as in education and health activities in cooperation with departmental officials.

A total of 13 teachers are volunteering at the village monastic school, where 619 students are pursuing education. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party then went to No 44 LID. At the hall of the station, he cordially met with officers, other ranks and their families and gave instructions on regional development and agriculture and livestock breeding work.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party proceeded to Bilin. At Yamyuang Hall of the local battalion, he cordially met with officers, other ranks of Bilin Station and their families and left instructions.

On arrival at the basic education high school, Kyakkwai village, Thaton Township, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party were welcomed by local authorities, departmental officials, the headmistress, teachers, students and local populace.

They attended the opening of multimedia classrooms at the Kyakkwai village basic education high school. On the occasion, the headmistress and the chairman of the school board of trustees formally opened the ceremony. Then, the commander unveiled the signboard.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party viewed the multimedia classrooms. At Ngwua Hall, the headmistress and the chairman of the school board of trustees reported on endeavours for the emergence of multimedia classrooms. Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented teaching aids video tapes to the headmistress.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that in this knowledge age, efforts are to be made to brave the challenges of education. Long-term plans are under way to promote the standard of national education. It is necessary to make efforts greater than ever before to keep pace with the advancing international education. After laying down plans, the Government is implementing them to ensure all-round development. Therefore, local people are to join hands with departments concerned for promotion of education standard. (See page 9)

YANGON, 6 Aug.—Myanmar Traditional Musical Instruments Exhibition will stage folk musical performances of the ethnic races for two weeks, with every-day entertainment of the Myanmar orchestra as its main programme. Beginning 9 August, the folk musical instruments of the ethnic races will be displayed and performed at the National Theater, the venue of the exhibition, free of charge, from 10 am to 5 pm daily.

Included in the folk musical instruments is a kind of wind instrument of the ethnic Lisu race of the Kachin stock that is called the Daw Raw in local dialect. Other musical instruments and performances of the ethnic races of the states and divisions will also be staged at the multi-purpose hall of the theatre on Pyay Road, here. — MNA

YANGON Division Vegetable Cultivation and Livestock Breeding Special Zone Supervisory Committee meets

YANGON, 6 Aug.—Yangon Division Vegetable Cultivation and Livestock Breeding Special Zone Supervisory Committee held its coordination meeting at the Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Office this evening.

Present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tin and members, departmental officials, Chairman of the Supervisory Committee and members, local authorities and guests.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe delivered a speech. He said the special zone was established to enable the people in Yangon to sufficiently consume vegetables, meat and fish without depending on other states and divisions under the guidance of the Head of State.

The State provided lands, free of charge and power supply for national entrepreneurs who are engaged in agriculture and livestock breeding.

Arrangements have been made for supply of water from Ngamogyik and Khalitaw Dams for cultivation in summer and cold season. Tarred roads were constructed and auto-telephone lines were installed in the zone. Seeds, saplings and fertilizer were provided to the national entrepreneurs.

He spoke of the need to strive for realization of the aims of the zone successfully. He said Yangon Division Peace and Development Council has provided necessary assistance to the entrepreneurs.

He also spoke of the need for members of the supervisory committee to supervise the tasks.

Chairman of Supervisory Committee Division Commissioner of Yangon Division General Administration Department U Hla Soe reported on works of the three zones and maintenance of roads in the zones.

Next, Special Zone-1 in-charge Manager U Aung Hsuan of Yangon Division Myanmar Agriculture Service, Special Zone-2 in-charge District Commissioner of Yangon North District GAD U Thein Naing and Special

Myanmar to participate in Kunning Trade Fair-2003

YANGON, 6 Aug.—Work coordination meeting for participation of Myanmar in Kunning Trade Fair-2003 which will be held in Kunning, China, took place at the Ministry of Commerce here this morning. At the meeting, Commerce Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone made an address.

Next, Director-General of the Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye reported on matters relating to the trade fair. Afterwards, those present reported on progress of work sector-wise. The directors-general and managing directors of the ministries and officials concerned also attended the meeting.

Myawaddy Magazine August issue in circulation

YANGON, 6 Aug.—The August issue of Myawaddy Magazine published by the Myawaddy Sarpaytaik here came out today.

It features informative and creative works of famous authors and cartoonists, including an extra sheet of the enamel print picture of the Dhammaramgyi Pagoda. — MNA

MANA gets 20 trishaws

YANGON, 6 Aug.—Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control donated a total of 20 trishaws worth K 1.5 million to the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association at the meeting hall of Drug Elimination Museum this afternoon.

At the donation ceremony, CCDAC Chairman Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing explained the purpose of the donation and handed over the documents relating to the trishaws to Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association Chairman Dr Nay Win.

The trishaws were produced by Ministry of Industries.