Senior General Than Shwe visits relief camps in Yangon Division
Over K 50 billion spent on relief and rehabilitation tasks so far

NAY PYI TAW, 18 May - Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe accompanied by General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, member of SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe, senior military officers and officials of SPDC Office flew to Yangon from Nay Pyi Taw by special flight to inspect storm-hit areas of Yangon and Ayeyawady Division this afternoon.

At Yangon Command HQ Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein reported on relief works and rehabilitation tasks in storm-stricken regions to Senior General Than Shwe.

Senior General Than Shwe made discussions on the reports and gave guidance on works to be done.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and party visited relief camps in Hlinethaya, Dagon Myothit (South) and Dagon Myothit (North) and comforted the storm victims.

State Peace and Development Council formed National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee led by the Prime Minister as the severe cyclone ‘Nargis’ hit Myanmar and the Government immediately allocated 5 billion kyats as initial fund for relief works. So far, over 50 billion kyats have been spent on relief works and rehabilitation tasks and the State will allocate funds as necessary later.

Relief and Rehabilitation supplies provided to storm victims in Bogale Township

YANGON, 18 May - Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 13 May inspected construction of tents for the storm victims at Independence Monument Ground in Bogale.

At BEHS No 1, the minister viewed reconstruction of the building by Htoo Co and distribution of relief aid and purified water for the victims.

He attended the cash donation ceremony of East Thanlwin Co for the victim. U Tun Kyaw of the company donated K 3 million and US$ 3,000.

At Bogale Township Hospital, the minister consoled the patients.

At the relief camp in Bogale, U Gennes, on behalf of Myanmar Red Cross Society, handed 150 bags of rice and relief aid worth K 35 million to officials.

On 14 May, the minister donated offertories to the Sayadaws from monasteries in Bogale Township at the respective monasteries and presented relief supplies donated from abroad to the victims.
At the relief camp opened at BEHS No 1, the minister inspected delivery of foodstuff to the victims.

On 15 May, he provided relief aid to the victims in Kyunthaya and Kyetpyay villages. In the evening, the minister consoled the patients at the Township Hospital. In the late evening, he attended the cash donation ceremony at the relief camp.

The Ministry of Forestry is distributing timber for reconstruction of the strom-hit towns. On 16 May, the minister inspected arrival of timber in Bogale.

In the evening, he attended the cash and kind donation ceremony at Bogale Township MCWA Office. Officials accepted the donations.

The minister offered donations to monasteries in the townships.

At Bogale Home for the Aged, he paid homage to Sitagu Sayadaw Ashin Dr Nanissara and made donations. After visiting the clinic of the home, the minister donated K 1 million to the clinic.

**Sports Minister presents supplies to storm victims in Dagon Myothit (East)**

YANGON, 18 May-Member of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint inspected the sales of corrugated iron sheets and nails for storm victims at the office of Union Solidarity and Development Association in Ward 11 of Dagon Myothit (East) Township on 16 May morning.

The minister also supplied rice, edible oil, bottles of purified drinking water, clothes and tarpaulin to storm victims from Wards 7, 1, 2 and 3.

The minister met the rector and officials concerned at the meeting hall of Dagon University.

**Yangon Media Group leads donation of relief supplies to storm victims**

YANGON, 17 May-Yangon Media Group accepting relief supplies donated by wellwishers is distributing them to the people residing in storm-hit regions.

The media group presented cash, rice, gram, medicines and noodle, foodstuffs and clothing sent by the wellwishers to storm victims in 17 Ward of Dagon Myothit (South), Kyunchaung village of Kungyangon in Yangon Division and Hnakhoungchaung, Chaunggyi of Dadeye Township, Kyondah and Mawlamyinegyun Townships in Ayeyawady Division for the second time.

The media group will take change of sending cash and kind donated by wellwishers to assistance-needed regions for the third time. Those wishing to donate cash and kind to the storm victims can contact the media group (Tel-095019906 and 095154591).

**International relief supplies flowing by air to Myanmar**

YANGON, 18 May-A total of 18 donor countries are providing relief supplies to the storm-hit areas from 8 to 16 May. The flights have transported relief items 57 times to Myanmar. The following table shows flights name, aircraft, relief supplies and tonnage.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Flight Organization</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Aircraft</th>
<th>Goods</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>15-5-03</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>food, personal goods, mineral salt</td>
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<td>C-130</td>
<td>foodstuff</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>C-130</td>
<td>drinking water bottles, foodstuff, rubber mouthpiece</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>mosquito nets, food, relief goods</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>medicines, rice, gloves, blankets</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>medicines, food</td>
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<td>C-130</td>
<td>medicines, personal and consumer goods</td>
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<td>AN-12</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>C-130</td>
<td>medicine, tent, mosquito net</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>11-5-08</td>
<td>B 727-200</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10-5-08</td>
<td>AN-26</td>
<td>food, water</td>
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<td>DC-8</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>The US</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13-5-08</td>
<td>KC-130</td>
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<td>14-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>water bag, plastic, roofings, health equipment</td>
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<td>food, plastic sheet, medicine</td>
<td>11.8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>14-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>purified water bottle</td>
<td>11.63</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>food, plastic sheet, water bag, first-aid kid</td>
<td>10.31</td>
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<td>C-130</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>tapa palm, family kid</td>
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<td>plastic, water purifier equipment, purified water</td>
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<td>16-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>plastic, water purifier equipment, purified water</td>
<td>11.22</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>soya-bean soft drink, medical kid</td>
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<tr>
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<td>17-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>plastic plate, health equipment, purified water</td>
<td>11.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
<td>purified water bottles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17-5-08</td>
<td>C-130</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>8-5-08</td>
<td>A 900-600</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>13-5-08</td>
<td>DC-8</td>
<td>tent, blanket, mosquito net, medicine, fuel, water and sewage</td>
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<td>C-17</td>
<td>tent, purified water, medicine, blanket, soap bag</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>9-5-08</td>
<td>IL-76</td>
<td>medicine, food</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Rehabilitation tasks in progress in Yangon

YANGON, 18 May - Member of Natural Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan met people of Pazundaung Township this morning and explained supply of relief aid and progress in rehabilitation tasks being carried out in storm-hit regions.

At Basic Education High School No 2 on Maha Bandoola Street in Pazundaung Township, the minister met storm victims from Wards 1, 2, 8, 9 and 10 at 9 am. He also met with the victims from Wards 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 at No 3 BEHS.

At the meetings, the minister explained measures for relief, supply and rehabilitation tasks being taken as the national duty by the government, contributions of the government, Tatmadaw-men, members of Myanmar Police Force, service personnel, social organization members and wellwishers to the storm survivors, efforts made for turning the conditions of the local people to normalcy in a short time, and transport, power and water supply and health care services being facilitated as usual to the Yangonites within a week, and he presented rice and relief aid to them.

Afterwards, the minister cordially greeted the victims.

Specialists Team of MWAF, MRCS provide health care services to storm victims

YANGON, 18 May - A specialists team of the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and the Myanmar Red Cross Society led by Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe provided health care services to storm victims at the relief camp in Latkhaik Village of Kawhmu Township yesterday morning.

The medical team comprised eye specialists Dr Daw Nilar Thein and Dr Daw Chaw Wai Lwin, physician Dr Daw Aye Aye Gyi, pediatricians Dr Daw Yuzana Saw Myint and Dr Daw May Hsu Han, GPs Dr Daw Nwe Nwe Hlaing and Dr Daw Ohnmar Swe, Dr Tint Naing and Dr Aye Win Myint Phyo of Workers’ Hospital, doctors and students from University of Medicine-1 and Magway University of Medicine and wellwishers of Kandaw-gyi Pale Health Family.

Pale Health Family led by Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe presented relief aid for storm victims to Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win.

The medical team provided medical treatment to 165 patients of storm victims.
Minister U Soe Tha meets British Foreign Office Minister

Yangon, 18 May - Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha received British Foreign Office Minister Lord Malloch Brown, the British Ambassador to Myanmar and Ms Sue Wardell of Department for International Development (DFID) and delegation members at National Archives Department under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development at 2.30 pm today.

At the meeting, the British Foreign Office Minister discussed matters related to relief aid being provided and assistance to be rendered in the reconstruction period. Minister U Soe Tha explained matters relating to prompt measures taken during the storm, relief and reconstruction work being carried out and cooperation with international organizations in reconstruction tasks.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan calls on Minister for Health

Yangon, 18 May- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan Mr Hitoshi Kimura called on Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint at the old office of the Ministry of Health this morning.

Present were Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo and the deputy directors-general under the Ministry of Health.

The Japanese Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs was accompanied by Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yusuaki Nogawa, Deputy Director-General of Asia and Oceania Affairs Bureau Mr Kazuhide Ishikawa and Myanmar in-charge of First South East Asian Affairs Department Mr Hideyuki Yazama.

The Japanese Deputy Minister explained the bilateral cooperation with five organizations in Myanmar and Japan would like to send an emergency medical team to Myanmar.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint said the bilateral cooperation is useful and discussed health matters.

Rehabilitation and reconstruction for Ayeyawady Div

Yangon, 18 May - A total of 12 vehicles carrying CI sheets and construction materials, blankets, kitchen utensils, foodstuff, purified water, oil and fluorescent lamps to be used in carrying out rehabilitation and reconstruction tasks for storm victims left here for Labutta, five vehicles for Dedaye and two vehicles for Myaungmya today.

Supply of power, installation of power lines inspected

Yangon, 18 May - Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint attended the supply of electricity in Yangon at the hall of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board, here, yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Myint reported on priority being given to supply of power in Ayeyawady Division.
Officials submitted respective reports. The minister instructed them to place emphasis on supply of electricity for the people and attended to the needs.

In the afternoon, the minister inspected repairing of power line along Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township and installation of power line to CNG filling station No 012 (Ywama). The minister also viewed substitution of pylons and lamp-posts in Mayangon and Bahan townships, and supply of power from Hlinethaya Power Station to sub-station No 1 and No 2.

**Information Minister pays homage to Shwephonepwin Pagoda**

YANGON, 18 May- Member of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan paid homage to Shwephone-wint Pagoda and inspected renovation tasks of damaged religious buildings this morning.

First, secretary of pagoda board of trustees U Win Aung briefed the minister on damages to religious buildings due to the storm.

After hearing the reports, the minister gave instructions to systematic renovation of the buildings with the help of the technicians and attended to the needs.

**NPED Minister receives Japanese Deputy Minister**

YANGON, 18 May - Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha received Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan Mr Hitoshi Kimura and party at the National Archives Department on Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, here, this after-noon.

At the call, the Japanese Deputy Minister, on behalf of the people and the Japanese Government, expressed sympathy for the damage and loss of Myanmar hit by the cyclonic storm, and discussed current relief assistance programme of Japan for the victims and future plans.

Minister U Soe Tha explained undertakings of the government for the storm victims, rehabilitation tasks, resumption of agriculture, meat and fish and salt industries in the storm hit regions and fulfilling the requirements of the victims for rehabilitation.

**Deputy FM receives British Foreign Office Minister**

YANGON, 18 May-Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu received British Foreign Office Minister Lord Malloch Brown at Sakura Room of Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Road here at 10.30 am today.
Also present on the occasion were Director-General U Paw Lwin Sein of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Director-General Daw Yin Yin Myint.

The guest was accompanied by British Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Mark Canning, Director Ms Sue Wardell of Department for International Development and members.

At the meeting, the Foreign Office Minister said that British people felt terribly sad about Myanmar people who had suffered from the evil consequences of the severe storm; that the British government is ready to participate in the ASEAN-led international drive in rehabilitation of regions hit hard by the storm; that it is our hope that the humanitarian aid extended by the British government can lead to further fostering relations between the two nations; and that the aid extended by the British government is not for political gains but for storm victims of Myanmar.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu thanked the Foreign Office Minister and said that the Myanmar government will cooperate with ASEAN nations and United Nations in rehabilitation of storm-hit regions; and that the rehabilitation drive will begin to take shape in a few days.

Deputy Foreign Minister receives Japanese counterpart

YANGON, 18 May- Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu received his counterpart Deputy Foreign Minister of Japan Mr Hitoshi Kimura at Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Street here.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department U Paw Lwin Sein, Japanese Ambassador to the Union of Mayanmar Mr Yasuaki Nogawa, Deputy-Director General of Asia and Oceania Affairs Bureau Mr Kazuhide Ishikawa, responsible person of Myanmar from First Southeast Asian Affairs Department Mr Hideyuki Yazama.

The deputy ministers exchanged views on bilateral cooperation and had a discussion on damages caused by Nargis and assistance from Government of Japan to Myanmar.

Next, the deputy minister hosted lunch to his counterpart.

Health Minister meets British Foreign Office Minister

YANGON, 18 May - Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint received British Foreign Office Minister Lord Malloch Brown at the hall of Yangon General Hospital this morning.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, the deputy directors-general of departments under the ministry, British Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Mark Canning, Director-General Ms Sue Wardell of Department for International Development of Britain.

British Foreign Office Minister said it is heartening to see the cooperation between the two countries. The 3 Diseases Fund Project stands witness to the cooperation between Britain and the Myanmar Ministry of Health. Next, he said he would like to know health matters after the storm in some regions of Myanmar.

Health Minister explained that 12 forward camps, six middle camps and three rear camps are kept open in accord with the guidance given by the Head of State, infectious diseases which may break out after the storm are under control, preventive measures against DHF are being carried out and plans are underway to give anti-measles injections to the children under five before they reach home.
Vietnamese Ambassador, wellwishers present relief supplies

YANGON, 18 May - Wellwishers have provided cash and kind for storm victims.

Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung and Deputy Director of Dong A (Money Transfer) Mr Tran Huu Tai, Thien Le, Tran Nhat Minh of Vietnam Relief Effort and the Vietnamese Buddhist Family and Sister Dieu Hieu and party presented rice, edible oil and dry noodle worth US$27000 for storm victims to Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials at Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township, here, this afternoon.

Local and international donors may contribute relief funds and supplies for the victims earnestly and generously


The News Release No 3 is as follows:-

News Release No 3

1. As Nargis cyclone hit the Union of Myanmar, local and international donors have been sending donations in cash and kind. The donations are accepted systematically and distributed promptly to the storm-hit areas by committees concerned. Arrangements have also been made to take deterrent action against those who misappropriate relief funds and supplies. It was announced on 15th May as follows.

News Release of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee

1. Some areas in Myanmar were hit severely by the Cyclone “Nargis”. Now the nation is accepting the relief supplies donated by internal and international donors with much gratitude.

2. The Emergency Supply Supervisory Committee consisting of departmental officials and non-governmental organizations is accepting and systematically keeping proper accounts the cash and relief aid donated by internal and international donors. Then, the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Subcommittee consisting of departmental officials and non-governmental organizations is immediately delivering the items to the victims in the storm-hit areas.

3. Hence, wellwishers at home and abroad may contact the nearest Myanmar embassies, offices of the Military Attache, responsible persons of Natural Disaster Preparedness Subcommittees in the respective wards, townships, districts, states and divisions, other service agencies and official organizations and donate humanitarian aid.

4. Anyone may inform if he witnesses or knows that the cash assistance and relief supplies donated to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular persons and organizations, or misappropriated for other purposes. We hereby announce that we have made all necessary arrangements to conduct investigation into the cases to expose the offenders and take punitive action against them in accordance with the law.

2. Hence, local and international donors may contribute relief funds and supplies for the victims earnestly and generously.

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee

Dated: 17-5-2008

Place: Nay Pyi Taw

No infectious diseases except normal diseases common to the storm-hit areas are found


The News Release No 4 is as follows:-
1. In the Union of Myanmar, a severe cyclone “Nargis” occurred on 2nd and 3rd May 2008 causing tremendous casualties and devastation in the coastal areas of Ayeyawady Division. The storm also swept Yangon Division causing loss and damages.

2. The National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee held its meeting at 8.30 am on 3rd May 2008 in Nay Pyi Taw and the civil and military medical teams were sent immediately to the storm-hit regions to provide health care services to the victims.

3. Hence, altogether 2,029 members of 122 medical teams joining hands with local health staff are earnestly providing disease prevention and treatment works in Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions.

4. However, some foreign news agencies broadcast false information to the effect that the storm victims did not get health care services in full and there were dangers of cholera and other infectious diseases to break out.

5. The Government of the Union of Myanmar with its own strength as well as with the international assistance has been taking disease preventive measures and providing treatment fully to the storm victims. No infectious diseases except normal diseases common to the storm-hit areas are found.

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee

Dated: 17-5-2008

Place: Nay Pyi Taw

Foreign aid flowing to victims


The News Release No 5 is as follows:-

News Release No 5

1. Relief supplies donated by foreign countries, UN agencies, INGOs and individual donors are now flowing constantly to the victims of the Cyclone ‘Nargis’ that hit the Union of Myanmar.

2. Of the supplies, some go to the Emergency Supply Supervisory Committee for the storm-hit areas, while some, directly to some UN agencies and INGOs.

3. It is required that all the relief funds and supplies go to the storm victims. So, the Emergency Supply Supervisory Committee will work in collaboration with the organizations stated in para (2) in this regard.

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee

Dated: 17-5-2008

Place: Nay Pyi Taw
YANGON, 18 May- Deputy minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Mr Hitoshi Kimura handed over relief supplies donated by JICA for storm victims to Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint at Yangon International Airport this morning.

UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinating and party arrive

YANGON, 18 May - UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mr John Holmes, Regional Coordinator (Designate) Mr Bishow Parajuli, Director Mr Kabisis Rochanakorn of the Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA, Geneva) and Ms Shanya Harris, Special Assistant to Mr John Holmes, arrived at Yangon by TG-205 at 6.40 pm today.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and party.

Relief supplies sent from abroad arrive at Yangon International Airport

YANGON, 18 May - AN-12 flight carrying 13.6 tons of medicines donated by a social organization in the US, TG-303 flight carrying 4 tons of 34 shelter boxes and 117 kinds of rescue equipment donated by Red Cross Society of Republic of Korea, MH-740 and A-300 flights carrying 43 tons of blankets, mosquito nets, 1746 packages of plastic and 600 packages of rescue equipment donated by ICRC, five C-130 flights carrying 52 tons of mosquito nets, foodstuff, plastic, purified bottled water and health equipment donated by the US and AN-12 flight carrying 15 tons of shelter kits and accessories donated by Red Cross Society of Canada arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

Relief supplies donated by wellwishers from foreign countries have been sent to the storm-hit areas without delay by helicopter, vehicle and vessel.

Thailand and Mekong region health care teams leave for Labutta and Myaungmya

YANGON, 18 May- Organized by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thai health care organization of Ministry of Health of Thailand and Mekong regions disease control led by Director Dr Khin Maung Lwin (Health and Education) of the Ministry of Health left Yangon for Labutta and Myaungmya Townships by car this evening.

They together with the health staff of the Ministry of Health will carry out relief tasks for the storm victims in Labutta and Myaungmya Townships of Ayeyawady Division.

Tatmadaw helicopters deliver relief supplies

YANGON, 18 May-As relief supplies are being delivered to the storm-hit regions in Ayeyawady Division, materials for reconstruction and resettlement was sent to Bogale and Kadonkani by Tatmadaw helicopters this morning.