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

* 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

* 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

Established 1914
Volume XVI, Number 42                   11th Waning of  Kason 1370 ME     Friday, 30 May,  2008

Myanmar ratifies and promulgates Constitution


The full text of the announcement is as follows:-

The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
Announcement No. 7/2008
10th Waning Day of Kason, 1370 ME
(29th May 2008)

Announcement of Promulgation of State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

1. The Commission for Holding the Referendum of the Union of Myanmar, regarding the ratification of draft Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, reported that the National Referendums to seek approval of the people were held on 10th and 24th May 2008 successfully; 98.12 per cent of 27,288,827 eligible voters all over the country cast votes and of them 92.48 per cent supported the draft Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in accordance with law.

2. Hence, it is hereby announced that the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been ratified and promulgated by the National Referendum.

Sd/Than Shwe
Senior General
Chairman
State Peace and Development Council

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects repair of power lines, reconstruction, removal of fallen trees

Yangon, 29 May—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, inspected repair of power lines, reconstruction of the damaged buildings and clearing of the fallen trees in (See page 2)

Storm-hit areas will have been regenerated with thriving trees and crop plantations by next year

In the forthcoming paddy harvest season after this rainy season and cold season, the whole Ayeyawady region will have been rehabilitated with thriving paddy fields. By then, Ayeyawady dwellers will have risen from the evil consequences of the storm. Surely, Ayeyawady Division will be fully regenerated with thriving trees and crop plantations by next year.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Establish more tree plantations and forests for environmental conservation

The global warming has been followed by deforestation and desertification. Climate depends on forests. So, deforestation can cause climate changes.

Now, many countries have turned spotlight on environmental conservation by growing trees extensively and establishing forests to prevent global warming.

A tree emits water vapors through the process of vaporizing of the water it has absorbed through its roots. The warmer it is, the more vapors a tree emits. So, the regions that are covered thickly with forests and trees have temperate climates.

Myanmar conserves and exploits her natural resources in a systematic way. In this connection, the Ministry of Forestry and other relevant ministries are working together for establishment of forests, natural areas and natural tree plantations.

The arid zone has seen many clusters of dams, which contribute much towards regional greening and anti-desertification. Teak and shade trees are grown every rainy season on a wider scale in the entrances to and exits of the towns and vacant lands.

During the cyclone that hit Myanmar recently, a large number of trees including large and old ones were uprooted in Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions. Now, the fallen large trees are being put upright after cutting off their branches and twigs.

Forests and trees contribute towards the life of creatures. So, it is required to grow fast-growing trees and shade trees beginning this pre-monsoon to rehabilitate the storm-hit areas.

Myanmar people have preserved a good tradition of conserving the environment. Therefore, related departments and the people have to grow forest plantations and trees including shade trees on a large scale in the rainy season region-wise for ensuring temperate climate and greening of the regions across the nation.
Iran’s speaker warns West over nuclear cooperation

**TEHERAN, 29 May—**

Iran’s Parliament warned that current levels of cooperation with the UN nuclear watchdog were jeopardizing any deal on Iran’s disputed nuclear case, state radio said on Wednesday.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) issued a report on Monday, saying Iran’s alleged research into nuclear warheads remained a matter of serious concern and Tehran should provide more information on its missile-related work.

Western powers, reacting to the IAEA report on Iran, have called for more pressure on Iran, which has been hit by three rounds of UN sanctions for defying a call to halt its sensitive nuclear work.

“The West should stop kicking around Iran’s nuclear case between the P5+1 and the Agency,” said Ali Larijani, temporary speaker of Iran’s new Parliament.

“If such behaviour continues, Parliament will set new limits for Iran’s cooperation level with the agency,” Larijani said in Parliament which opened on Tuesday.

**Israel, Palestinians have gaps over final status issues**

**RAMALLAH, 29 May—**

A Palestinian negotiator on Wednesday said Palestinian and Israeli peace negotiators have gaps over all issues they discuss.

“The issues of negotiations face real difficulties and there is a gap over all the issues,” the Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat told Voice of Palestine radio.

However, Erekat said the negotiations, resumed by US mediation last November and are going on with the hope of reaching a deal by the end of this year before President George W Bush quits the White House, were serious and tackled all the final-status issues that have been outstanding between Israel and the Palestinian National Authority (PNA).

The two negotiation teams met Tuesday in Jerusalem as part of their regular meetings to discuss the final issues such as Jerusalem, settlements, border, water and refugees.

**Mexican drug war cops want bigger guns**

**CULIACAN (Mexico), 29 May—**

Mexican police need bigger guns to fight increasingly violent drug gangs, a federal police chief said on Wednesday, after drug hitmen killed seven officers in the northern city of Culiacan.

“We need machine guns,” said General Rodolfo Cruz, the federal police force’s link with the army in their joint 18-month-old war on Mexico’s powerful drug cartels.

“Pistols are just for showing off, they are good for nothing,” he told reporters in Culiacan, as 200 reinforcements arrived to restore security a day after the seven officers died in a spray of bullets while searching a drug hide-out.

**5.9-magnitude quake strikes in Guatemala**

**MEXICO CITY, 29 May—**

A 5.9-magnitude earthquake hit southern Guatemala Tuesday, with no immediate reports of casualties or property damages, the National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology reported.

The earthquake was registered off the Pacific coast at 1127 GMT at a depth of 73.5 kilometres. The epicentre was 110 kilometres from Guatemala City, the country’s capital, reports reaching here said.

The earthquake was felt in the provinces of Suchitepequez, Retalhuleu, San Marcos that borders Mexico, Quetzaltenango and Chimaltenango.

The same quake was also felt in the southwestern parts of El Salvador, where there were no reports of victims or property losses.

**In a 14 Feb, 2007 file photo, Dianne Odell watches her favourite soap opera at home in Jackson, Tenn. The family of 61-year-old Dianne Odell said she died early on 27 May, 2008, after a power failure shut down the machine that kept her breathing, and family members were unable to get an emergency generator working. Odell spent her life in the iron lung, cared for by her parents and other family members.**

**Six killed in Thai south in clashes, hijacking**

**YALA (Thailand), 29 May—**

Four suspected Muslim militants were killed in clashes with security forces in Thailand’s rebellious south on Wednesday, while two soldiers died after a car struck a hijacked truck, police said.

The death toll has now exceeded 3,000 since the insurgency flared up again in 2004, although violence appears to have been on the decline in recent months.

The four suspected Muslim militants were killed in clashes with security forces in Yala Province, police said. Earlier on Wednesday, two soldiers were killed when a car collided with a truck that had been hijacked by a suspected militant in Yala, police said.
Motorcycles, provocative activities banned in Beirut

BEIRUT, 29 May—Lebanese Central Security Council on Tuesday banned motorcycles and provocative activities in the capital Beirut as of 6 p.m. (1500 GMT) in an effort to contain the escalating violence between rival supporters, local Naharnet news website reported.

The council, which met under Lebanese Interior Minister Hassan Sabaa, also banned flags of various feuding factions in the capital as well as mobile demonstrations by motorcyclists and cyclists, according to the report.

The ban was part of a security plan for the capital to contain mushrooming violence after at least 23 people were wounded in opposition-majority clashes, said the report.

Meanwhile, police said it identified 11 of the gunmen who opened fire at civilians in Beirut’s Corniche Mazraa District Monday evening following Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah’s address on the eighth anniversary of the Liberation Day.

Later on Tuesday, Amal Movement and Hezbollah issued a joint statement, banning partisans from jubilant shooting of fire arms.

The statement also banned shooting “for any reason” as well as mobile motorcycle convoys raising flags of both factions, saying that security agencies should carry out their duties in confronting such acts.

MNA/Xinhua

Out 420,000 houses collapse in Qingchuan aftershock

QINGCHUAN (Sichuan), 29 May—More than 420,000 houses collapsed in the Qingchuan County in southwest China after two fresh aftershocks hit the area on Tuesday afternoon, according to the China National Seismological Network.

A total of 63 people were injured in Qingchuan alone, six of them critically, officials with the headquarters said.

The newly collapsed houses totalled 4.95 million square metres, adding to about 4 million houses which were already damaged or levelled in previous tremors.

In Qingchuan, a total of 15,453 people have been injured since the 12 May earthquake, including 1,654 who were in serious condition. The new aftershocks have also generated 146 new geological hazards including cracks and debris slides in the mountainous area, the headquarters said.

MNA/Xinhua

Mine blast kills militant, three kids in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 29 May—A bomb exploded unexpectedly Tuesday as a suspected militant was planting it at a bridge in Kandahar Province of southern Afghanistan, killing the suspect himself and three children who were playing nearby, an official said.

The blast occurred Tuesday afternoon in Daman District, near the provincial capital of Kandahar City, Kandahar’s police chief Sayed Aqa Saqib told Xinhua, saying “the man was planting the bomb as the explosion occurred.”

Anti-government militants usually used roadside bomb blasts to target the Afghan Government and Afghanistan-based foreign troops.

Also in Kandahar Province, Taliban militants attacked a police post in Shir Abak District early Tuesday, killing nine policemen. Roadside bombs were also used in the pre-dawn attack.

Elsewhere, a roadside bombing hit a police vehicle, leaving three policemen and one civilian passer-by dead Tuesday morning in Logar Province of eastern Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua

Six arrested after Dewsbury teen’s park death in London

LONDON, 29 May—Detectives have arrested six youths, including two boys aged 12 and 13, over the death of an Asian teenager who was beaten to death in a West Yorkshire park, police said on Tuesday.

Amar Aslam, 17, was discovered on Sunday night in Crow Nest Park in Dewsbury. West Yorkshire Police said he “had been subjected to a sustained and vicious beating” and died from head injuries.

They said the motive for the attack was not clear. Police have so far arrested six people in connection with the killing — a 20-year-old man, three 15-year-old youths and the two boys.

They are being quizzed at various police stations across West Yorkshire. Meanwhile detectives are continuing to search the area, including a pond in the park where Aslam died. Neighbourhood officers are also patrolling the area to reassure local residents.—MNA/Reuters

Truck plunges into ravine, kills 14 Afghans

FAIZABAD (Afghanistan), 29 May—Fourteen Afghans were killed and 52 injured on Wednesday when a truck packed with mostly women and children plunged into a ravine in the northeastern province of Badakhshan, a traffic official said.

The early morning accident happened on a narrow road in a district of the province that lies along the border with China and Tajikistan, said Mohammad Ibrahim, head of provincial traffic.

“It was a truck carrying 70 mostly women and children who wanted to find a place for finding pasture for their herd. The report we have is that 14 have lost their lives and 52 more have been hurt,” he told Reuters.

MNA/Reuters

Sony’s new clear, tube-shaped speaker, called “Saintina,” a combination of “sound” and “fountain,” is on display during a Press unveiling at Sony Corp headquarters in Tokyo, Japan, on 28 May, 2008. —Xinhua

An illustration of the fossil remains of the 375-million-year-old placoderm fish is seen in this undated handout image released by Museum Victoria. Australian scientists unveiled on 29 May, 2008, the fossilised remains of the oldest vertebrate mother ever discovered, a 375-million-year-old placoderm fish with embryo and umbilical cord attached.—Xinhua
Vietnam’s auto import surges despite higher tariffs

HANOI, 29 May—Vietnam’s auto import increased although the country raised tax on imported new passenger automobiles to 83 percent from previous 70 percent on 22 April in a move to narrow trade deficit, curb inflation and relieve traffic congestion.

The country also hiked tariffs on automobile components and parts by 3-5 percentage points at the same time.

According to the country’s General Statistics Office on Wednesday, Vietnam imported 35,400 completely-assembled automobiles, mainly cars, valued at 625 million US dollars in the first five months of this year, compared with 5,000 units of automobiles and cars at a value of 109 million dollars in the same period last year.

Vietnam also spent 681 million dollars importing automobile parts and components for assembly between January and May, up from 204 million dollars in the same period last year.

The higher tariffs have lifted showroom prices of many kinds of domestically-assembled automobiles by around 300 dollars per vehicle.

Ten killed in Brazil highway accidents

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 May—Brazilian police said Monday that 10 people died in traffic accidents in the state of Rio de Janeiro during the recent four-day holiday.

During Corpus Christi this year, a national religious holiday held from 22-25 May, the Federal Highway Police said 10 people died and another 46 were injured in a total of 123 accidents.

The police also said the number of deaths was the highest since 2002.

Last year, only one death was registered in the period, while 36 people were injured in 106 accidents.

The authorities attributed the increased number of fatalities to drivers’ recklessness, the “ineffectiveness” of police and more automobiles on the streets.

Medical tourism flourishes in India

NEW DELHI, 29 May—India is set to earn 1.87 billion US dollars a year in foreign exchange from medical tourism by 2012, according to a study by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (Assocham).

With easy visa facilities to overseas patients coupled with best emerging medical infrastructure facilities, India’s medical tourism can become a lead foreign exchange earner and the earnings will grow from the existing 800 million annually to 1.87 billion US dollars a year by 2012, Assocham President Venugopal N Dhoot said.

The study on Prospects of Medical Tourism for Higher Forex Earning was done under the supervision of the health committee of Assocham, headed by Sir Ganga Ram Hospital chairman BK Rao.

“The primary reasons why medical tourism would flourish in India include much lower medical treatment costs for various ailments, such as bone marrow transplant, bpe-pass surgery, knee surgery and liver transplant as compared to western countries,” Dhoot said in a statement.

“The cost of medical treatment is very high in the western countries, forcing patients from Africa, the Gulf and various other Asian countries to explore medical treatment in India,” he said.

He noted that the medical infrastructure in India has geared up to provide them non-subsidized medical treatment at far lower costs.

Four workers die in stadium construction in Spain

MADRID, 29 May—About four workers died Monday after falling down from a 12-metre-high platform in the construction work of the new stadium of the soccer team Valencia de Espana.

According to Firemen and Police reports, two workers died in the moment and the other two died after arriving the hospitals.

The accident occurred in a communication tower’s platform of the news stadium.

Two of the dead workers were Spaniards, one Ecuadorian and the other Bolivian.

A witness quoted by the local Press explained that the accident occurred when a part of the tower’s mold fell down, making many workers that were on the surface to fall.
Japanese medical team arrives in Yangon

YANGON, 29 May—Boeing 767 flight carrying a 23-member Japanese medical team led by Dr Kanai Kaname and 3.05 tons of medicines, foodstuffs, tents and personal goods arrived in Yangon this evening. Officials welcomed them at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

More international supplies arrive at Yangon International Airport

YANGON, 29 May—Two IL-76 flights and AN-12 flight carrying 62.68 tons of mosquito nets, blankets and medical equipment donated by Thai-based WFP, four C-130 flights carrying 42.48 tons of kitchen utensils, mosquito nets, medical equipment and plastic rolls donated by the US, C-130 flight carrying 8 tons of foodstuff, medicines and purified water bottles for Thai medical team, C-130 flight carrying 8.879 tons of instant noodle and rice donated by Royal Thai Armed Forces and the people, A-300 flight carrying 37.67 tons of plastic rolls donated by Reletx Relief Supplies from UK and A-300 flight carrying 36.4 tons of blankets donated by Doctors Without Borders also arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

Relief items donated from abroad have been sent to storm-hit regions by helicopter, by vehicle and by air without delay.—MNA

Thai wellwishers donate cash and kind to storm victims

YANGON, 29 May—Thai wellwishers are donating cash and kind to the storm victims through Tachileik. Under the aegis of Wazipeik Sayadaw, wellwishers from Lanpan, Kynhuaing and Meisai donated purified water bottles, medicines, clothes, biscuits, packages of noodle and cement bags worth K 77,885,444, SIM City Public Company Limited, Bangkok Thailand, 10,800 bags of cement worth K 39,960,000, Thai people, foodstuff and personal goods worth K 25,521,225, merchants from Kynhuaing and Meisai, 41,980 baht, Meisai Traders Association, 40,000 baht and Kunning Temple and traders, K 10 million on 11 and 12 May.

On 13 May, Meisai Immigration Department presented medicines, purified water bottles and personal goods worth K 1,098,000 to Col Myint Han of local station, district/township Peace and Development Council and donation accepting committee to storm victims.

From 11 to 13 May, Thai donors donated relief supplies worth K 144,464,669 and K 10 million and 81,980 baht, it is learnt.

MNA

Orange Supermarket donates supplies to storm victims in Ayeyawady Div

YANGON, 29 May—Orange Supermarket donated relief supplies to the storm victims in Pyabon and Dedaye townships on 25 May.

Relief supplies donated were bags of rice, bags of potato, tins of fish, soaps, aluminum pots, mosquito nets, blankets, rusks, coffemix, candles, spoons, prawn paste, bucket, cups and mosquito repellents.

Arrangements are under way for wellwishers to donate relief supplies to the storm-hit areas at the branches of Orange Supermarket.

MNA
Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe accepts K 15.9 million donated by Office of Chief of Armed Forces Training, Academies, training depots and units under the office on 29 May, 2008. — MNA

Labutta relief camps get power

YANGON, 28 May — Labutta Township saw 12 concrete lamp-posts, one iron lamp-post and 130 wood lamp-posts fall down and 43 iron lamp-posts tilt after the cyclonic storm. Thanks to the efforts of the township electric power supply board, a total of 100 lamp-posts — 44 new wood lamp-posts, 10 old lamp-posts, three old concrete lamp-posts and 43 old iron lamp-posts have been erected in the township. Therefore, electricity is being supplied back to departments, relief camps and lamp-posts. Moreover, arrangements are under way to supply power to wards in the township. — MNA

Relief supplies for Ayeyawady Div

YANGON, 29 May — Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko attended the ceremony to present rice, foodstuff and clothes worth K 5 million donated by Managing Director U Hla Win of KM Co and family and 500 bags of rice and 500 blankets by the Joint Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Kalewa Tawya Naga Cave Monastery Sayadaw, wellwisher U Win Pe and the Ministry of Religious Affairs to 500 storm victim households in Pyapon, Labutta and Bogale at the office near Kayin Baptist Church on Lower Kyimyindine Road in Ahlon Township this evening. — MNA

Education deputy minister inspects school enrollment in Yangon

YANGON, 28 May — Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min met with the township education officer, the headmaster and teachers at No 1 Basic Education High School in Dagon township yesterday. The deputy minister briefed them on school enrollment of all children and inspected the classrooms. At No 2 BEHS and No 19 Basic Education Primary School in Sangyon township, the deputy minister and party inspected works being undertaken for 2008-2009 academic year school enrollment day and classrooms and gave necessary instruction. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspects salvage of vessels sunk in Yangon River, repair of jetties

YANGON, 29 May — Accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Commander of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Commodore Win Shemy and officials of Myanma Port Authority and Inland Water Transport, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence inspected progress in salvage of vessels sunk in Yangon River and repair of jetties yesterday afternoon. On board the vessel, Managing Director U Thein Htay of MPA reported on condition of vessels sunk in waterway to Yangon Port, piling of vessels onto the bank, arrival and departure of ocean-going liners at Yangon Port, conditions of the sunk and destroyed jetties, salvage of three jetties and future plans. Lt-Gen Myint Swe gave instructions on timely completion of fixing the jetties and salvage and clearing of vessels sunk in the river. Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT submitted the reports on sinking and washing up of IWT ships, progress of salvage tasks, re-running of ferry boats as usual, efforts being made for pulling back boats and tugboats from Gyaungwaing of Seikkyi-khanaungto Township to the waterway.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party viewed pulling back the boats and salvage of jetties along the waterway from Nanthida Jetty, Botataung Port, Myanma Industrial Port of Ahlon and Gyaungwaing Village of Seikkyi-khanaungto Township.

International Beverages Trading Co Ltd (Grand Royal) distributes rice to storm victims in storm-hit townships in Yangon and Ayeyawady divisions on 29 May, 2008. — MNA
Parents’ loving-kindness and goodwill towards offspring-1

Kyaw Ye Min

Natural disaster is a natural phenomenon that anyone cannot avoid. It has existed for aeons. It is also natural that every region or country has to experience a natural disaster some time. All people will have to face such natural disasters as earthquakes, storms, floods, volcanic eruptions and even tsunamis. If a natural disaster befalls a country, deaths of its civilians and damage to property follow depending on the impact of such a disaster.

Our country has also experienced the cyclone Nargis recently. As our citizens had never experienced such a severe storm, they did not expect great destruction at all. However, the destructive Nargis has been the main topic among the media today and will also be left in the history of our country. At a time when the cyclone is the subject of local and international media, we have now come to have emotional experiences about the Nargis. I was shocked and grieved when I heard great destruction at all. Nevertheless, I was pleased to see Nargis. I was so worried after the cyclone Ayeyawady Delta in the aftermath of the cyclone Nargis. I was so worried about the storm victims. But I was pleased to see the media, we have now come to have emotional experiences about the Nargis.

I was shocked and grieved when I heard great destruction at all. Nevertheless, I was pleased to see Nargis. I was so worried after the cyclone Ayeyawady Delta in the aftermath of the cyclone Nargis. I was so worried about the storm victims. But I was pleased to see that in accord with the guidance of the Head of State Senior General Than Shwe on implementation of relief and rescue work as a national task and under the close supervision of the Vice-Senior General, National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee led by the Prime Minister, work immediately started relief and rescue work. I had also confidence as well as pleasure when I witnessed the State and public wellwishers were participating in the work with heart and soul. Moreover, I became tearful with pleasure when I saw all including the Prime Minister, ministers, commanders and commandants working among the victims to provide assistance and comfort them. The government and the people are like parents and children. Indeed, the government and the people are like parents and children. No parent will remain indifferent when their children run into trouble. No parent wants to see their children suffering. Instead, they want to suffer themselves. Actually, every parent stands by their children in times of emergency. At such a time when the people were in trouble, the Prime Minister, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers, ministers, commanders and deputy ministers themselves went down to the affected areas to comfort the victims and provide relief aid. Their images generate compassion as well as happiness for us.

The State on its part is providing rice, rations, temporary shelters, medicines and basic needs. Likewise, local and international donors are making their contributions. Arrangements were made to transport required goods in time to wherever necessary. After relief and rescue work had been done to a certain degree, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe toured the storm-battered regions from 18 to 21 May and consoled the victims. Although the Prime Minister conducted close supervision, the Head of State with parental spirit went to the affected areas in spite of his great responsibilities of the State. The Senior General went to storm-stricken Hlinethaya, Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (North), Kungyangon, Dedaye, Pyapon, Pathein, Labutta, Myaungmya, Mawlamyine, and Bogale and the victims. The Head of State with farsightedness, after reviewing the work done by the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee, decided and gave guidance on more effective work plans. His encouragements will always be remembered by the storm victims and his guidance will be beneficial in the long run. This is why the tour of the Head of State is a great benefit.

The Head of State intended to go to the affected regions as soon as the storm occurred. But, the Senior General with farsightedness went to those regions only later allowing the Prime Minister himself to speed up the relief and rescue work in a more effective way. So, he toured the affected areas when the relief and rescue work had been done to a certain extent. When we realize the farsightedness and genuine goodwill of the Head of State, who gave priority to the victims rather than his personal affairs and waited for the relief work to be done more speedily, I want to ask some internal axe-handles and foreign media variously criticizing the Head of State “Well, what do you want to say now?”

(See page 9)
Parents’ loving-kindness and goodwill towards offspring-1

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and party left Nay Pyi Taw for Yangon at 1.10 pm on 18 May by special Tatmadaw aircraft to inspect relief and rehabilitation measures being taken in storm-hit regions of Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions. At Yangon Command, the Chairman of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee the Prime Minister reported to the Senior General on progress in relief and rehabilitation tasks being carried out in the storm-hit regions. After reviewing the tasks, the Senior General gave guidance on future tasks.

At 3.40 pm, Senior General Than Shwe and party arrived at Atwin Padan Relief Camp in Hlinethaya Township. After inspecting accommodation of the storm victims at the tents donated by well-wishers abroad, the Senior General cordially greeted the victims and comforted them. At the relief camp, the Senior General looked into supply of relief goods to the storm victims, installation of artisan wells for supply of water, construction of toilets to keep hygienic conditions and repair of roofs at the buildings of No. 7 Basic Education Middle School in Hlinethaya Township before the school opening season and left necessary guidance. After that, Senior General Than Shwe and party proceeded to the special relief camp located on Yadanaabon Street in ward 17 of Dagon Myothit (South) Township and the relief camp on Maungmagan Road in Ward 16 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township. During

At 7.50 am on 19 May, Senior General Than Shwe and party flew from Yangon to Kungyangon of Yangon South District by Tatmadaw helicopter. While in Kungyangon, they viewed condition of storm-hit urban area and taking of rehabilitation measures in a motorcade. At the briefing hall of the relief camp opened at Aung San Thuriya Hla Thaung Sports Ground in Kungyangon, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, who was closely supervising the relief and rehabilitation tasks in Kungyangon and Dedaye regions, reported to the Senior General on progress of work. After hearing the reports, the Senior General attended to the needs and gave guidance. After that, the Senior General greeted the victims at the relief camp and visited the dispensary where health care services were being provided to the victims.

Furthermore, the Senior General looked into supply of power through solar system, opening of CDMA communication centre, purifying of water from the tube-well for supply of drinking water, generating of electricity for the victims at the camp and cooking of food for the victims with the use of gas stoves and cordially greeted the storm victims.

Translation: ST+TTA

Senior General Than Shwe views drinking water at a relief camp in Hlinethaya Township. MNA

Senior General Than Shwe gives guidance on rescue and rehabilitation works at a relief camp in Kyonda Village, Dedaye Township. MNA

Senior General Than Shwe views relief aids at a relief camp in Dagon Myothit (North). MNA

Senior General Than Shwe visits a clinic at a relief camp in Dagon Myothit (South). MNA
Storm-hit areas will have been regenerated with thriving trees and crop plantations by next year

Hlaing Aung

During the storm ‘Nargis’, a large tree in front of my house was uprooted and the branches of many trees on Phaya Nyang Hill were broken off. So, from the balcony of my house, I have a wonderful view over the upper terrace of the glittering Shwedagon Pagoda. In the past, I could see only the lights from the lights from the pagoda, and I had an opportunity to behold the diamond orb of the pagoda from my house once in a blue moon. Unlike in the past, now I have a good view over the pagoda. So, I am somewhat grateful to the storm.

However, about 20 days after the storm, the clear view that I had hoped for did not have a clear view of the pagoda. It was because the trees were in leaf again. I thought the trees could recover from the strong wind naturally. The trees did not get any foreign assistance, nor did they see instant noodle packets. They were not provided with tents or purified water. Thanks to the showers after the storm, and the fertile soil, the trees soon started to come into leaf. Trees are able to rise from the natural disaster sooner, consuming the nutrient from the soil and water of the motherland. Human victims are not like trees, in this regard. They physically and mentally suffered the strong wind and tidal waves that brought death and destruction on a large scale. Their future was uncertain and they were not in a position to rise immediately from the destruction of the storm by themselves. Nevertheless, man is a social animal. So, they have been provided with relief supplies by international community. Relief items, massive influx of volunteers and machinery from the four corners of the country and relief funds and aid from global countries, organizations, individual donors and Myanmar people abroad are flowing continuously into the country. In two weeks after the natural disaster, the nation received cash and kind worth over K 7,300 million from local donors and over 2,900 tons of relief supplies from international community.

On 25 May, international organizations including 51 countries and UN agencies held the Pledging Conference. According to the resolutions passed at the conference, the global community pledged to provide relief supplies for the storm victims. I was very glad to hear the good news.

The conference also attracted a variety of comments, positive and negative. Some comments were based on loving-kindness and compassion, and some, on greed, anger, delusion and ill will.

In his introductory speech, the Prime Minister said that the country would warmly welcome any assistance and aid which were provided with genuine goodwill from any country or organization, provided that there were no strings attached or politicization involved; that those who provided funds or loans for the people of Myanmar that had suffered the strong wind and tidal waves on a large scale into the country when Myanmar started to open doors?; that only with free access would there be many more supplies. The term ‘free access’ is simple, but very effective. That also means that the donors will have to be kept open and they are to be given permission to inspect all the houses thoroughly at will. It is food for thought.

There had been one-sided accusations with negative view that the Myanmar government is forbidding international aid; the international community is not in a position to provide relief supplies despite its generosity; storm victims are going through the hell because of lack of international relief; about one million people are going to die of hunger; and there will be epidemic of cholera.

Waves that brought death and destruction on a large scale into the country when Myanmar started to open doors? Myanmar needs 11 billion US dollars for rehabilitation works. The amount of funds pledged is just over 150 million US dollars, much less than the amount of 201 million US dollars Mr Ban Ki-moon calculated for emergency supplies for three months.

Did all the donor countries and organizations donate relief supplies to the country without exploiting the situations for political gains? Many of them did so with compassion and goodwill. However.

I felt embarrassed when I noticed some events that reflected lack of goodwill. For instance, the spokesman of a world monetary organization that granted 25 million US dollars as emergency assistance to Indonesia that had come under Tsunami in 2004 said that the organization could not provide funds or loans for the people of Myanmar that had suffered the strong wind and tidal waves on a large scale.

A certain country decided to impose more economic sanctions against Myanmar even at a time when it knew that a severe storm would hit Myanmar soon. I would like to ask do such countries really have humanitarian spirit?

Myanmar people are capable enough of rising from such natural disasters even if they are not provided with international assistance. In fact, among the least developed countries, Myanmar is provided with least assistance of the international community, accounting for three dollars for a citizen in a year. However, Myanmar has been able to construct on self-reliant basis miles-long river-crossing bridges, miles-long mountain tunnels, hydropower stations each of which can generate thousands of megawatts a year, and hundreds of irrigation facilities.

Myanmar people are accepting warmly and wholeheartedly the relief from the international community for the victims to the storm Nargis.

Anyhow there have been many good foundations for Myanmar people living along the banks of the Ayeyawady River. Maybe they need temporarily instant noodle and biscuit packets. However, Myanmar people can easily get fish for dishes by just fishing in the fields and ditches. The dish of fish sauce and some species of vegetables such as water clover, asparagus and sensitive plant give a good appetite to Myanmar farmers. In the early monsoon, large edible frogs are abundant. The people of Ayeyawady Division can survive with self-reliant efforts even if they are not given chocolate bars from international community. None of the Myanmar people has died of starvation and hunger even in the time of the Japanese during the war time in which they had to withstand various forms of stresses and strains. Thanks to the Ayeyawady River, the delta does not go infertile completely in spite of seawater.

Now, the situations are not serious due to the supplies provided by the government, entrepreneurs, internal and international donor countries and organizations, as well as rehabilitation measures. The residents of Ayeyawady Division have to withstand the difficulties only this monsoon. In order to enable them to have resilience, the government, entrepreneurs and organizations are providing assorted supplies including shelters, food, paddy seeds for cultivation, tractors and cattle.

There were some voices saying that only with free access would there be many more supplies. The term ‘free access’ is simple, but very effective. That also means that the donors will have to be kept open and they are to be given permission to inspect all the houses thoroughly at will. It is food for thought.
**EU to establish free trade zone with Gulf countries**

**Brussels, 29 May**—The European Union and members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) hoped to establish terms for a free trade zone by the end of the year, officials from both sides said here on Monday.

“We are very close to an agreement,” said Chairman of the GCC ministers Ahmad Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, Qatar’s minister of state for foreign affairs. Al-Mahmoud, who met on Monday EU representatives in Brussels, said he hoped the signing of an agreement on the matter would be done this year.

He said that final agreement depends on some remaining technical questions for the GCC, which formed by Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, without giving further details. EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson said a few days ago in Egypt that the EU and the Gulf council “can close a deal this year.”

The two sides have been negotiating for a free trade zone since 2002.

**US Co to invest $41m in Malaysia**

**Kuala Lumpur, 29 May**—The US-based Honeywell International will invest via its two business groups, UOP LLC and Honeywell Aerospace, a total of 41 million US dollars in natural gas and aerospace businesses in Malaysia.

UOP will set up a natural gas processing design centre in Kuala Lumpur with an initial investment of five million US dollars by year-end, Honeywell’s Vice President of integrated supply chain, aerospace, and Mineral Resources Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said Wednesday.

“During the budget planning meeting, the president mentioned that we have to withdraw from OPEC and ... when I get back to the office ... I will sign that we withdraw from OPEC,” Yusgiantoro said.

But he said Indonesia, the only Southeast Asian member of the oil cartel, could rejoin OPEC if production increased in line with an ongoing effort to boost capacity.

The decline of Indonesia from a net oil exporter to a net oil importer had prompted the move to leave the group.

**Indonesia to pull out of OPEC**

**Jakarta, 29 May**—Indonesia will withdraw from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries as it has become a net oil importer, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said Wednesday.

“During the budget planning meeting, the president mentioned that we have to withdraw from OPEC and ... when I get back to the office ... I will sign that we withdraw from OPEC,” Yusgiantoro said.

But he said Indonesia, the only Southeast Asian member of the oil cartel, could rejoin OPEC if production increased in line with an ongoing effort to boost capacity.

The decline of Indonesia from a net oil exporter to a net oil importer had prompted the move to leave the group.

**Airbus looking around the world for 500 engineers**

**Berlin, 29 May**—European plane maker Airbus is looking around the world for 500 engineers and is having trouble finding qualified applicants in Europe, boss Thomas Enders said on Wednesday at the Berlin Air Show.

“We will recruit 500 engineers all over the world this year. We need the best and the brightest worldwide for our industry,” Enders told a news briefing.

“Our sector is very challenging, in big demand of highly skilled engineers. Unfortunately we don’t find them in Europe,” he added. The Airbus boss said that in particular he needed staff familiar with lightweight composite materials used to make the next generation of passenger jets and also electrical designers.

After bemoaning a sufficient supply of such candidates in Europe, Enders added: “We are looking for global partnerships.”

He noted that Airbus had opened training centres for engineers in countries where the air transport market was expected to grow, citing China, India and Russia.

**Britain cancels major healthcare IT contract with Fujitsu**

**London, 29 May**—Britain has cancelled a major contract with Fujitsu that was part of its ambitious programme to computerise healthcare records in England, a government spokeswoman confirmed Thursday.

The 10-year, 896-million-pound (1.1-billion-euro, 1.8-billion-dollar) agreement was originally signed in January 2004 and had been set to run to 2013.

But a spokeswoman for the National Health Service’s (NHS) Connecting for Health agency said a termination notice had been issued.

“Regrettably and despite best efforts by all parties, it has not been possible to reach an agreement on the core Fujitsu contract that is acceptable to all parties,” she told AFP.

Negotiations on the matter had been going on since July 2007, she added. —The NHS will therefore end the contract early by issuing a termination notice. Work has started immediately on planning the necessary arrangements.

**Crude prices rise back above 130 dollars**

**New York, 29 May**—Crude prices rose back above 130 US dollars Wednesday on Nigerian threat.

Crude prices received a fresh boost from Nigerian threat as Nigerian rebel group The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta threatened attacks on oil installations. Buying sentiment was bolstered by a report released by Morgan Stanley. The report said limits on world oil supply could easily lift Brent crude to an unprecedented 150 dollars a barrel.

Light, sweet crude for July delivery was up 2.18 to 131.03 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, July Brent crude futures rose 2.47 dollars to 130.78 dollars a barrel on the ICE Futures Exchange.
Hamas seeks mediation from Qatar, AL

Gaza, 29 May—Hamas on Monday confirmed it held contacts with the Arab League (AL) and Qatar to achieve reconciliation with rival Fatah movement of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

“The contact Hamas holds with the AL and Qatar regarding the reconciliation with Fatah are not new,” said Ahmed Yousef, an advisor to deposed Hamas premier Ismail Haneya.

Haneya and Hamas’ polifburochief Khaled Mashal asked AL secretary general Amr Moussa and the Qatari prince to arrange for the reconciliation, Yousef said, adding the recent calls were made after the AL and Qatar’s success in helping settling Lebanon crisis.

“The responses were positives and they promised to look into the request after consultations with all parties, including the Palestinian Presidency,” Yousef continued. However, Yousef also stated the talks between Hamas and Fatah were suspended at present and that personal efforts by officials from the two movements failed to find common ground for reconciliation.—MNA/Xinhua

Fe bank accounts for donors at home and abroad

Donors at home and abroad may deposit in and remit foreign currencies to the following accounts at Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank opened for the cyclone survivors.

Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account for USS is 1DA06-00002; Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account for Euro is 1EA06-00016 and Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account for Singapore $ is ISA-06-00002.

Claims Day Notice

MV KOTA TAMPAV VOY NO (189)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAV VOY NO (189) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.5.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Shipping Agency Department

Myanma Port Authority Agent for: MS Advance Container Lines PTE LTD

Telephone No: 256908/378316/376797

Claims Day Notice

MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (73)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (73) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.5.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Shipping Agency Department

Myanma Port Authority Agent for: MS Advance Container Lines PTE LTD

Telephone No: 256919/256916/256912

Invitation to Tender

Tender No. 4T(C)/PASA/PW/2008-2009

1. Sealed Tender is invited by the Public Works, Nay Pyi Taw Myanmar, The Ministry of Construction for the supply of STRAIGHT ASPHALT 80/100 Grade Metric Ton (10,000) in Drum.

2. Tender Closing Date is (13.6.2008 at 15:00 PM)

3. Tender Documents and detail specification are available at the Public Works, Procurement section stores Division, No(40) Public Works, Nay Pyi Taw, (2.6.2008) on Payment of Rs. 5000/-.(Five Thousand Kyats.)

4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Public Works, will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director

Public Works, Ministry of Construction

Nay Pyi Taw Ph: 067 407581, 407577

HPK approves fuel surcharge adjustments

Hong Kong, 29 May—Civil aviation authorities in Hong Kong announced on Monday they have given approval for 13 airlines to keep or adjust their passenger fuel surcharges, with most airlines expected to raise the surcharges by over 30 percent.

Surcharges for most of the short haul flights will rise from 125 Hong Kong dollars (16 US dollars) per passenger to 171 Hong Kong dollars (21.92 US dollars), while those for long haul flights will rise from 518 Hong Kong dollars (66.4 US dollars) to 710 Hong Kong dollars (91.22 US dollars) per passenger, the Civil Aviation Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government said.

The department said it approved the adjustment applications after considering changes in aviation fuel prices, the airline operators’ justifications, and other factors including the average charges levied by other airlines.

The surcharges remain reasonable after the adjustments, with short-haul and long-haul surcharges at about 41 percent and 68 percent of the average international levels respectively, the department said in a Press release.

MNA/Xinhua

Romania’s software piracy-related losses up 32% in 2007

Bucharest, 29 May—Romania lost 151 million US dollars in 2007 in software piracy-related cases, up 32 percent from the 2006 figures of 114 million, Business Software Alliance official Magda Popescu told a Press conference on Monday.

“The increase in the losses caused by software piracy in 2007 were first of all due to the spreading in the foreign exchange rates, and then because of the market expansion, although software piracy declined almost 6 percent over the year,” said Popescu.

Specialist surveys indicate that one third of the computer software traded globally is pirated. In the area of music software, piracy rate in Romania alone was 99 percent.

Microsoft Romania has joined forces with Romanian NGOs to carry out a public awareness campaign over the importance of intellectual property being observed. Called FalsSoft, the campaign is already underway in Bucharest City and Cluj City, as well as on the Internet.

“Microsoft has deployed specialist staff to 500 large shops in Romania that explain to sellers and buyers the difference between pirated and original software. Microsoft is also carrying out educational campaigns in schools,” said Microsoft Romania Licensing Manager Radu Opris.

MNA/Xinhua

Hizbollah not to use weapons in internal disputes

Beirut, 29 May—Hizbollah chief Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah said Monday that his group will prevent to use weapons in the internal disputes.

“The resistance weapons are directed towards the enemy,” Nasrallah addressed at the occasion of the “resistance liberation anniversary,” which marks the Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon in June 2000.

In a warning to the Lebanese leaders who are calling for disarmament Hizbollah, Nasrallah said “the arms of the state should not be used against any opposition party or for external projects that weakens Lebanon,” making it more clear by saying that “the state arms should not target the resistance and its arms.”
NASA’s Phoenix Mars lander commanded to unstack arm

WASHINGTON, 29 May — US Mars lander Phoenix, which touched down on Sunday at northern polar plains on Mars, successfully unstowed its robotic arm on Wednesday, according to NASA’s mission updates.

Early Wednesday, scientists leading Phoenix mission from the University of Arizona sent commands to move the lander’s robotic arm for the first time after its touchdown.

“It’s a series of seven moves, beginning with rotating the wrist to release the forearm from its launch restraints. Another series of moves releases the elbow from its launch restraints and moves the elbow from underneath the bio-barrier,” robotic arm manager Bob Bonitz of NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory explained.

The robotic arm is a critical part of the Phoenix Mars mission. It is needed to trench into the icy layers of northern polar Mars and deliver samples to instruments that will analyze what Mars is made of, what its water is like, and whether it is or has ever been a possible habitat for life.

“Phoenix is in perfect health,” JPL’s Barry Goldstein, Phoenix project manager, said on Wednesday.

The robotic arm’s first movement was delayed by one day when Tuesday’s commands from Earth did not get all the way to the Phoenix lander on Mars. The commands went to NASA’s Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) as planned, but the orbiter’s radio system for relaying commands to Phoenix temporarily shut off.

Wednesday morning’s uplink to Phoenix was planned with NASA’s Mars Odyssey orbiter as the relay. “We are using Odyssey as our primary link until we have a better understanding of what happened with MRO,” Goldstein said.

Cambodia’s fuel subsidies to cost $300m in 2008

Phnom Penh, 29 May — With discontent growing over rampant inflation, the Cambodian Government has claimed it will spend 300 million US dollars on fuel subsidies in 2008, local media reported Wednesday.

“We are trying to control inflation which is a phenomenon that influences Cambodia from outside by subsidizing gasoline,” Keat Chhon, Cambodian Minister of Economics and Finance, was quoted by the Mekong Times newspaper as saying.

Keat Chhon predicted the subsidies would cost the state 300 million US dollars by year’s end, the newspaper said.

The government still imposes the same tax on oil—309 US dollars per ton for gasoline and 267 US dollars for diesel—despite the fact imported oil has increased transport costs to over 1,000 US dollars per ton, Keat Chhon said.

Singapore’s polytechnic grads urged to keep learning

SINGAPORE, 29 May — Singapore’s polytechnic graduates were urged to take proactive steps to sharpen their competitive edge in the tidal waves of change brought about by globalization and technological advancement.

Singapore’s Senior Minister of State for Education Lui Tuck Yew made the call at the first session of the graduation ceremony of the Singapore Polytechnic on Tuesday.

Addressing 515 graduates from the School of Chemical & Life Sciences, he said “You will need to keep abreast of the latest trends and developments in the global market. Be proactive and be willing to take risks. For example, why not consider something new, try the entrepreneurial route, strike out on your own and set up your own business?”

He also urged the graduates to keep learning as they progress in their career. The recent years have seen an increasing number of polytechnic graduates pursuing higher education both locally and abroad.

Vietnam needs nearly $1.2b to combat floods

Hanoi, 29 May — Vietnam needs nearly 18.6 trillion Vietnamese dong (VND) (roughly 1.2 billion US dollars) to deal with floods in its central region between 2008 and 2010. The money will be spent mainly on reinforcing irrigation works and dyes, dredging river beds, and enhancing afforestation, local newspaper Young People reported Wednesday.

The money will also be used to resettle 21,300 households in areas vulnerable to floods in 11 cities and provinces, and financially assist local people in building reinforced houses.

Natural disasters, mainly floods, hail, landslide and storms, claimed 435 lives and left 850 others missing or injured in Vietnam in 2007, causing total property losses of some 725 million US dollars, according to the country’s General Statistics Office.

Swiss firm “successfully” tests malaria vaccine

BEIJING, 29 May — A Swiss firm said that it has successfully tested a malaria vaccine, media reported on Thursday.

Mymetics, who acquired the trial vaccine from Swiss research and development company Pevion Biotech, said it had carried out clinical trials in humans in Britain and Switzerland.

Studies on Tanzanian children and teenagers in areas where malaria is prevalent are also underway, Mymetics said.

The company also said: “It could be marketed as early as 2014.”

It could take up to three years to complete clinical trials, which would set a timetable of roughly six years for the vaccination to obtain full approval, it said.

Malaria is a deadly parasitic infection passed on from infected mosquitoes to humans, and strikes mainly in tropical and subtropical environments.
**SPORTS**

**Zidane pulls out of Australia trip**

SYDNEY, 29 May — Three-times World Player of the Year Zinedine Zidane has pulled out of a planned trip to Australia for personal reasons, local media reported on Thursday. The former France playmaker was due to help the Azzurri win the World Cup at the start of the month while suspended last Wednesday in Moscow.

Injury rules Drogba out of World Cup qualifier

ABIDJAN, 29 May — Didier Drogba will miss Ivory Coast's opening World Cup qualifier against Mozambique on Sunday because of injury, the Ivorian Football Federation said on Wednesday.

No details were given of the injury but the Chelsea striker joins Aruna Dindane and Gneri Yaya Touré on the sidelines for the African zone Group Seven match in Abidjan.

Drogba was sent off during extra time in last Wednesday's Champions League final defeat by Manchester United in Moscow.

Racing Lens striker Dindane was ruled out for six months after rupturing knee ligaments at the start of the month while Barcelona midfielder Touré recently underwent back surgery.

New Ivory Coast coach Fiorentina sign

AC Milan's Gilardino

MILAN, 29 May — Out-of-favour AC Milan striker Alberto Gilardino has signed for Fiorentina, the two Serie A clubs said on Wednesday.

The 25-year-old endured a frustrating season where he was often behind Filippo Inzaghi and Alessandro Pato in the pecking order at the San Siro. He managed just seven league goals and missed out a place in Italy’s Euro 2008 squad despite helping the Azzurri win the World Cup two years ago.— MNA/Reuters

**Report says German soccer clubs top profits league**

**Terry goal leads England to 2-0 win over United States**

LONDON, 29 May — John Terry bounced back from his traumatic penalty miss in last week's Champions League final to score England's opening goal in their 2-0 win over the United States in a friendly international at Wembley on Wednesday.

Although the goal was no real consolation for the nightmare he suffered in Moscow when his penalty miss cost Chelsea the chance of becoming European champions, it was hugely celebrated by his teammates and the crowd alike.

Steven Gerrard added England's second after 59 minutes to give Fabio Capello his second win in his third match as England boss.

But overall the two teams provided little quality entertainment for the 71,000 crowd although the second half was a vast improvement on a woeful opening 45 minutes.

Terry, captain for the night as Capello rotates his candidates for the armband before deciding on his permanent choice, had a masterful game at the centre of defence alongside Rio Ferdinand and capped his performance with the opening goals after 38 minutes.

It was his first goal for England since he scored in their first international at the new Wembley against Brazil almost exactly a year ago.

He was the first to react to a well-flighted free kick from David Beckham, winning his 101st cap, and headed down powerfully, ironically from close to the penalty spot, leaving US goalkeeper Tim Howard helpless to save it.— MNA/Reuters

**Russia beat Serbia 2-1 in warm-up**

BURGHHAUSEN (Germany), 29 May — Russia recorded their second successive victory in the run-up to Euro 2008 by beating Serbia 2-1 in their penultimate friendly on Wednesday.

The Russians, who crushed an experimental Kazakhstan side 6-0 last Friday in Moscow, dominated for much of the game, played in the small German town of Burghausen.

Zenit St Petersburg striker Pavel Pogrebnyak opened the scoring with a 25-metre free kick, blasting the ball into the top corner in the 12th minute before limping off with a knee injury just a few minutes later. Marko Pantelic equalized for Serbia five minutes before the break after going one-on-one with Russia keeper Igor Akinfeyev.

Roman Pavlyuchenko, who replaced the injured Pogrebnyak, fired the winner from close range three minutes into the second half after a cross from Dmitry Sychev.— MNA/Reuters

**Fiorentina sign AC Milan’s Gilardino**

A FIFA World Cup picture is projected onto the base of the Sidney Harbour Bridge after the opening ceremony of the 58th FIFA congress in Sydney on 29 May, 2008. Delegates of 203 countries attended the congress which will run until 30 May.— INTERNET

**K J Choi, of South Korea, watches his tee shot during the pro-am invitational for the Memorial golf tournament on 28 May, 2008, in Columbus, Ohio.— INTERNET**

**Russia’s Maria Sharapova serves to compatriot Evgeniya Rodina during their French Open match at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris Wednesday. Sharapova prevailed 6-1, 3-6, 6-4.— Xinhua**

**MNA/Reuters**
2. To be healthy

3. Morning news

4. The mirror images of the musical oldies

8:00 am

5. Osaka

8:15 am

6. SiP

8:30 am

7. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. Myanmar

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:45 am

4. Cotut

8:00 am

5. Cute little dancers

4:50 pm

6. Songs of Yesteryears

4:25 pm

7. National Spirit

5:30 pm

8. Song to uphold

6:00 pm

9. News

6:30 pm

10. Report

7:00 pm

11. National Sports

7:30 pm

12. Football

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International news

15. Weather report

16. Myanmar video

2:00 pm

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 30 May, 2008

WEATHER
Thursday, 29 May, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hour MST:

During the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon has advanced in the Central Myanmar areas. Weather has been partly cloudy in Chin State and Magway Division, rains and thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Kayin State, Upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Day tempratures were (60°) above May average temperatures in Taninthary Division, (30°) to (40°) below. May average temperatures in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mogok (2.80) inches, Kyaukpyu and Launglon (2.52) inches each, Ye (2.20) inches, Dawei (1.85) inches, Kalewa (1.81) inches and Sittway (1.46) inches.

Maximum temperature on 28-5-2008 was 88.0°F. Minimum temperature on 29-5-2008 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 29-5-2008 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 28-5-2008 was (1.7) hours approx. Rainfall on 29-5-2008 was (0.71) inch at Mingaladon, (0.83) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.47) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (28.70) inches at Mingaladon, (33.66) inches at Kaba-Aye and (40.55) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 28-5-2008.

Bay inference:

Rainfall on 29-5-2008 was (0.71) inch at Mingaladon, (0.83) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.47) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (28.70) inches at Mingaladon, (33.66) inches at Kaba-Aye and (40.55) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 28-5-2008.

Outlook for subsequent two days:

Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthary Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions, scattered in Mandalay and Magway Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (90%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days:

Likelihood of advancement Southwest monsoon in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-5-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-5-2008: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-5-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).
Make donations to the storm victims

- Everybody may make donations freely.
- Everybody may make donations to any person or any area.

However, wellwishers are urged to avoid unsystematic donations and acts that may tarnish the image of the nation and its people.

**Power-tillers, cash and kind for storm victims donated in Shan State (East) for second time**

YANGON, 29 May—The second donation ceremony of Shan State (East) for storm victims was held at the city hall in Kengtung on 27 May morning, attended by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing.

The commander accepted 10 power-tillers worth K 9 million and K 10 million donated by Triangle Region Command; 10 power-tillers worth K 9 million by Shan State (East) PDC; 20 power-tillers worth K 18 million by U Kyaw Kyaw of Special Region-2; 10 power-tillers worth K 9 million by Tachilek Township; 20 power-tillers worth K 18 million by Monghsat District and Township; 10,800 bags of cement worth K 39,960,000 by Kwanmin Chinese Temple and Shwe Nandaw Department Store in Tachilek; 200 bags of cement, foodstuff and equipment worth K 136,522,000 by Wazi pek Sayaw of Kengtung and disciples from Thailand; cash and foodstuff worth K 25,533,770 by shopkeepers of Kengtung Myoma Market; medicines worth K 5.5 million by U Thein Htaik, U Myint Htay and family; K 500,000 by U Nyi Lin of Mongpauk, K 4 million by Merchants Association of Tachilek; and 200,000 baht by Regina Hotel of Tachilek.

Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lin, Additional Commissioner U Mya Aung of Shan State (East) General Administration Department accepted cash and kind donated by other wellwishers.

After the ceremony, the commander and officials inspected preparations for sending 50 power-tillers to the storm-hit regions by vehicle.

On 23 May, 20 power-tillers, foodstuff and personal goods donated by local people were transported from Kengtung to the storm-hit regions.

At the second donation ceremony, wellwishers donated K 32,091,320 and relief supplies worth K 279,744,250 including 50 power-tillers and other donations. Under the supervision of Shan State (East) PDC, arrangements are being made to send cash and relief supplies to the storm-hit regions. — MNA

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After the ceremony, the commander and officials inspected preparations for sending 50 power-tillers to the storm-hit regions by vehicle.

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At the second donation ceremony, wellwishers donated K 32,091,320 and relief supplies worth K 279,744,250 including 50 power-tillers and other donations. Under the supervision of Shan State (East) PDC, arrangements are being made to send cash and relief supplies to the storm-hit regions. — MNA

YANGON, 29 May—The second donation ceremony of Shan State (East) for storm victims was held at the city hall in Kengtung on 27 May morning, attended by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing.

The commander accepted 10 power-tillers worth K 9 million and K 10 million donated by Triangle Region Command; 10 power-tillers worth K 9 million by Shan State (East) PDC; 20 power-tillers worth K 18 million by U Kyaw Kyaw of Special Region-2; 10 power-tillers worth K 9 million by Tachilek Township; 20 power-tillers worth K 18 million by Monghsat District and Township; 10,800 bags of cement worth K 39,960,000 by Kwanmin Chinese Temple and Shwe Nandaw Department Store in Tachilek; 200 bags of cement, foodstuff and equipment worth K 136,522,000 by Wazi pek Sayaw of Kengtung and disciples from Thailand; cash and foodstuff worth K 25,533,770 by shopkeepers of Kengtung Myoma Market; medicines worth K 5.5 million by U Thein Htaik, U Myint Htay and family; K 500,000 by U Nyi Lin of Mongpauk, K 4 million by Merchants Association of Tachilek; and 200,000 baht by Regina Hotel of Tachilek.

Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lin, Additional Commissioner U Mya Aung of Shan State (East) General Administration Department accepted cash and kind donated by other wellwishers.

After the ceremony, the commander and officials inspected preparations for sending 50 power-tillers to the storm-hit regions by vehicle.

On 23 May, 20 power-tillers, foodstuff and personal goods donated by local people were transported from Kengtung to the storm-hit regions.

At the second donation ceremony, wellwishers donated K 32,091,320 and relief supplies worth K 279,744,250 including 50 power-tillers and other donations. Under the supervision of Shan State (East) PDC, arrangements are being made to send cash and relief supplies to the storm-hit regions. — MNA

**Collective monsoon paddy ploughing ceremony held in Dedaye Township**

YANGON, 29 May—A collective monsoon paddy ploughing ceremony for 2008 was held in Chaungphya Village of Dedaye Township on 27 May.

At the ceremony, 20.10 acre-farmland of farmer U Nyunt Maung and 5.28 acre-farmland of U Win Myint Aung have been put under the plough with the use of one-wheeled tillers, and Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council U Myo Aung and chairmen of the villages attended the ceremony.

To meet the target of 182,143 acres of monsoon paddy, 20 one-wheeled tillers, 151 Leyar-22 brand power-tillers and 33 Leyar-16 power-tillers will be used in the place of storm-swept draught cattle and agricultural equipment. — MNA

**FE bank accounts for donors at home and abroad**

YANGON, 29 May—Donors at home and abroad may deposit in and remit foreign currencies into the following accounts at Myanma Foreign Trade Bank opened for the cyclone survivors.

Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account for US$ is 1DA06-00002; Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account for Euro 1EA06-00016 and Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account for Singapore $ is 1SA 06-00002. — MNA

**Weather Forecast for (30-5-2008)**

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area:
One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon and neighbouring area:
Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Mandalay and neighbouring area:
One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).