Senior General Than Shwe calls for speeding up projects, regular maintenance of facilities

Special Projects Implementation Committee meeting concludes

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

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

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

Photo shows progress in construction of Yeywa Hydro Power Project. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 May — The Special Projects Implementation Committee held Meeting (1/2009) at the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), here, yesterday. (See page 8)

Chairman of Special Projects Implementation Committee
Chairman of SPDC
Senior General Than Shwe gives concluding remarks at the coordination meeting (1/2009) of the SPIC. — MNA
Join hands with the government for successful implementation of special projects

The coordination meeting of Special Projects Implementation Committee took place at the meeting hall of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) in Nay Pyi Taw on 4 May and Chairman of Special Projects Implementation Committee Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe attended it and gave necessary guidance.

The State Peace and Development Council has constantly aimed at national development and, true to its aim, it has always striven for further national development whatever hardships and difficulties might crop up.

It is quite evident that, thanks to the successful implementation of some special projects, people have now begun enjoying the fruits of development.

Substantial improvements have been made in the agriculture sector recently and the annual yield of paddy has increased from 600 million to 1,600 million baskets. As a result, food is not only sufficient for domestic consumption but also in surplus.

The agriculture sector accounts for 40 per cent of the nation’s GDP while the industrial sector accounts for 20 per cent. Therefore, the government has established altogether 18 industrial zones across the nation and is rendering all the necessary assistance to industrialists to encourage further development of the private industrial sector.

The education sector is also being promoted in order that it would be able to turn out human resources who are well versed in science and technology and could work for industrial development.

At a time when the government is implementing special projects for national development, we would like to call on the entire people to join hands with the government for speedy and successful implementation of these projects.

Regional development tasks in Gyobingauk, Okpo, Letpadan, Hmaubyl townships

Yangon, 5 May—Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay delivers address at inauguration of tube-well at Thayetpinseik Village in Okpo Township. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay donated cash for upgrading of earth road linking Myaukchawgon Village and Nyauangon Village in Hmaubyl Township and renovation of Nyaunggon Village BEPS and made cash donations for the school. — MNA

No.1 BEPS of Hlinethaya Township gets two new school buildings

Yangon, 5 May—An opening ceremony of the new school building of No.1 Basic Education Primary School in Hlinethaya Township at Ale village was held at the school. Chairman of Yangon North District Peace and Development Council U Nay Lin, deputy director-general U Myo Myint of No.3 Basic Education Department and Secretary General of the Dharma Drum Mountain Social Welfare & Charity Foundation, Taipei opened the school. Afterwards, Chairman U Nay Lin made a speech on the occasion and the secretary general explained the purpose of donation.

After that, on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Hlinethaya Township Education Officer U Than Htay spoke words of thanks. The secretary general handed over documents related to the new two school buildings to the deputy director-general.

Each building is 60 feet long and 30 feet wide. — MNA

Earthquake Report

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 May—A light earthquake of intensity (4.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar about (472 miles) NorthNorthwest of KabaAye Seismological Observatory (91 miles NNW of Monywa) was recorded at (15) hrs (52) min (58) sec MST on 5th May 2009.—MNA

ICT Development & Application Course (2/2009) opens

Yangon, 5 May—The opening ceremony of ICT Development & Application Course (2/2009), jointly conducted by No.3 Basic Education Department under the Ministry of Education and Soft Guide Company Ltd, was held at the computer training room of No.3 BED today. Director U San Aung of No.3 BED made an opening speech on the occasion. A total of 105 trainees are attending ten-day course. — MNA
UN meeting to give impetus to Mideast peace

UNITED NATIONS, 5 May — Russia has invited Security Council ministers to a meeting next week to give “new impetus” to the Middle East peace process. Russia’s UN Ambassador Vitaly Churkin, who holds the council presidency this month, said on Monday that “the meeting will reaffirm the council’s involvement in the search for a Middle East settlement.”

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov will preside at the 11 May meeting, and Churkin said some of the countries already have accepted. The only speaker not to have accepted the invitation is the United States, which has not attended Security Council meetings since the 2003 Iraq war. Russia’s invitation to a meeting next week to give impetus to the Middle East peace process ‘will reaffirm the council’s involvement in the search for a Middle East settlement.’

The recent wave of protests in Yemen, which includes the latest in a recent flare-up of violence in Yemen’s south where separatist sentiment is mounting and, which also is grappling with an active al-Qaeda presence. North and South Yemen merged in 1990, but southerners continue to accuse the central government of marginalization and discrimination. The recent wave of protests started on 27 April — the anniversary of the 1994 southern separatist uprising that was crushed by government troops. Yemen sent tanks and troops to the south in response to the recent protests, but opposition parties have accused the soldiers of shelling farms and houses in several provinces. In response, some armed tribesmen have attacked troops. Internet

US military needs to focus on Afghanistan immediately

WASHINGTON, 5 May — The US military’s focus needs to shift immediately from Iraq to Afghanistan, given increasing security concerns there, the country’s top military officer said here on Monday.

“We remain committed to the mission we’ve been given in Iraq — make no mistake. ... But Afghanistan has been an economy of force operation for far too long,” Michael Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a Pentagon news conference.

He noted that while US President Barack Obama’s decision to increase troop levels in Afghanistan “provides commanders (with) more manpower and more resources,” “we need a commensurate commitment from a civilian side.” The top officer said he is “gravely concerned” about Taliban and al-Qaeda gains across much of southern Afghanistan and in Pakistan.

Mullen’s remarks came days after the release of a State Department report indicating a dramatic spike recently in terrorist attacks in Afghanistan and neighbouring Pakistan. — Internet

Hamas leader says militant group is part of solution

DAMASCUS, 5 May — Hamas’ top political leader, in a message to the Obama administration, said the militant group is determined to be part of a solution to the Palestinians’ conflict with Israel.

The group’s exiled leader, Khaled Mashaal, said in an interview with The New York Times published Tuesday, that Hamas has halved its rocket fire from the Gaza Strip on communities in southern Israel and is willing to support a two-state solution. Hamas, whose two-decade-old founding charter calls for Israel’s destruction, has given mixed signals on many issues in the conflict, including whether it would be willing to accept a Palestinian state within only the territory Israel seized in the 1967 war — Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

The in-depth interview with Mashaal, which the Times said was conducted in five hours spread over two days at his home in the Syrian capital, offered a clearer signal of the group’s direction, setting it down in print in a rare interview with a US news organization. “I promise the American administration and the international community that we will be part of the solution, period,” the paper quoted Mashaal as saying.

The 53-year-old Hamas leader, one of the group’s founding members, said, however, that he would not recognize Israel — a key requirement of the US and other nations. Washington and its allies in Europe insist that the group first recognize Israel, renounce violence and accept previous Palestinian peace agreements with the Jewish state. — Internet
China urges continued efforts to push forward Int’l nuclear disarmament

UNITED NATIONS, 5 May—China on Monday called on the international community to continue to push forward the nuclear disarmament process.

Cheng Jingye, director-general of arms control and disarmament department of the Chinese foreign ministry, made the appeal here at the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons is not only the shared aspiration of the international community, but also the goal that China has advocated and worked for over the years, Cheng said.

“China believes that nuclear disarmament should be a fair and reasonable process of gradual reductions towards a downward balance,” he said.

Cheng urged nuclear weapon states to commit unequivocally to complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, and negotiate and conclude an international legal instrument at an early date pending achievement of the above-mentioned goal, nuclear-weapon states should reduce the role of nuclear weapons in their national security policies, he said. They should undertake unequivocally not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and conclude an international legal instrument on not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states or nuclear-weapons-free zones.

More children being hurt by falling furniture in US

LOS ANGELES, 5 May—More and more kids are being hurt by falling furniture in the United States, prompting calls for immediate action, a new study has found.

Between 1990 and 2007, an estimated 264,200 US children were treated in hospital emergency departments for injuries caused by furniture tipping, about 15,000 each year, according to a study published in the May online issue of Clinical Pediatrics.

Among those kids hurt, about 300 children died of their injuries, said the study conducted by researchers at the Nationwide Children’s Hospital (NCH) in Columbus, Ohio.

Since the early 1990s, the number of children injured by falling TVs, shelves and dressers has risen 41 percent, according to the study based on analysis of data collected by the US Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The researchers said they aren’t sure what has led to the increase. Possibilities might include changes in furniture or TV design or more furniture in homes, or the statistical change could stem from parents taking children to a hospital more readily than they did years ago.—Internet

Iran bus crash kills at least 28

TEHRAN, 5 May—A bus crashed into a building in western Iran on Monday, killing at least 28 people on their way to visit religious shrines in Iraq, and injuring nine, state radio quoted a local police official as saying.

The passenger bus, which police said had been travelling at a high speed and had mechanical problems, crashed into a building beside a road in Ilam province bordering Iraq, the report said.

“The passengers were on their way to Iraq to visit holy shrines,” the police official said.

Iran has one of the highest traffic accident death tolls in the world. More than 26,000 people were killed in accidents in the year to March 2005, the most recent period for which figures were available.

MNA/Reuters

Germany’s HRE posts 382-mln-euro 1st quarter loss

FRANKFURT, 5 May—The troubled German bank Hypo Real Estate (HRE) posted a first quarter loss of 382 million euros (511 million dollars).

“As was the case in the previous quarters, the first quarter of 2009 again posed a major challenge for the group and its employees in market conditions which continued to be difficult,” bank chief Axel Wieandt said in a statement. In the first quarter of 2008, HRE had made a profit of 148 million euros though it was already suffering from the international financial crisis.

The German government has begun a process to nationalise the Munich-based bank, which plays a key role in financing infrastructure and providing credits to local governmental bodies.—Internet

Mexico receives second shipment of Chinese flu aid

MEXICO CITY, 5 May—The second batch of humanitarian aid donated by China to Mexico to help fight the A/H1N1 flu arrived in Mexico City International Airport on Monday aboard a Southern Airlines flight.

China’s Ambassador in Mexico, Yin Hengmin, received the aid, which consists of 6,300 boxes of medical and hygiene equipment weighing 70 tons, at the airport’s Presidential hangar, alongside the head of the Mexican Foreign Ministry’s international cooperation and economic relations unit, Rogelio Granquillhoma.

The aid includes face masks, latex gloves, disinfection tools and thermometers, according to information published by China’s Trade Ministry.

The first shipment was formally received on Friday by Mexican President Felipe Calderon, who thanked China and said the aid was welcome and useful. “The experiences that the Chinese people have had have shown the Mexican government what preventative measures Mexico must take faced with this situation,” Calderon said on Friday.—Internet

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A wounded person is carried into an Iranian ambulance. At least 28 Iranian pilgrims have been killed when a bus heading to neighbouring Iraq crashed.

“The passengers were on their way to Iraq to visit holy shrines,” the police official said.

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MNA/Reuters

A cargo plane of China Southern Airlines ferrying the second load of China-donated relief supplies to help Mexico battle an outbreak of Influenza A/H1N1 landed at a Mexico City airport, on 4 May, 2009.—XINHUA

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**45 people killed in armed attack on wedding party in SE Turkey**

ANKARA, 5 May—Masked gunmen killed 45 people and wounded 6 others in an armed attack on a wedding party in Turkey’s southeastern on Monday, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported on Tuesday. A group of assailants armed with automatic rifles attacked a wedding party in Bilge village of Mazidaga town of Mardin province Monday evening, killing 45 people including the bride and the groom, officials quoted as saying.

Local sources also said that the attack might have taken place due to a feud between two families from the village.

Turkish Interior Minister Besir Atalay said that he strongly condemned the attack which killed numerous innocent citizens.

Atalay said that local authorities and security forces immediately proceeded to the village right after the incident.—Xinhua

**Oil rises to five-month high on economic optimism**

NEW YORK, 5 May—Crude oil rose for a fourth straight session and reached a five-month high on Monday, as upbeat economic data boosted energy investors’ hope in demand recovery.

Light, sweet crude for June delivery rose 1.27 US dollars to settle at 54.47 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, which is the highest closing price since 24 Nov, 2008.

Oil obtained support from positive reports from pending home sales and construction spending. The National Association of Realtors said its pending home sales index rose 3.2 percent to 84.6 in March, far surpassing economists’ expectation of 82.1.

The US Commerce Department reported that construction spending rose 0.3 percent in March after dropping for five straight months. Economists had expected the reading to drop 1.5 percent.

In London, Brent crude for June delivery rose 1.70 dollars to 54.55 dollars a barrel on the ICE Futures Exchange.—Xinhua

**Indicators point to China recovery**

BEIJING, 5 May—The economy is likely to expand 7 percent in the second quarter-up from the first quarter’s 6.1 percent—even as it confronts the painful prospect of shedding industrial overcapacity, a top government think tank said Monday.

“Economic growth will pick up in the second quarter as the government’s stimulus measures gradually take effect,” the State Information Center (SIC) forecast.

“There has been preliminary success in arresting the economy’s downward trend,” it said, but did not mention any fallout from the global H1N1 flu alert. But Zhu Baoliang, an SIC economist and one of the authors of the SIC report, said the economy will only be slightly affected by the H1N1 flu.

Annualized GDP growth sank to a decade’s low in the first quarter, largely because of a collapse in export demand.

But analysts said the economy might have bottomed out since then as latest economic figures are increasingly upbeat. The CLSA China Purchasing Managers Index (PMI), a gauge of manufacturing activity, rose to 50.1 in April, the first time it has been above 50 since last August, CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets said yesterday. A PMI reading above 50 indicates an expansion of the manufacturing sector, while a reading below 50 signals a contraction. Also, the PMI index compiled by the Federation of Logistics and Purchasing rose for the fifth straight month in April to 53.5 percent, up 1.1 percentage points from a month earlier.—Xinhua

**Oil rises to five-month high on economic optimism**

Graphics shows the price of light, sweet crude oil in the past 12 months.

**Oil rises to five-month high on economic optimism**

All items from Xinhua News Agency

**Mexican energy giant reports huge loss on lower exports, prices**

MEXICO CITY, 5 May—Mexico’s state-run energy giant Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex) on Monday reported a net loss of 27 billion pesos (about 2.04 billion US dollars) during the first quarter, due to lower oil prices and a lower volume of exports.

“Exports were 1.2 million barrels a day, 14.6 percent lower than last year due to lower crude prices,” said Esteban Levin Bacells, Pemex’s chief financial officer, on a conference call with bank analysts.

“Total sales were down nearly 30 percent due to lower crude prices and export volumes. Domestic sales also declined due to reduced natural gas demand,” he said.

During the same quarter of 2008, the firm had exported nearly 1.5 million barrels a day (bpd) of crude oil. Oil prices averaged around 38.92 dollars per barrel during the first quarter, compared with 83.94 dollars during the first quarter of 2008, a decline of around 54 percent.—Xinhua

**Oil rises to five-month high on economic optimism**

**Mexico energy giant reports huge loss on lower exports, prices**

**Eurogroup chief warns of social crisis over unemployment**

BRUSSELS, 5 May—European countries are heading into a “social crisis” as unemployment is set to jump amid the financial and economic crisis, the chairman of the Eurogroup of finance ministers warned on Monday.

“We are in the heart of an economic and financial crisis and we are heading towards a social crisis,” Jean-Claude Juncker, who is also the Luxembourg Prime Minister, told reporters after chairing a regular monthly meeting with Eurozone finance ministers.

Juncker said he was very concerned about the sharp rise of unemployment in Europe as forecast by the European Commission. The commission said in its latest estimate earlier on Monday that European labor markets have been cooling as a result of the deepest and most widespread recession since the Second World War.—Xinhua
Mexico City, 5 May—Popular Mexican tourist destination Los Cabos is losing around $650,000 US dollars a week as the new A/H1N1 flu strain frightens tourists. Local officials told media on Monday.

The resort has suffered cancellations that emptied 3,200 hotel rooms, the state where the resort is located, does not have a single case of the flu which has killed 27 people in Mexico.

Bautista said that, separately, 19 cruise ships have cancelled stops off in the port of Cabo San Lucas, which represents 40,000 people who will not visit the area. “Hotels, restaurants, bars, discos and small businesses have all felt the effects of cancellations and postponements,” he said.

Mexico’s government reported 727 cases of the disease across the country, making Mexico the hardest hit nation of the 21 countries the World Health Organization says now hosts the disease. Even so, six of Mexico’s 32 states have no signs of the new flu.

Chicago surpasses US to become Brazil’s biggest trading partner

Brazilia, 5 May—China replaced the United States to become Brazil’s biggest trading partner, said Brazil’s Ministry of Development, Industry and Exterior Trade on Monday.

According to the trade balance released by the ministry, the sum of Brazil’s exports and imports with China reached 3.2 billion US dollars in April, over the 2.8 billion dollars in its trade with the US.

Israel dispatches envoy to soften hawkish image

Jerusalem, 5 May—Israel dispatched top officials to the US and Europe on Monday in a diplomatic offensive aimed at softening the hawkish image of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s new government.

The country’s contentious foreign minister, Avigdor Lieberman, told his Italian hosts that Netanyahu’s government is committed to peace, while President Shimon Peres delivered the same message to Jewish leaders gathered in Washington.

The two also emphasized Iran in an apparent attempt to downplay the Palestinian issue. Both stressed that Iran is the main regional threat, dismissing Tehran’s contention that its nuclear program is peaceful and not aimed at making weapons. Netanyahu was expected to follow that lead in an address later Monday. Lieberman’s goal is to show that he is not the anti-Arab racist often described in Arab and European media, a result of his harsh statements in the past.—INTERNET

Egyp policeman shot dead by smugglers on borders with Israel

Cairo, 5 May—An Egyptian policeman, Mohammed Ramadan, was shot dead on Monday on the borders with Israel by traffickers, while another one was injured in a mine blast, according to security sources.

The policeman man was shot during patrols in Wadi al-Azarq, south of Rafah city, in cross fire with traffickers helping a group of Africans trying to infiltrate into Israel, security sources told Xinhua.

The sources said that another policeman was injured in a mine blast near border point 36 in borders between Sinai and Israel. Meanwhile, Egyptian security forces stopped five illegal African migrants trying to cross into Israel. They were two Ethiopians and three Eritreans. The Egyptian borders are often destinations to illegal migrants especially Africans pursuing jobs in Tel Aviv but Egypt stepped up patrols to stop migrants in recent years.

69-year-old German motorist survives 3 accidents in hour

A German woman motorist was involved in three car accidents in less than an hour Tuesday that left a total of seven vehicles damaged but she suffered only slight injuries from the series of mishaps, police said.

The 69-year-old woman from Berlin first crashed into three cars while trying to pull out of a supermarket car park on the Baltic resort island of Usedom. Then, she accidentally stepped on the accelerator and sped across a lawn before crashing into a nearby house, police said. She was taken to hospital in an ambulance but that vehicle was then hit by a truck.

“She was actually fortunate that no one was seriously hurt in any of the accidents,” said Zinnowitz police spokesman Axel Falkenberg. “The accidents were a little bit like domino toppling.”

Thousands of dolphins blocked the suspected Somali pirate ships when they were trying to attack Chinese merchant ships passing the Gulf of Aden, the China Radio International reported on Monday.

Higher IQ, better economic decisions

Higher IQ is linked to more calculated risk taking and wiser economic choices, University of Minnesota researchers said.

The study, to be published online in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, found those with better cognitive skills, in particular higher IQ, were more willing to take calculated risks, to save their money and to make more consistent choices. They were also more likely to be cooperative in strategic situations and more accurately forecast the behavior of others.

The researchers from the University of Minnesota’s Twin Cities and Morris campuses measured the cognitive skills of 1,000 trainee truck drivers and asked them to make choices in several economic experiments. The researchers followed them on the job for the next year.

Even though the trucking company paid for the training of those who stayed a year — resulting in those who left early owing thousands in training costs — the researchers found those with the highest level of cognitive ability stayed at twice the rate of those with the lowest.
Leikchaung, Kadonkani, Yaygyawgyi houses built in Pyapon District

When cyclone Nargis hit, the houses in Yaygyawgyi Village were destroyed due to tidal waves. Therefore, the government assigned Yuzana Construction Group to reconstruct the houses there. We witnessed the neat and tidy houses built with timber and CI sheets.

We continued our trip to Bawgawady (Ywathaya) houses near Yaygyawgyi Village. The new housing area set up with 46 houses is adjacent to Bawgawady Village. The scene of houses of same type and design was like a fine painting.

We went to Pyapon, observed construction of a suspension bridge near Aphaung Village. Efforts are being made to complete the bridge in a short time. The local people are taking part in construction of the bridge for timely completion of it.

On the way back made to complete the bridge in a short time. The local people are taking part in construction of the bridge for timely completion of it.

On the route, we passed 280-foot one-way Seikma Bridge. The facility was built with steel frames and wooden floor.

Pyapon Township of Ayeyawady Division had rehabilitated itself promptly during one-year period after cyclone Nargis, and the township had been reconstructed and reestablished better than in the past.
Senior General Than Shwe calls for speeding up...

(From page 1)
Chairman of Special Projects Implementation Committee Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gave necessary guidance.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-Chairman of Special Projects Implementation Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Members of Special Projects Implementation Committee Member of SPDC General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Members of SPIC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, the Commander-in-Chief (Army), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers, ministers, deputy ministers, heads of departments and officials.

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min reported on the accomplishment of the tasks for the implementation of nine projects and another 35 under implementation permitted by the Special Projects Implementation Committee and Bawgata Hydropower Project for which permission was sought from the SPIC.

Bawgata Hydropower Project the Hydropower Implementation Department is going to implement is about 10 miles north-east of Kyaukkyi, Bago Division. The project with a capacity of 168 megawatt will generate 500 million kilowatt-hours yearly.

The already-built projects are Zawgyi, Zaungtu, Thaphanseik, Monchaung, Paunglong, Yenwe, Khabaung, Kyangtaung and Shweli-1.

Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on the projects implemented, ongoing ones and those to be implemented out of the grid and main power station projects.

Now, grid and main power station projects are being implemented to distribute the electricity to be generated by the ongoing hydropower projects to the power supply system. In the meantime, power cables are being installed and sub-power stations, constructed to distribute the electricity from the power supply system to the people.

(The see page 9)
The two ongoing grid projects are the project for relocation of Hlinethaya-Athoke 230 KV (Gazindaw) grids across the Ayeyawady River and the 36.34 miles long Myaungmya-Labutta 66 KV Grid Project.

Senior General Than Shwe calls for speeding up...

(from page 8)

The two ongoing grid projects are the project for relocation of Hlinethaya-Athoke 230 KV (Gazindaw) grids across the Ayeyawady River and the 36.34 miles long Myaungmya-Labutta 66 KV Grid Project. And the ongoing sub-power station projects are the project for installation of one 66KV Switch Bay in 66 KV Myaungmya Sub-power Station, and Labutta 66/11 KV, 10 MVA Sub-power Station. The 20 future grid projects include Saidin-Kanzau 66 KV Grid Project, Ahtet Buywa-Buywa 132 KV Double Grid Project, Buywa-Tanyaung 132 KV Double Grid Project, Tanyaung-Chauk 132 KV Grid Project, Tanyaung-Min 132 KV Grid Project, Nyaungbintyi-Chuangku (Pauk) 230 KV Grid Project, Chaungku (Pauk)-Pauk 66 KV Double Grid Project, Chaungku (Pauk)-Kyaw 66 KV Grid Project, T h a p h a n s e i k - Hngetpyawdaing 132 KV Grid Project, Ahtet Hsedawgyi-Hsedawgyi 132 KV Grid Project, Ahtet Yeywa-Shwesaryan 230 KV Grid Project. In addition, 30 more main power stations will be built.

The generators in Hlawga, Ywama, Ahlon and Thakayta gas-fired power plants in Yangon and those gas-fired power stations including Kyunchaung, Mann and Shwedawng power stations will be under major repair.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe gave an account of Nay Pyi Taw International Airport Project.

One 12,000’ x 200’ runway, one 12,000’ x 100’ runway, four 650’ x 100’ taxiways, four 550’ x 100’ taxiways, one 1200’ x 1200’ apron, one airport building, one airline control tower, and related structures are being constructed in three phases in order that Nay Pyi Taw International Airport will have all characters of an international level airport.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on energy projects.

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.

Minbu-An-Sittway Railroad Project will link Minbu in Magway Division and Sittway in Rakhine State. The project is on Kyangin-Pakokku railroad section. The 257 miles long project will pass through Hsinaung, Padan, Nataygantaung, An, Minbya, MraukU and Kyauktaw townships passing through tunnels and culverts.

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Factories to produce locomotives and carriages on a wider scale.

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(See page 10)
Senior General Than Shwe calls for speeding up…

(from page 9)

On completion of the project, local people of Rakhine State can travel to various parts of the nation. It will make significant contribution towards improvement of various sectors. It will have 51 stations and 1285 large and small bridges. Locomotive Sheds (Myitnge) will conduct major and minor repairs to the present locomotives, produce new locomotives, replace old engines with new ones, produce carriages and cargo wagons, and conduct major repair to present carriages and cargo wagons.

In order to complete the construction of the National Railway Network, the Ministry of Rail Transportation is implementing Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad Project, Katha-Bhamo Railroad Project, Pyawbwe-Natmauk-Magway Railroad Project, Namsang-Kengtung Railroad Project, and Dawei-Myeik Railroad Project.

One 12,000' x 200' runway, one 12,000' x 100' runway, four 650' x 100' taxiways, four 550' x 100' taxiways, one 1200' x 1200' apron, one airport building, one airline control tower, and related structures are being constructed in three phases in order that Nay Pyi Taw International Airport will have all characters of an international level airport.

Prize winning book of Sarpay Beikman Association in circulation

YANGON, 5 May—Sarpay Beikman Association of the Printing and Publishing Enterprise has published a prize winning book written by Dr Nyunt Shwe. The association has distributed the prize-winning book in the translation genre as the 47th book of the association. The members of the association in Yangon can draw the book at the association at No 529/531 on Merchant Street, and the report. Senior General Than Shwe in his concluding remarks called for speeding up the projects and regular maintenance to the facilities.

The meeting ended in the afternoon.—MNA

Talk on “21st Century and Progressive Learning”

YANGON, 4 May—Jointly organized by the Hotelier Association, experts’ talk sponsored by Silver View Resort (Nwesaung) and Tharabar Gate Hotel will be held at Yuzana Hotel (Shwegonedine), Bahan Township, here on 7 May, 2009.

Author U Chat San Win will give a talk on ”21st Century and Progressive Learning”. Executive, members and those interested in it may attend it.—MNA

Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association meets

YANGON, 5 May—The 14th meeting of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association was held at the meeting hall of the association at MWEA Tower on Shwedagon Pagoda Road in Dagon Township here on 3 May morning. Chairperson of MWEA Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Thengi Daw Khin Khin Myint made an opening speech on the occasion.

Next, Secretary of the association Daw Hla Wady read out the name of Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Thengi Daw Khin Khin Myint and 50 members of executive committee including Secretary Daw Hla Wady and sought approval of the meeting.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks by Adviser of the association Dr Daw Khin Aye Win.—MNA

14th meeting of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association in progress.—MNA
WHO says no evidence of further community level spread

Geneva, 5 May—There is still no evidence of community-level spread of the new flu H1N1 virus outside North America, Keiji Fukuda, WHO acting assistant director-general, told reporters.

“We continue to see a number of infections related to travel in a number of different countries ... and a little bit of movement of the virus going south.”

“We do not have any evidence that the virus has taken hold and has led to community-level transmissions in any other country right now (outside North America).”

It has to be strong everywhere. Right now we really just don’t know how this will go,” Fukuda said.

There have been 1,025 laboratory cases, including 26 deaths, and the cases have been seen in 20 countries, he said.

Fukuda said the WHO had concerns about the infection travelling to the southern hemisphere because winter is setting in when flu viruses typically thrive.

He said the spectrum of illness was from very mild cases to cases which end in fatalities. The WHO rates the flu outbreak as Phase 5 on a six-phase scale.

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam reports 160 road accidents on holidays

HANOI, 5 May—There were 160 traffic accidents in Vietnam nationwide during the just-ended national holidays, causing 163 deaths and 139 injuries, the online newspaper vnexpress reported Tuesday.

According to the Traffic Police Department of Road and Railway under Vietnam’s Ministry of Police, there were 157 road accidents, involving 160 deaths and 138 injuries in the past five days from April 29 to May 3. Another two railway accidents caused three deaths and one injury. In Hanoi alone, 15 people were killed in road accidents, said the department. During these holidays, including the National Unity Day of Vietnam and the International Labour Day, an increasing number of Vietnamese people moved on road, causing difficulties for traffic police to timely control traffic flow. — MNA/Xinhua

Russia proposes international pirate court

MOSCOW, 5 May—Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Monday suggested establishing an international court to try suspected pirates. Russia last week said it had captured a pirate vessel with 29 people on board off the coast of Somalia, but it has not yet decided where to try the suspects.

“It is necessary to consider all possibilities, including, maybe, the formation of some kind of international court on this theme,” Medvedev told Prosecutor General Yury Chaika in televised remarks.

“Often states where these pirates come from do not take any actions, in short, they aid this kind of crime,” Medvedev said.

MNA/Reuters

At least 27 killed in series of Afghanistan attacks

KANDAHAR, 5 May—At least 27 people, most of them civilians and one provincial mayor, were killed in a spate of attacks in Afghanistan on Monday, officials said. Violence has sharply increased in recent years in Afghanistan despite the growing number of NATO and US troops, more than seven years on since the Islamic Taleban were ousted from power by US-backed Afghan forces.

In the bloodiest incident on Monday, 12 civilians — four women, two children and six men — were killed by a roadside bomb that struck as they drove in a tractor in the Shamoizai district of southern Zabul province, said Mohammad Wazir, district chief of Shamoizai. “This was a mine newly planted by the Taleban,” he told Reuters.

A while later, Taleban guerrillas ambushed a convoy of a security firm in another area of Zabul, killing six Afghan security guards in the convoy and two civilians nearby, Ghulam Jalani, a senior provincial police official, said. — MNA/Reuters

WASHINGTON, 5 May—Iran will not suspend its disputed nuclear programme even if the United States imposes sanctions targeting companies that ship fuel to the Islamic Republic, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Monday. Twenty-five US senators from both parties have proposed giving President Barack Obama new leverage in the dispute over Teheran’s nuclear ambitions. The bill gives Obama the authority to sanction companies supplying petrol to Iran.

The United States and its Western allies suspect Iran is aiming to develop nuclear bombs under the cover of a civilian programme and want it to halt sensitive uranium enrichment. Iran rejects the allegation and says it will not bow to pressure.

“We can cope with such measures (US sanctions). Sanctions and threats will not stop Iran from continuing its nuclear work,” Foreign Ministry spokesman Hassan Qashqavi told a weekly news conference.

Iran is the world’s fourth-largest oil exporter but lacks refining capacity to meet domestic demand and so relies heavily on international imports to guarantee fuel at the pumps. Washington has threatened “crippling” sanctions against Iran if it did not end its sensitive nuclear activities. — MNA/Reuters

An Apple store worker helps a customer with a MacBook Pro laptop at an Apple store in San Francisco, California. Today’s mobile workforce is putting precious business secrets at risk, with lost or stolen laptop computers costing companies dearly, according to the Ponemon Institute. — Internet

Wilbaer, a 16-months old polar bear, plays with a piece of wood in the Wilhelma zoo in Stuttgart, Germany, on 5 May, 2009. Internet
Nearly 300,000 Texas students out of school due to flu fear

HOUSTON, 5 May—Some 462 schools were closed and nearly 300,000 students out of school in the US state of Texas on Monday because of concerns about the deadly A/H1N1 flu, state education authorities said.

The Texas Education Agency estimates that more than 299,000 students were affected by the closing of the 462 schools across the state, according to local media reports.

Meanwhile, a Houston middle school reopened on Monday, ahead of schedule with health authorities’ approval.—Internet

Eight suspects in wedding shooting detained

ANKARA, 5 May—Turkey’s Interior Minister Besir Atalay says force security forces have detained eight people suspected of involvement in an attack on a wedding in southeastern Turkey.

Atalay says the attack killed 44 people, correcting an earlier death toll of 45. Atalay says six of the dead were children.

Masked assailants attacked the wedding ceremony in Bilge village, near the city of Mardin, with automatic weapons.—Internet

21 killed as matador falls into river in Jammu, Kashmir

JAMMU, 5 May—Twenty-one people were killed and nine others injured, four of them critically, when a matador skidded off the road and fell into Chenab River in Kishtwar District in India’s northern state of Jammu and Kashmir, Monday morning.

The matador, which was going from Kishtwar to Palmar, fell into the river at Banderkoot at 8.30 am, police said. Police and Army launched a rescue operation soon after the mishap and 21 bodies have been recovered so far. Four of the injured were in a critical condition and were being airlifted to Government Medical College Hospital here.—MNA/PTI
US scientists learn why flu may turn deadly

WASHINGTON, 5 May — As the A/H1N1 flu continues its global spread, researchers from the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have discovered important clues about why influenza is more severe in some people than it is in others.

In their research study published Monday online in the Journal of Leukocyte Biology, the scientists show that the influenza virus can actually paralyze the immune systems of otherwise healthy individuals, leading to severe secondary bacterial infections, such as pneumonia. Furthermore, this immunological paralysis can be long-lived, which is important to know while developing treatment strategies to control the infection.

Kathleen Sullivan, the senior researcher involved in the study and chief of the Division of Allergy and Immunology at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, said “we have a very limited understanding of why some people who get influenza simply have a cold and other people become very sick and even die. The results of this study give us a much better sense of the mechanisms underlying bacterial infections arising on top of the viral infection.”

Sullivan and colleagues recruited pediatric patients with severe influenza and examined the level of cytokines, which serve as the first line initiators of immune response, in the blood plasma.

Possible A/H1N1 flu cases in Colombia rise to 136

BOGOTA, 5 May — The number of possible cases of influenza A/H1N1 in Colombia rose from 108 to 136, Colombian government said on Monday.

“The virus is in Colombia and many Colombians have the virus. It is an epidemic and we have to manage and accept so we can deal with it,” Colombian Social Protection Minister Diego Palacio said.

The Colombian government reported on Sunday that a 42-year-old patient had tested positive for influenza A/H1N1, the first confirmed human infection case in the country. Palacio predicted that the confirmed case “is the first of a series of cases” to be detected in the country.

WHO confirms 1,085 A/H1N1 flu cases worldwide

GENEVA, 5 May — A total of 21 countries have officially reported 1,085 lab-confirmed human infection cases of the A/H1N1 flu virus to the World Health Organization (WHO) as of 18:00 GMT on Monday, the UN agency said in a latest update.

The largest numbers of cases were still reported from North American countries, notably Mexico and the United States, with 590 and 286 cases, respectively. Those cases include 26 deaths, 25 of which were from Mexico. The following governments have reported laboratory-confirmed cases with no deaths: Canada (101), Austria (1), Hong Kong (1), Costa Rica (1), Colombia (1), Denmark (1), El Salvador (2), France (4), Germany (8), Ireland (1), Israel (4), Italy (2), the Netherlands (1), New Zealand (6), Portugal (1), the Republic of Korea (1), Spain (54), Switzerland (1) and Britain (18).

Canada pork industry “being devastated” by H1N1 flu virus outbreak

OTTAWA, 5 May — The current outbreak of the H1N1 flu virus is having a “devastating effect” on Canada’s pork industry, chair of the Canadian Pork Council, told Xinhua from Edmonton, Alberta in a telephone interview Monday.

He stressed that eating pork is safe and will not lead to H1N1 flu infections. “You cannot get H1N1 flu from eating any food, so do not ban any kind of food because of this outbreak,” he said.

The effect that this outbreak is having on Canadian pork industry is “devastating,” he said.

The price of pigs that Canadian farmers get paid have dropped from 10 Canadian dollars to 20 Canadian dollars (some 8 to 16 US dollars) since the outbreak started, he said. He hoped that countries which are banning Canadian pork will stop doing so soon.

As to Canada’s domestic pork market, he said he has not noticed any changes so far. “At this point, it appears that the domestic market has not changed.” He said he could not predict the future, adding “this is a very rapidly changing situation.”

Confirmed cases of A/H1N1 flu in Italy rise to four

ROME, 5 May — Two more people have contracted A/H1N1 flu in Italy, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to four, the Italian health ministry said on Monday.

The two new cases are a 16-year-old girl and an 11-year-old boy, both of whom are being treated in hospitals in Rome after returning from Mexico.

Italy’s first case of the flu, known as influenza A/H1N1, was confirmed on Saturday, but the 50-year-old Tuscan man had already recovered from a very mild case of the virus by the time he was diagnosed.

Los Angeles octuplet mother sued for child exploitation

LOS ANGELES, 5 May — A Los Angeles woman who drew public controversy by giving birth to octuplets was sued Monday by a child welfare group, which claims a guardian should be appointed to protect the eight infants.

Lawyer Gloria Allred, famous for her efforts to legally protect women and children’s rights, filed the lawsuit against Nadya Suleman on behalf of A Minor Consideration, a group founded by former Hollywood child star Paul Petersen to protect children in the entertainment industry.

Suleman, 34, became a celebrity after she gave birth to her octuplets in January in a Los Angeles hospital through fertility treatment. They are the second-ever set of surviving octuplets born in the United States. But public reaction quickly turned negative when it was reported that the single mother already had six other young children through different fertility treatments and was not financially independent.

Workers clean the entrance of a subway in Mexico City. Scientist will watch how the swine flu virus evolves in the southern hemisphere, where flu season has started, before mass producing a vaccine against the strain, a US health official said.
**SPORTS**

**Fulham to play three pre-season games in Australia**

SYDNEY, 5 May—English Premier League club Fulham will play three matches against A-League teams on a pre-season tour of Australia in July, the clubs said Monday. Fullham, currently ninth in the EPL, will play Gold Coast United on 9 July, Melbourne Victory two days later and Perth Glory on 15 July. Australian goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer will be in the Fulham team, which will be making its first trip to Australia. Glory will also play newly-crowned English Champions League title-winning English team Wolverhampton Wanderers in another game.

**Liverpool’s Hyypia to join Leverkusen**

LIVERPOOL, 5 May—Liverpool defender Sami Hyypia will join German side Bayer Leverkusen at the end of the season on a two-year deal, the English Premier League club announced on their official website here Monday. The 35-year-old Finn international arrived at Anfield from Dutch side Willem II for 2.5 million pounds (3.73 million euros) in 1999 and was a member of the Liverpool side that won three trophies in the 2000/01 season.

He was Liverpool’s captain for much of that season in the absence of the injured Jamie Redknapp and briefly held the post before the honour passed to England midfielder Steven Gerrard. Hyypia also played in the team that won the Champions League in 2005 by beating AC Milan in a dramatic penalty shoot-out final in Istanbul.

**Villa into Europe as Hull falter**

BIRMINGHAM, 5 May—John Carew’s first-half goal gave Aston Villa 1-0 win over relegation candidates Hull City here on Monday and the Midlands side assured themselves of European football next season. Victory, Villa’s first in 13 matches, saw them regain fifth place in the English Premier League from Everton and secured their spot in the Europa League, which will replace the Uefa Cup.

By contrast defeat left Hull just three points above the relegation zone with three games left at the end of a round of matches where all the teams in the bottom eight lost.

“It was relief at the end that we have won a game,” Villa manager Martin O’Neill told Sky Sports. “We’ve thrown away leads against Stoke and West Ham, and tonight it was nice to keep a clean sheet.”

Norway striker Carew grabbed the only goal of the game in the 34th minute when he turned in an Ashley Young cross from close range.

Aston Villa’s English midfielder Gareth Barry (L) competes with Hull City’s Dutch midfielder George Boateng during their English Premier League football match at Villa Park in Birmingham. Villa won 1-0. —INTERNET

**Deschamps to take over as coach at Marseille**

MARSEILLE, 5 May—France World Cup hero Didier Deschamps is to take over from Eric Gerets as manager of Marseille next season, the club announced on its website on Tuesday.

The Belgian has guided the southern giants this season to within striking distance of their first league title since 1992, but it had been expected he would leave no matter what.

Deschamps, who skippedper France to the World Cup title in 1998, has previously been coach at Monaco and Juventus. He will take over from Gerets in June.

**Man Utd make record offer for Ribery**

LONDON, 5 May—Manchester United have offered Bayern Munich 70 million euros for French midfielder Franck Ribery, in a deal which would set a new world record, the Guardian newspaper reported Tuesday.

The offer, which would better the 66 million euros transfer fee paid by Real Madrid for Zinedine Zidane in 2001, would be conditional on the sale of United winger Cristiano Ronaldo to Real Madrid, it said.

The report came after Ribery last week threatened to quit the German giants unless they qualify for the Champions League next season, as the defending Bundesliga champions struggle to defend their title.

France’s midfielder Franck Ribery celebrates after scoring a goal during the World Cup 2010 qualifying football match France vs Lithuania at the Stade de France in Saint-Denis, near Paris, April 2009. —INTERNET

**Real may ring changes if Perez takes over prez**

MADRID, 5 May—Former Real Madrid president Florentino Perez is likely to win re-election to his former post if, as local media reported Monday, he announces his official candidacy in around 10 days’ time.

Perez, the president of Real between 2000 and 2006 when the team became known as the ‘Galacticos’ thanks to the presence of players like Zinedine Zidane, Roberto Carlos and David Beckham, is expected to put his candidacy forward on 14 May.

So far the hugely successful businessman has avoided making any announcements ahead of the club’s June 14 elections, although circumstances on the pitch mean that for the media Perez’s re-election is a formality.

**Knee knock forces Henry to miss Barca training**

MADRID, 5 May—Barcelona striker Thierry Henry was forced to skip a Monday training session due to a knee injury but will face Chelsea in the second leg of their Champions League semi-final, the club admitted on Monday.

Henry picked up the knock on Saturday in the first half of Barca’s 6-2 romp over arch rivals Real Madrid, in which the influential Frenchman scored a brace of goals before being replaced half an hour from the end by Seydou Keita.

According to the club the French international underwent unspecified treatment on Monday.

The first leg in Barcelona finished scoreless.

**Nalbandian’s French Open hopes hit by hip injury**

ESTORIL, 5 May—Argentina’s two-time French Open semi-finalist David Nalbandian faces a fight to be fit for this year’s renewal as he is struggling with a hip injury.

The 27-year-old was thumped 6-2, 6-2 by Chile’s Paul Capdeville at the ATP tournament on Monday, with Nalbandian frustrated after hurting his hip little more than a week ago in Barcelona.

All he can do now prior to a possible start next Monday at the new Madrid Masters on clay is undergo more physio.

“I’ll do my best to try and play in Paris,” he said.

Nalbandian stayed in Barcelona last week instead of playing in Rome to undergo treatment from the Real club doctor after being forced to pull out of his quarter-final tens days ago against Rafael Nadal.
Latest developments on A/H1N1 flu worldwide

BEIJING, 5 May—The following are the latest developments of A/H1N1 flu outbreaks worldwide on Tuesday, according to the World Health Organization and government data.

Confirmed deaths worldwide: 27.
26 in Mexico and one in the United States.
Confirmed sickened worldwide: 1,447.
820 in Mexico; 383 in U.S.; 140 in Canada; 57 in Spain; 27 in Britain; eight in Germany; six in New Zealand; four in Israel, Italy and France; two in El Salvador; one each in Austria, Costa Rica, Colombia, Denmark, Hong Kong, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, South Korea and Switzerland.

A woman and her son wear face masks on a bus in Bogota. Mexico is eagerly awaiting the resumption of business as usual following a five-day nationwide shutdown over swine flu, and has launched an operation to fly home its citizens quarantined in China.

INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**Monday, 5 May, 2009**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr MST:**

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Yangon Division, isolated in Kachin, Shan and Mon States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather and has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above May average temperatures in Bago, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Divisions, (8°C) below May average temperatures in Shan State and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant day temperatures were M’bonu (41°C), Shwebo, M’onyawa, M’agway and Aunglan (40°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.61) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (1.26) inches, Kengtung (0.35) inch and M’okok (0.31) inch.

Maximum temperature on 4-5-2009 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 5-5-2009 was 67°F. Relative humidity at (99-30) hours MST on 5-5-2009 was 75%. Total sunshine hours on 4-5-2009 was (9.5) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 5-5-2009 was (1.26) inches at Mingaladon, (1.61) inches at Kaba-Aye and at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (2.40) inches at M’okok, (3.62) inches at Kaba-Aye and (5.28) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (17:30) hour MST on 4-5-2009.

**Bay inference:** Weather is generally fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 6th May 2009:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Mon State and Tanintharyi Division, isolated in Kachin, Shan, Rakhaein and Kayin States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain or thunderstorms in the Southern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6-5-2009:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-5-2009:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-5-2009:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (60%).

The New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 6 May, 2009
Leikchaung, Kadonkani, Yaygyawgyi houses built in Pyapon District

On the trip to Kadonkani Housing near Kadonkani Village, we, the news crew of the Myanma Alin Daily, saw houses of same size and type on both sides of the wide main road of the village. In the morning, flowery plants were swaying in the breeze.

Last year, Kyunthaya Village near Kadonkani was totally destroyed in cyclone Nargis. Almost all the houses collapsed. Therefore, a new village was established with 124 houses near Kadonkani.

The houses roofed with corrugated iron sheets were constructed with the use of timber capable of resisting the natural disasters. All the houses had fences plus fly-proof latrines.

We saw thriving seasonal vegetable plants near the houses. Some houses opened small-scale shops, and we saw some buyers at the shops. With the advent of the school and the dispensary, the village has rapidly developed into a standard one.

We met happy families at Kadonkani housing area. Therefore, we thought that they can enjoy the better living standard than in the past. Kadonkani houses were built by Dagon International Construction Group.

We proceeded to Yaygyawgyi Housing area. Altogether 67 houses are located near Yaygyawgyi Creek, north of Ayeya Village.

(See page 7)