Established 1914
Volume XVI, Number 47                   1st Waxing of Nayon 1370 ME     Wednesday, 4 June, 2008

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

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

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greets Indian medical team led by Mr Prafull in Bogale Township.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visits storm-hit villages in three townships

Requirements will be provided in cooperation with region in-charge ministers, national entrepreneurs and departments concerned

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye comforts storm victims at a relief camp in Hlinephone village in Labutta Township.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 June – Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, accompanied by Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Vice-Chairman of NDPC Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thiha Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, members of NDPC ministers, deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office and officials, arrived in Mawlamyinegyun Township by helicopter from Pathein yesterday.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt who is closely supervising (See page 7)

Tasks for building of roads and bridges, fulfillment of food, clothing and shelter needs and resuming of the livelihoods of storm victims are to be carried out in a speedy and systematic manner.
Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe accepts US $1 million donated by Brunei at Central Bank relief and rehabilitation tasks

Achievement in implementing the relief and rehabilitation tasks

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, storms, volcanic eruptions and floods often occur worldwide. A great number of lives are lost and a large amount of property is destroyed within a very short time.

Myanmar encountered unprecedented severe cyclonic storm and many people were killed and loss of property reached billions of kyats.

The government has undertaken relief and rehabilitation tasks in the storm-hit areas spending a large sum of money on the priority tasks plus disaster preparedness measures the long run.

The government on its part managed to carry out relief operations speedily. Now the people, local authorities and national entrepreneurs are making endeavours for reconstruction of townships and villages and raising of socio-economic life of local people with greater momentum.

Rehabilitation tasks including reconstruction of destroyed village, temporary accommodation, transport, health, communications and power supply are being carried out in cooperation with the respective companies.

The government will build embankments that prevent the inflow of salty water and repair sluice gates and provide paddy seeds, cattle and farm implements for cultivation of paddy. The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Fisheries Federation will also provide the fishery workers with fishing gear in conformity with the requirements of the region concerned.

It is the concerted efforts of the government, the people and the national entrepreneurs with nationalistic spirit that achievements have been made in implementing the relief and rehabilitation tasks after the storm.

**PERSPECTIVES**

**Wednesday, 4 June, 2008**

Achievement in implementing the relief and rehabilitation tasks

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, storms, volcanic eruptions and floods often occur worldwide. A great number of lives are lost and a large amount of property is destroyed within a very short time.

Myanmar encountered unprecedented severe cyclonic storm and many people were killed and loss of property reached billions of kyats.

The government has undertaken relief and rehabilitation tasks in the storm-hit areas spending a large sum of money on the priority tasks plus disaster preparedness measures the long run.

The government on its part managed to carry out relief operations speedily. Now the people, local authorities and national entrepreneurs are making endeavours for reconstruction of townships and villages and raising of socio-economic life of local people with greater momentum.

Rehabilitation tasks including reconstruction of destroyed village, temporary accommodation, transport, health, communications and power supply are being carried out in cooperation with the respective companies.

The government will build embankments that prevent the inflow of salty water and repair sluice gates and provide paddy seeds, cattle and farm implements for cultivation of paddy. The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Fisheries Federation will also provide the fishery workers with fishing gear in conformity with the requirements of the region concerned.

It is the concerted efforts of the government, the people and the national entrepreneurs with nationalistic spirit that achievements have been made in implementing the relief and rehabilitation tasks after the storm.

**S’pore medical team donates medicines, medical equipment to MoH**

YANGON, 3 June — Singapore Medical Team donated medicines and medical equipment to be used in health care services in storm-hit areas to Ministry of Health today.

Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong handed over medicines and medical equipment worth US $110,000 to Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo at Yangon General Hospital.

At the donation ceremony, Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong explained the purpose of the donation and Dr Mya Oo presented a certificate of honour to the Singaporean medical team.

**Energy Deputy Minister inspects ploughing of farmlands in Kungyangon**

YANGON, 3 June — CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay on 29 May supervised the ploughing of farmlands with the help of power tillers by employees of Agricultural Mechanization Department and farmers to grow monsoon paddy at Kamapa Village in Kungyangon Township.

The deputy minister inspected the low-cost housing units constructed by Asia World Co and met with the district, township and village PDC members and officials of Myanmar Agricultural Service at Zartiman Hall in the township. He gave instructions on them to provide paddy strain to farmers and double cropping in the season. A total of 4,000 acres of farmlands have been ploughed and grown paddy.

**MRCs donates relief supplies in Kungyangon**

YANGON, 3 June — Team led by Myanmar Red Cross Society secretary Dr Hla Pe and executive member Dr Tun Myint accompanied by members of Township Red Cross battalion made donation at Kyakatgonelay, Ahateik, Thikeikgon, Seikkanthar, Kyaiq Pat and Incok villages in Kungyangon Township on 1 June morning. Donations are worth K 12 million and include 1,000 tarpaulin, one water purifying tablets box, 2,660 packages of dry noodle, 1,500 boxes of canned fish, 50 packets of curry, four packages of Ovaltine, 1,000 pairs of slipper, 500 personal goods, 500 emergency goods, five packets of rehydration salt. — MNA

**Gifts for Myanmar Red Cross Society**

YANGON, 3 June — Dagon Kyaw Co Ltd donated four fibre boats worth K 2.45 million to Myanmar Red Cross Society (Head Office) at No 42 Strand Road in Botataung Township here today. The society president Professor Dr Tha Hla Shwe and Executive Director Col Khin Maung Hla (Red) accepted the donations and spoke words of thanks.

The four boats will be used in the health, social and relief works for storm victims. — MNA
Pressure mounts on Clinton to bow out

RAID CITY (South Dakota), 3 June—Speculation is rife that Hillary Clinton may be about to bow out of the White House race, edging Barack Obama closer to becoming the first ever black US Presidential. Democrats in South Dakota and Montana are casting their votes today in the last primaries of the marathon contest. And the junior senator from Illinois is expected to win the lion’s share of the 31 pledged delegates on offer, potentially clinching his place in the history books.

But he will still need the support of about 30 undecided superdelegates to take him over the finishing line.

Around 170 have yet to make up their minds: many are congress men and women whose seats are also up for election in November.

They want to make sure they are backing a winner.

In last hours of the primaries Hillary Clinton has been maintaining that she would be the strongest nominee against John McCain in November’s general election.

She lays claim to a lead in the popular vote, although her calculations include Florida, where neither candidate campaigned and Michigan, where Obama’s name wasn’t even on the ballot.

There is increasing pressure on Clinton to either suspend her campaign or pull out entirely so the party faithful can coalesce around the victor.

Even her husband Bill was dropping hints.

“This may be the last day I’m ever involved in a campaign of this kind,” he said.

Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the US House of Representatives and chairwoman of the Democratic Convention, has intervened and urged superdelegates to make up their minds quickly.

Iraq security forces free 3 kidnapped physicians

TIKRIT (Iraq), 3 June—Iraqi security forces freed three physicians kidnapped in the country’s western province of Salahudin a month ago, a source from the Joint Coordination Centre (JCC) said told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

He pointed out that information obtained from Anbar Province said that the three physicians, including the head of Tikrit main hospital, his assistant and a third one, have been transported to a medical facility for treatment and check up.

The source from Anbar Province said that the three physicians including the head of Tikrit main hospital, his assistant and a third one, have been transported to a medical facility for treatment and check up.

Ayatollah vows Iran’s nuclear programme will go on

THERAN, 3 June—Iran’s supreme leader said Tuesday that “no wise nation” would pursue nuclear weapons but his country will continue to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appeared to be reacting to suggestions by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Tehran may be withholding information on secret attempts to make nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the head of the IAEA, told the 35 nations on the agency’s board that the Islamic Republic had not provided requested information needed for his investigation.

“Iran is after the peaceful use of nuclear energy and we will strongly pursue and reach it despite the envy of our enemies,” Khamenei said at a ceremony Tuesday honouring the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Space shuttle docks at station with Japanese lab

Houston, 3 June—Space shuttle Discovery slipped into a parking spot at the International Space Station on Monday after a two-day voyage to deliver Japan’s first orbital laboratory while managers on the ground assessed damage beneath the Discovery’s launch pad.

NASA officials revealed on Monday that bricks and mortar came off a trench beneath the seaside launch pad at Cape Canaveral in Florida as Discovery blasted off on Saturday, but they said it could be repaired before the pad is needed next.

The concrete- fortified trench helps to deflect the intense heat of shuttle launches. Apart from that problem, the mission — which is devoted to the installation of Japan’s orbital laboratory — was smooth sailing. “It’s one big happy spaceship now... Just a flawless day,” said lead shuttle flight director Matt Abbott.

Commander Mark Kelly lined up Discovery’s docking port with a matching clasp on the space station’s Harmony module, which serves as the vestibule for visiting space shuttles.

The docking rings locked together at 2:03 pm EDT (7:03 pm British time), 210 miles (338 km) above the south Pacific.

Study says widespread vitamin D deficiency poses Risk

CHICAGO, 3 June—Many young children do not get enough vitamin D, an often invisible deficiency that can show up as broken bones or a weakened immune system prone to disease, researchers said on Monday.

Two out of five US children aged 8 months to 2 years who took part in a 380-patient study at Children’s Hospital Boston had less-than-optimal blood levels of vitamin D.

The main risk factors were not drinking enough fortified milk, not taking vitamins and being overweight, said the report published in the Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine.

Lead researcher Catherine Gordon Children’s Hospital Boston said the 40 per cent deficiency rate “is higher than expected in a country that has vitamin D fortified milk.” —MNA/Reuters

Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

The U.S and its allies accuse Iran of having a secret nuclear weapons programme. In turn, Khamenei accused the US of using nuclear energy to maintain its dominance over other nations in the world.

He also warned against nuclear terrorism, saying that one day “world terrorists could attain nuclear weapons and take peace away from all the people in the world.” —Internet

Ayatollah vows Iran’s nuclear programme will go on

THERAN, 3 June—Iran’s supreme leader said Tuesday that “no wise nation” would pursue nuclear weapons but his country will continue to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appeared to be reacting to suggestions by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Tehran may be withholding information on secret attempts to make nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the head of the IAEA, told the 35 nations on the agency’s board that the Islamic Republic had not provided requested information needed for his investigation.

“Iran is after the peaceful use of nuclear energy and we will strongly pursue and reach it despite the envy of our enemies,” Khamenei said at a ceremony Tuesday honouring the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Ayatollah vows Iran’s nuclear programme will go on

THERAN, 3 June—Iran’s supreme leader said Tuesday that “no wise nation” would pursue nuclear weapons but his country will continue to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appeared to be reacting to suggestions by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Tehran may be withholding information on secret attempts to make nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the head of the IAEA, told the 35 nations on the agency’s board that the Islamic Republic had not provided requested information needed for his investigation.

“Iran is after the peaceful use of nuclear energy and we will strongly pursue and reach it despite the envy of our enemies,” Khamenei said at a ceremony Tuesday honouring the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Ayatollah vows Iran’s nuclear programme will go on

THERAN, 3 June—Iran’s supreme leader said Tuesday that “no wise nation” would pursue nuclear weapons but his country will continue to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appeared to be reacting to suggestions by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Tehran may be withholding information on secret attempts to make nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the head of the IAEA, told the 35 nations on the agency’s board that the Islamic Republic had not provided requested information needed for his investigation.

“Iran is after the peaceful use of nuclear energy and we will strongly pursue and reach it despite the envy of our enemies,” Khamenei said at a ceremony Tuesday honouring the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Ayatollah vows Iran’s nuclear programme will go on

THERAN, 3 June—Iran’s supreme leader said Tuesday that “no wise nation” would pursue nuclear weapons but his country will continue to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appeared to be reacting to suggestions by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Tehran may be withholding information on secret attempts to make nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the head of the IAEA, told the 35 nations on the agency’s board that the Islamic Republic had not provided requested information needed for his investigation.

“Iran is after the peaceful use of nuclear energy and we will strongly pursue and reach it despite the envy of our enemies,” Khamenei said at a ceremony Tuesday honouring the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Ayatollah vows Iran’s nuclear programme will go on

THERAN, 3 June—Iran’s supreme leader said Tuesday that “no wise nation” would pursue nuclear weapons but his country will continue to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appeared to be reacting to suggestions by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Tehran may be withholding information on secret attempts to make nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the head of the IAEA, told the 35 nations on the agency’s board that the Islamic Republic had not provided requested information needed for his investigation.

“Iran is after the peaceful use of nuclear energy and we will strongly pursue and reach it despite the envy of our enemies,” Khamenei said at a ceremony Tuesday honouring the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Ayatollah vows Iran’s nuclear programme will go on

THERAN, 3 June—Iran’s supreme leader said Tuesday that “no wise nation” would pursue nuclear weapons but his country will continue to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appeared to be reacting to suggestions by the International Atomic Energy Agency that Tehran may be withholding information on secret attempts to make nuclear weapons.

Mohamed ElBaradei, the head of the IAEA, told the 35 nations on the agency’s board that the Islamic Republic had not provided requested information needed for his investigation.

“Iran is after the peaceful use of nuclear energy and we will strongly pursue and reach it despite the envy of our enemies,” Khamenei said at a ceremony Tuesday honouring the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.
Two US soldiers injured in Iraq helicopter crash

BAGHDAD, 3 June — A US helicopter crashed south of Baghdad on Sunday, injuring two soldiers, the US military said.

“Preliminary indications point to a mechanical failure as the cause of the crash, but an investigation will be conducted to determine what happened,” the military said in a statement.

It did not say whether anyone else was on board or identify what type of helicopter was involved in the crash.

The US military in Iraq mostly uses Apache attack helicopters and Black Hawks, which are usually deployed to transport soldiers round the country. — MNA/Reuters

Two NATO soldiers killed in suicide blast in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 3 June — Two soldiers serving the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed and four soldiers were wounded in a suicide car bombing Saturday in eastern Afghan province of Nangahar, the military alliance said.

An ISAF convoy was struck by a suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device in the region, resulting in two deaths and four injuries of the soldiers, an officer at ISAF Press office confirmed with Xinhua, but did not say where and when the attack happened exactly.

An additional improvised explosive device and an unexploded ordinance were found at the site, according to the ISAF. — MNA/Xinhua

Minister says Brown leadership speculation “nonsense”

LONDON, 3 June — Two leading government ministers sprang to the defence of Britain’s embattled Prime Minister Gordon Brown on Sunday, eager to quash speculation about a leadership challenge as his poll ratings tumble.

Just one year after taking over from Tony Blair, Brown has been beset by a barrage of problems — voters are punishing him over the flagging economy, soaring fuel and food prices and a botched tax reform.

With media speculation rife about Brown’s future on the eve of Parliament returning on Monday from its latest break, Justice Secretary Jack Straw sought to calm nerves and quell mutineers.

“Speculation about the leadership, frankly, is nonsense. He is the best leader that we could possibly have and he will see us through these difficulties,” the veteran minister told BBC TV.

Business Secretary John Hutton made equally loyal noises, telling Sky News: “Gordon is the right leader for our party and for our government.”

“I think unity is essential for progress in politics, so we should get behind the leader that we ourselves have chosen”, he added.

Brown, who last month lost a safe parliamentary seat and received an ignominious drubbing in local elections, does not have to call a national election until 2010 when he hopes the economy will have had time to recover. — MNA/Reuters

Earthquake survivors carry their belongings out from damaged apartment in Hanwang town, Sichuan Province of China, on 2 June, 2008. China vowed Monday that health and safety measures introduced in the wake of last month’s massive earthquake would prevent any epidemics in the disaster zone. — Internet

Australian troops pull out of Iraq

NASSIRIYA, (Iraq), 3 June — About 500 Australian combat troops pulled out of their base in southern Iraq on Sunday, fulfilling an election promise by Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to bring the soldiers home this year.

A British military spokesman in the southern city of Basra said the pullout from Tallah base in Nassiriya was under way, but a spokesman for the governor of Dhi Qar Province said it had been completed, with US forces replacing the Australians.

“The Australian battle group is pulling out,” the British military spokesman said.

Australia, a staunch ally, was one of the first countries to commit troops to the Iraq war. In addition to the combat troops, it also deployed aircraft and warships to the Gulf to protect Iraq’s offshore oil platforms. — MNA/Reuters

S Korea says DPRK tests missiles into Yellow Sea

SEOUL, 3 June — The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) tested three short-range missiles into Yellow Sea on Friday, the South Korean government said on Saturday.

The DPRK on Friday fired three ship-to-ship missiles, believed to be former Soviet-made Styx with a known range of some 45 kilometres, South Korea’s Yonhap news agency quoted an unnamed official of the Defence Ministry as saying.

It was the second time that DPRK had tested short-range missiles in the Yellow Sea this year, Yonhap said. Officials of the Defence Ministry said Friday’s missile tests were “part of a regular exercise (by the DPRK) to check the performance of the missiles”, Yonhap reported. — MNA/Xinhua
The UN has designated the 5th of June, 2008 as the “World Environmental Day” and this year’s theme happens to be “Kick the Habit!” and which means, discarding the habit of producing increasing carbon dioxide, and practicing the habit of “Towards a lesser carbon economy”.

The chemical and thermal dynamics of global warming are extremely complex, and though skepticism of it still exists to this day, CO₂ (carbon dioxide) in particular, has been claimed as instrumental in global warming and climate change.

And since the industrial revolution, we have been producing increasing quantities of CO₂ and unloading them into the global atmosphere. In 1985, “the monthly average of carbon dioxide concentration, was only about 315 parts of million parts of air, and has begun to grow beyond 360 ppm, presently. It is conceived that the build up of CO₂ concentrations, play a crucial role in generation of green-house-gas-effects, and which in turn triggers global warming and changes in weather.

The fuel wood that feeds our fires, the coal, oil and natural gas that fuel our furnaces, heating our households and the gasoline that runs our cars, all unfortunately produce carbon dioxide. It seems that, we have been breathing into the air, CO₂, since the industrial revolution. No doubt, forests act as carbon sinks, but with the rapid destruction of forests, their role has been waning day by day.

It seems appropriate that the UN’s Environmental Day comes in the wake of cyclone “Nargis” that caused serious damage in some areas of Myanmar, in particular, the deltaic region. Myanmar has been used to squalls of 40 to 45 miles per hour winds—and when the Special Weather Forecast announced an impending cyclone of 60 to 80 mph winds, it caused panic among some quarters. Some of my friends, who owned durian gardens, propped up their trees and saved them from uprooting, but many were caught unaware.

Cyclone “Nargis”, perhaps hit the Deltaic Region with wind speeds of Category 3 (100 mph winds), and eased out on passing other divisions. It therefore seems that the intensity of cyclones or hurricanes are more important than their frequency.

Scientists studying global hurricane frequency and intensity, over the past 35 years, have found that Category 1, 2 and 3 (100 mph winds), have fallen slightly. While category 4 and 5 (over 100 mph)—the most potent ones have risen strikingly, and since 1990 have doubled.

Myanmar is an agricultural country; still has plenty of fallow land; is blessed with substantial forest cover and is a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol—and has been closely following the tenets of the UN. Myanmar is striving to transform its energy usage in spite of its plentiful oil and natural gas reserves.

It is heartening to learn that many Governments have turned green and it is hoped that the United Nations will remain in the vanguard in finding solutions to such complex problems. In fifty years, the era of fossil fuels will be over—and hydrogen, wind, solar and nuclear will be meeting most of the global energy needs—and we look forward to that day.

* * * *

**World Environmental Day**

By Yenanmyay Ko Tin

YANGON, 3 June — Mr Charnvit Jarusombathi, double A Senior Executive Vice President, met U Ye Win, Myanmar ambassador to Thailand, at the Myanmar Embassy to donate 1 million Baht worth of aid and other materials to help those hit by Cyclone Nargis. Double A Book Tower in Thailand is set to be distributed to the cyclone-hit regions. The donation will run until 31st May 2008.

**Double A donates 1 million Baht for victims**

**Relief supplies continue to arrive at Yangon International Airport**

YANGON, 3 June — As the international community has been donating relief supplies to the storm victims, IL-76 aircraft carrying 37 tons of tarps donated by Red Cross Relief Supplies Co Ltd of the People’s Republic of China, five C-130 aircraft carrying 27,439 tons of mugs, aluminium pans, plastic sheets, tooth brushes, blankets, clothing, mosquito nets, water purifiers and accessories, water tanks donated by the USA, 8M-332 aircraft carrying 4.78 tons of clothing donated by Baiyoke Hotel Group, C-130 aircraft carrying 10.98 tons of soft drinks, milk powder, salt, noodles, water purification materials donated by monks ,nuns and Buddhists from Thailand, A-12 aircraft carrying 7.86 tons of tents, plastic sheets, hovercrafts donated by Red Cross Society of Denmark, A-300 aircraft carrying 37,315 tons of plastic sheets donated by Department for International Development (DFID) from Britain, IL-76 aircraft carrying 46 tons of medicines, blankets, tents, water purification materials donated by Ukraine, DC-8 aircraft carrying 36,993 tons of medicines, buckets donated by Swiss-based Doctors Without Borders arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

Likewise, IL-76 aircraft carrying construction materials, life-jackets, tents, weighing 33,794 tons donated by Cambodian-based WFP had arrived at Yangon International Airport yesterday evening.

Relief supplies donated by donors from abroad have been sent to storm-hit regions by vehicle, by helicopter and by vessel immediately.—MNA
A constitution is the agreement reached between the government and the people. In other words, it is the charter of harmonious existence of various national races of a nation.

Now, the referendum for approval of the State constitution (draft) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been held in all the 325 townships of the country. Of over 27 million eligible voters (27,288,827), nearly 27 million (26,776,675) or 98.12 per cent cast vote.

Of the voters, nearly 25 million (24,764,124) or 92.48 per cent voted ‘yes’, thereby approving the State constitution (draft). So, the referendum has approved the State constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

It is said that the approval of the majority of the people is necessary for a constitution. It will be the best if the constitution is approved with the support of 99.99 per cent of the voters. However, 92.48 per cent is much more than the required number of supporters to make the constitution come into force.

In fact, approval of just over half the number of the voters is not enough to ensure perpetual existence of a nation. Only with the support and approval of the large majority of the entire people can a constitution be accepted to be safe.

The 1974 constitution came into existence with the approval of 90.39 per cent of the voters in the referendum. At that time, the nation was practising the one-party system. The degree of anti-government sentiment of internal and external elements was not as high as that at present. However, the percentage of the public support for the State constitution now is higher than that.

What does the support of 92.48 per cent of the voters for the constitution reflect? It has indicated that the entire people are determined to protect the Union, which their ancestors unified in the course of history of the nation, for ensuring non-disintegration and perpetuation of the Union, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw have remained united, the people believe and accept the national political leadership role the Tatmadaw is going to play in the future and the three forces will continue to work together for development of the future nation. That is the essence of the referendum.

In addition, it supports Section 442 of Chapter (14) “Transitory Provisions” of the State Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar “The State Peace and Development Council shall continue to exercise State sovereignty before this constitution comes into force”.

It is public knowledge that the State Peace and Development Council has announced that it will hold multi-party democracy general elections in 2010 to transform the nation from its rule into people’s administrative mechanism practising democracy.

It can be said that the support of the majority of the people for the State constitution reflects the genuine desire of the people in 1988. In return, the State constitution will translate into reality people’s desire of the multi-party democracy, the market economy, Union system, active and non-aligned foreign policy, and the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

Now, the people have charted out their future of their own, and have given mandate to the State constitution.

In other words, that warns that the NLD, which claims itself to be the force given mandate of the people according to the 1990 election results, should review its stance and policies and mend its ways.

In the multi-party democracy general elections on 27 May 1990, altogether 2209 representatives from 93 political parties and 87 independent representatives stood for election.

At the time, the nation’s population of those above 18 or eligible voters stood at more than 20 million (20,818,313), and more than 15 million (15,122,524) of them cast votes. NLD won just over seven million (7,934,622) votes, accounting for 38.11366 per cent or one-third of the eligible voters.

However, NLD, which is saying as if it won the support of the entire people, and its accomplices launched the first step with Gandhi Hall announcement in July 1990 that handing over power was the first priority, and drawing a constitution was the second priority. NLD representatives won the majority of seats. But it started to go wrong when it considered that it won the support of the majority of the people.

The first of its mistakes was that it stuck to confrontation policy. Then, it threatened the government, asking which way the government would choose—dialogue or utter devastation? It brazenly asked the international community to impose economic sanctions against the nation in order to squeeze the government, while relying on external elements. It announced its support for the economic sanctions imposed by certain countries. It said that it would convene a hluttaw (legislative body) session in its tactic to feel the pulse of the government. It has praised terrorists and saboteurs as democracy activists, showing its intrigue putting danger to the nation.

NLD considered that the people would support its various acts. However, in practice, what it got in that regard was the denouncement and opposition of the people.

After 1996, the people demanded for dissolution of NLD that was relying on external elements and acting as axe-handles, by constantly holding mass rallies. The people who voted for NLD due to their ignorance in 1990 recalled their NLD representatives by casting more votes than that they had cast in the election according to the right of recall.

NLD (Central)’s acts of ignoring the desire of more than seven million supporters and clinging on to confrontation with the government became abhorrent to its members. Therefore, many members went on resigning from the party almost every day. NLD lost touch with the people and placed too much reliance on foreign elements. As a result, it got into political crises, and its representatives-elect and members of its organizing committee were leaving it. Here, NLD was to blame. It violated the law by provoking the people to vote ‘no’ in the referendum. It implied that it underestimated the reasoning power of the people.

Then, NLD stood between the devil and the deep. What did NLD do after that?

It depicted that NLD was above the law although it was advocating “No man is above the law”. Its home-grown members came to oppose NLD that was violating the law by having claimed since 1990 that handing over power was the first priority and the drawing of a constitution was the second priority. So, undeniably, its acts were repugnant to the people, as evidenced by the fact that the people expressed their desire in the referendum.

Indeed, the people showed the mandate of the people to NLD that is claiming itself to have got so-called mandate of the people.

Why did just one-third of the eligible voter population cast vote in favour in the 1990 elections? In reality, the people did not know whether NLD would be reliable or not. Now, they have realized its innate nature. Nonetheless, NLD and its associates remain self-opinionated. Anyhow, they will be held responsible for what they have done wrong.

In 1990 election, the population of eligible voters was more than 20 million and more than 15 million of them cast vote. In the referendum (2008), the population of eligible voters was more than 27 million and over 26 million cast vote. NLD won the support of 38.11366 per cent of the voters, whereas the State constitution won 92.48 per cent of the voters, thus showing a great gap. It also reflected that the people have been more mature with higher intellectual power, and gave priority to the policy or principle instead of personal attachment. They have left those who rely much on external elements, axe-handles and those who are not capable enough to serve the interests of the nation and the people. The people have given mandate to the State constitution, and that is true mandate of the people.
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye…

(from page 1)

reconstruction tasks in Mawlamyinegyun reported on the storm-affected villages, relief measures taken for storm victims, accommodation, supply of food and drinking water for the survivors, arrangements for resuming agricultural work and fisheries, delivery of relief items, repair of offices, hospitals and schools by private companies, re-running of rice mills and requirements for rehabilitation and development tasks.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said as relief works have almost completed continued efforts are to be made for reconstruction of storm-hit regions and regional development and improvement of socio-economic life of the local people.

In doing so, tasks for building of roads and bridges, fulfillment of food, clothing and shelter needs and resuming of the livelihoods of storm victims are to be carried out in a speedy and systematic manner, he said.

In the meantime, preventive measures should be taken in the event of natural disaster in the future, he noted.

As regions are different in the livelihoods according to geographical conditions some regions have to depend on agriculture while others have to engage in fisheries. Hence, in rehabilitation of a region one should know its condition and requirements, and only then, will rehabilitation measures be carried out more effectively.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said he made a field trip right down to the respective storm-hit areas. And prompt action is being taken for providing each region with necessary requirements in cooperation with region in-charge ministers, national entrepreneurs and departments concerned, he added.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected clearing of the fallen trees in Mawlamyinegyun, Myoma Market and river bank. They went to Township People’s Hospital where they greeted specialists, doctors and nurses from Yangon General Hospital and Yangon West District General Hospital who are giving treatment to the patients.

(See page 8)
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye makes...
(from page 7)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party visited the patients undergoing treatment at the hospital and inspected the site chosen for construction of a 100-bed hospital.

They went to Bogale from Mawlamyinegyun by helicopter. At the relief control office, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on loss of lives and property, relief measures, accommodation and food for storm victims, reconstruction of schools, hospitals, dispensaries, arrangements for cultivation of monsoon paddy, operation of rice mills, power supply and participation in rehabilitation tasks in Bogale by private companies. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye then gave instructions.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Township People’s Hospital and cordially greeted doctors.

They comforted the patients and inspected the site for construction of a 100-bed hospital. They toured Bogale by car.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected treatment for the storm victims by medical unit at the township gym.

They greeted medical team from India led by Dr Prafull.

At 11.30 am, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party left for Hlinephone Village in Labutta Township.

They cordially greeted the storm victims at the relief camps and doctors, health staff and members of Red Cross Brigade at the dispensary.

They visited Hlinephone Village and inquired the experiences of the storm, food, clothing and shelter needs and education of the children. They flew to Theikpangongyi Village by helicopter. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met the villagers and explained arrangements for reconstruction and development of the village.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye comforts patients receiving treatment at People’s Hospital in Mawlamyinegyun.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye briefs on arrangements for reconstruction of villages to residents in Theikpangongyi Village in Labutta Township.—MNA

Members of the special team-2 of Directorate of Medical Services provide medical care to local people in Bogale Township.—MNA
NLM (final) 4-6-08

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye ...

(from page 8)

Like Ayeyawady Division which is the rice bowl of lower Myanmar, a cluster of dams and reservoirs were built in Sagaing Division to turn it into the rice bowl of upper Myanmar for self-sufficiency in rice.

With the emergence of Thapanserk Dam, Sagaing Division has now been able to enjoy the surplus of 100 million baskets of rice every year.

Similarly, steps are being taken to turn Taninthayi Division into an edible oil pot like Magway Division. As arrangements have been made for fulfillment of basic commodities wherever necessary, local people are now enjoying food security.

In conclusion, he spoke of the need for those present to openly discuss matters on effective implementation of the reconstruction tasks in storm-hit regions of Ayeyawady Division as the government has made arrangements for successful realization of the tasks.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted the national entrepreneurs present on the occasion.

He continued to say that relief and reconstruction of storm-hit regions had been successfully carried out in a short period of time through the active participation of members of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee, the respective sub-committees, local people and national entrepreneurs.

The government will make arrangements for storm victims to enable them to resume their livelihoods such as agriculture, fisheries and salt industry, and the relevant ministries and officials concerned are to report the requirements in that regard, he noted.

Next, Central Committee Vice-Chairman Secretary-1 of the SPDCL Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo dealt with reports of the relevant ministries and requirements.

This was followed by a general round of discussions.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Central Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Thein Sein.—MNA

Cash for orphans in storm-affected regions

YANGON, 3 June—Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein and employees of Ministry of Construction present cash to Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and orphans in storm-hit regions at the Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township.—MNA

Httoo Trading, Air Bagan conduct memorial service for victims of Bogale Tsp

YANGON, June—Employees of Httoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd yesterday organized a ceremony to gain merits and share merits in memory of victims who died in the storm at Kyunthuaya and Kyenyounggyi villages in Bogale Township.

At the ceremony, Members of the Sangha recited parittas and the employees offered meals to the monks and shared merits gained. They also distributed 3,500 packets of meals to residents in the two villages.

After setting up a base camp in Bogale, Httoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan have carried out the relief and rehabilitation works since 6 May. They donated 1900 bags of rice, 31,000 baskets of paddy strain, 100 power tillers, clothes, raincoats and foods to the victims of the villages of Kyunthuaya and Kyenyounggyi for the second time yesterday. They also transported rice, edible oil, medicine and drinking water by boat to storm-hit villages and gave free medical treatment to the patients. Httoo Trading and Air Bagan have provided relief aids to the storm-hit villages until they return to the normal condition.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye...
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Wednesday, 4 June, 2008

WTO’s Lamy says trade deal doable in ’08

AREQUIPA, (Peru), 3 June — World Trade Organization Director-General Pascal Lamy said on Sunday developed and developing nations could still wrap up the Doha Round of talks on a global trade deal this year.

“I still believe it’s doable this year,” Lamy told Reuters on the sidelines of a meeting of trade ministers from the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in the southern Peruvian city of Arequipa.

“APEC trade ministers issued a manifesto in Arequipa on Sunday urging negotiating nations to take immediate steps to prop up the limping Doha round. The round has sputtered and gained momentum a handful of times since it was launched in November 2001, snared usually on differences between developed nations and major developing countries like China and India.” — MNA/Reuters

S Korea asks US to stop exports from older cattle

SEOUL, 3 June— South Korea has requested the United States stop beef exports to the Asian nation from cattle above 30 months old and would suspend imports until it receives a response, its Farm Ministry said on Tuesday.

A day earlier, Seoul’s Farm Ministry said it had decided to delay publishing rules making it easier to import US beef, the final step ahead of a full resumption of American beef imports for the first time in more than four years due to mounting public safety concerns over the product.

South Korea, once the third-largest importer of US beef until a 2003 outbreak of mad cow disease in the United States, planned to publish relaxed rules on US beef imports on Tuesday after delaying the resumption of quarantine inspections from 15 May. — MNA/Reuters

Pakistan, India start talks on water projects

ISLAMABAD, 3 June— Pakistani and Indian officials on Saturday started talks on water projects in the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore, according to the private Geo TV.

The talks will go on till 4 June, it said. Earlier, an 11-member delegation of Indian water officials arrived in Lahore to discuss the controversial water projects. The delegation composed of some technical experts of the water sector was led by Indian Indus Water Treaty Commissioner G Aranga Nathan.

Talking to reporters at the airport, Nathan said that the items on the agenda would be discussed during the talks. He also said that no discussion would be held on the issue of the Baglihar Dam as it had already been decided. — MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia plans direct fuel subsidies for buyers

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 June— Malaysia wants to scrap its policy of subsidizing fuel at the pump and instead give discounts to individuals based on their needs, a newspaper said on Sunday. “This means that prices at the pump will not be subsidized,” Domestic Trade Minister Shahir Samad was quoted as saying by the Malay-language Mingguan Malaysia. “When a consumer buys it, he will get the subsidy. And that too only if he qualifies for the subsidy.”

He said the criteria and the method of distribution under the new system could not yet be announced. The minister had previously suggested requiring motorists to produce their Malaysian identification cards when filling up to ensure that only locals get the subsidies. Malaysian fuel prices are among the lowest in Asia, thanks to hefty state subsidies. But cheap energy has encouraged wastage and smuggling to neighbouring countries where pump prices are much higher. The Southeast Asian country has said its subsidy bill could hit a record 50 billion ringgit (15.44 billion US dollars) this year as crude oil prices hit record highs.

Soaring crude prices are straining the Malaysian Government’s finances and forcing the authorities to find ways to ease its subsidy bill by targeting subsidies only at the poor. Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak was quoted on Friday as saying the fuel subsidy revamp would be discussed at Wednesday’s Cabinet meeting. — MNA/Reuters

HK, Peru sign joint statement on trade, eco relations

HONG KONG, 3 June— Hong Kong Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Frederick Ma and Peruvian Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Mercedes Araoz Fernandez signed a joint statement on strengthening trade and economic relations in Arequipa, Peru on Friday, a government Press release said. According to a Press release from the Information Services Department of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government, the signing ceremony took place at the margins of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation’s Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting in Arequipa.

Ma said both governments had a shared desire and willingness to develop and strengthen bilateral trade and economic relations. The two sides would work towards the development of a cooperation arrangement on trade and investment facilitation. This would lay the foundation for future consideration of a free trade agreement between Hong Kong and Peru. — MNA/Xinhua

Two youngsters enjoy diving in tomatoes during the “IV Tomatina Colombiana” festival in Sutamarchan, department of Boyaca, Colombia, on 1 June. — Xinhua

A girl selects fragrant bags in Bozhou city, east China’s Anhui Province, on 2 June, 2008. — Xinhua

HK, Peru sign joint statement on trade, eco relations

Two youngsters enjoy diving in tomatoes during the “IV Tomatina Colombiana” festival in Sutamarchan, department of Boyaca, Colombia, on 1 June. — Xinhua

Malaysia plans direct fuel subsidies for buyers

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 June— Malaysia wants to scrap its policy of subsidizing fuel at the pump and instead give discounts to individuals based on their needs, a newspaper said on Sunday. “This means that prices at the pump will not be subsidized,” Domestic Trade Minister Shahir Samad was quoted as saying by the Malay-language Mingguan Malaysia. “When a consumer buys it, he will get the subsidy. And that too only if he qualifies for the subsidy.”

He said the criteria and the method of distribution under the new system could not yet be announced. The minister had previously suggested requiring motorists to produce their Malaysian identification cards when filling up to ensure that only locals get the subsidies. Malaysian fuel prices are among the lowest in Asia, thanks to hefty state subsidies. But cheap energy has encouraged wastage and smuggling to neighbouring countries where pump prices are much higher. The Southeast Asian country has said its subsidy bill could hit a record 50 billion ringgit (15.44 billion US dollars) this year as crude oil prices hit record highs.

Soaring crude prices are straining the Malaysian Government’s finances and forcing the authorities to find ways to ease its subsidy bill by targeting subsidies only at the poor. Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak was quoted on Friday as saying the fuel subsidy revamp would be discussed at Wednesday’s Cabinet meeting. — MNA/Reuters

HONG KONG, 3 June— Hong Kong Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Frederick Ma and Peruvian Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Mercedes Araoz Fernandez signed a joint statement on strengthening trade and economic relations in Arequipa, Peru on Friday, a government Press release said. According to a Press release from the Information Services Department of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government, the signing ceremony took place at the margins of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation’s Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting in Arequipa.

Ma said both governments had a shared desire and willingness to develop and strengthen bilateral trade and economic relations. The two sides would work towards the development of a cooperation arrangement on trade and investment facilitation. This would lay the foundation for future consideration of a free trade agreement between Hong Kong and Peru. — MNA/Xinhua

Two youngsters enjoy diving in tomatoes during the “IV Tomatina Colombiana” festival in Sutamarchan, department of Boyaca, Colombia, on 1 June. — Xinhua

A girl selects fragrant bags in Bozhou city, east China’s Anhui Province, on 2 June, 2008. — Xinhua

Malaysia plans direct fuel subsidies for buyers

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 June— Malaysia wants to scrap its policy of subsidizing fuel at the pump and instead give discounts to individuals based on their needs, a newspaper said on Sunday. “This means that prices at the pump will not be subsidized,” Domestic Trade Minister Shahir Samad was quoted as saying by the Malay-language Mingguan Malaysia. “When a consumer buys it, he will get the subsidy. And that too only if he qualifies for the subsidy.”

He said the criteria and the method of distribution under the new system could not yet be announced. The minister had previously suggested requiring motorists to produce their Malaysian identification cards when filling up to ensure that only locals get the subsidies. Malaysian fuel prices are among the lowest in Asia, thanks to hefty state subsidies. But cheap energy has encouraged wastage and smuggling to neighbouring countries where pump prices are much higher. The Southeast Asian country has said its subsidy bill could hit a record 50 billion ringgit (15.44 billion US dollars) this year as crude oil prices hit record highs.

Soaring crude prices are straining the Malaysian Government’s finances and forcing the authorities to find ways to ease its subsidy bill by targeting subsidies only at the poor. Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak was quoted on Friday as saying the fuel subsidy revamp would be discussed at Wednesday’s Cabinet meeting. — MNA/Reuters

HONG KONG, 3 June— Hong Kong Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Frederick Ma and Peruvian Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Mercedes Araoz Fernandez signed a joint statement on strengthening trade and economic relations in Arequipa, Peru on Friday, a government Press release said. According to a Press release from the Information Services Department of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government, the signing ceremony took place at the margins of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation’s Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting in Arequipa.

Ma said both governments had a shared desire and willingness to develop and strengthen bilateral trade and economic relations. The two sides would work towards the development of a cooperation arrangement on trade and investment facilitation. This would lay the foundation for future consideration of a free trade agreement between Hong Kong and Peru. — MNA/Xinhua

Two youngsters enjoy diving in tomatoes during the “IV Tomatina Colombiana” festival in Sutamarchan, department of Boyaca, Colombia, on 1 June. — Xinhua

A girl selects fragrant bags in Bozhou city, east China’s Anhui Province, on 2 June, 2008. — Xinhua
Philvolcs.— An earthquake, which was tectonic in origin, said the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs), would not cause damage or casualties from the waters outside the mouth of Beibu Bay.

In a joint statement issued here on Sunday evening, the two neighbours agreed to steadily push forward talks on demarcation in maritime zones outside the mouth of Beibu Bay, a part of the South China Sea that separates the southern part of China and northern Vietnam.

The two countries agreed to actively embark on negotiations on joint development and to launch a joint survey as soon as possible in these maritime zones.

China and Vietnam have agreed to jointly safeguard stability in the South China Sea as agreed by top level officials of the two countries. They will maintain the negotiation mechanism on maritime issues.

---

**China, Vietnam agree on joint maritime survey in Beibu Bay**

Beijing, 3 June — China and Vietnam has agreed to further clarify the ownership of greater maritime zones between the two countries as they pledged to start a joint survey in the waters outside the mouth of Beibu Bay.

In a joint statement issued here on Sunday evening, the two neighbours agreed to steadily push forward talks on demarcation in maritime zones outside the mouth of Beibu Bay.

The proposal, approved on Thursday, would allow landlords to prohibit smoking in apartment buildings they own to protect nonsmoking tenants from second-hand smoke, according the Los Angeles Times.

The measure will strengthen previous anti-smoking measures that bar Californians lighting up in many public places, including playgrounds, concert halls, restaurants, offices and some beaches.

But the report did not disclose what punishment would be meted out in case of violation.

The bill now goes to the Assembly for consideration, and vice versa.

The proposal, similar to a measure in Utah, is supported by the California Apartment Association, which represents about 50,000 property owners, said Monica Williamson, vice president of the group.

"Current law is silent with respect to a landlords' ability to impose a smoking ban," she said.

---

**18 Taleban militants killed in S Afghanistan**

Kabul, 3 June — Afghan security forces backed by foreign troops killed 16 Taleban militants in Jalal district of southern province of Kandahar while Afghan police killed two insurgents in Dand District of the same province, an official said Saturday.

The combined force bombed Taleban hideouts in Jalal district Friday, killing 16 rebels including one commander named Mullah Torjan, Kandahar's police chief Sayed Aqa Saqib told Xinhua.

The day-long fighting came as the Afghan Army, police and international forces were conducting a major anti-insurgent operation in Jalal and Panjwayi districts of Kandahar, he said.

On the same day, a police vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb in the district, leaving six policemen wounded, according to the police chief.

He added Afghan police during a fighting with Taleban militants on Friday in Dand, a district close to the provincial capital Kandahar City, killed two insurgents, Saqib added.

---

**Strong quake jolts Philippine islands**

Manila, 3 June — A 6.3-magnitude earthquake hit the northernmost Philippine islands of Batanes at 09:57 am local time (0157 GMT) Sunday, said the Philippine Institute of Seismology and Volcanology (Phivolcs).

The Phivolcs said in a news release that the earthquake was in a shallow depth of 42 kilometres under the seabed and its epicentre was located at 78 kilometres southwest of Basco island of Batanes. No damage or casualties were expected from the earthquake, which was tectonic in origin, said Phivolcs.

---

**Calif Senate OKs to ban smoking in apartments**

Los Angeles, 3 June — California Senate has passed a proposal to ban smoking in apartments, a newspaper report said on Friday.

The proposal, approved on Thursday, would allow landlords to prohibit smoking in apartment buildings they own to protect nonsmoking tenants from second-hand smoke, according the Los Angeles Times.

The measure will strengthen previous anti-smoking measures that bar Californians lighting up in many public places, including playgrounds, concert halls, restaurants, offices and some beaches.

But the report did not disclose what punishment would be meted out in case of violation.

The bill now goes to the Assembly for consideration, and vice versa.

The proposal, similar to a measure in Utah, is supported by the California Apartment Association, which represents about 50,000 property owners, said Monica Williamson, vice president of the group.

"Current law is silent with respect to a landlords' ability to impose a smoking ban," she said.

---

**Bangladeshi mobile users urged re-registration on time**

Dhaka, 3 June — Bangladesh’s telecom regulatory body will stop mobile connection of those users who failed to complete re-registration before the deadline expires, an official said Saturday.

The deadline for re-registration of the SIM cards will expire Saturday midnight.

"The mobile phone users, who fail to sign up by the deadline, will face disconnection, starting Saturday midnight," Md. Rezaul Quader, director (systems and services) of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), told Xinhua Saturday.

---

All Items from Xinhua News Agency
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
ROAD TRANSPORT, YANGON DIVISION
INVITATION TO TENDER

TENDER NO.001/ME/2008-2009

1. Sealed tenders from eligible suppliers are invited for the supply of following items:
   (a) Reconditioned HINO 7C/H07D
   (b) NISS AN FE 6 Engine Ass’y with Gear Box Ass’y
   (c) 14 ton. Gear Ratio (6.00:1 to 6.83:1)

2. (a) Tender Documents are available at the office of Procurement & Stores Department, Road Transport, No.375/Rogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon
   (b) Tender will be closed on 18-6-2008 at (16:00) Hours
   (c) Detailed information will be available at the office of Procurement & Stores Department.
   Phone No. 01-660851

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (8023)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FENG VOY NO (8023) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.6.2008 and cargo will be discharged in accordance with the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Death toll in Colombian landslide rises to 19
BOGOTA, 3 June—A Saturday avalanche of mud and rubble in a poor hillside neighbourhood in the northern Colombian city of Medellin killed 19 people, while up to eight more were missing, authorities said on Sunday. The industrial city has been pounded by sporadic clashes with police. They said many workers armed with sticks and stones clashed with police in the Colombian port city of Chittagong on Sunday demanding higher pay and overtime wages.

S’Africa violence death toll rises to 62
JOHANNESBURG, 3 June—A wave of attacks on foreigners in South Africa has killed 62 people since the violence broke out three weeks ago, police said on Saturday.

The violence, which has now subsided, targeted newcomers to South Africa as well as those who had been in the country for decades, and tens of thousands were forced to take refuge in shelters around the country.

“This has raised the earlier toll of 56 dead. A total of 670 have been injured,” police spokeswoman Sally de Beer told the SAPA news agency.

US hits China steel pipe with 700% duty
WASHINGTON, 3 June—The US Commerce Department said on Friday it has set a combined import duty of around 700 per cent on a major Chinese steel pipe producer to offset unfair pricing practices, and lesser but still substantial duties on other Chinese manufacturers and exporters.

The US Commerce Department said it levelled a 615.92-per-cent countervailing duty on standard steel pipe exported by the Shuangjue Group to offset Chinese Government subsidies.

It also imposed an additional anti-dumping duty of 85.55 per cent on Shuangjue Group exports to offset prices that Commerce said were below normal value.

SAPA
New tribe of indigenous Indians discovered in Amazon

BRASILIA, 3 June — A new tribe of indigenous Indians was found in the Brazilian state of Acre in the southwest of the Amazon rainforest region, the National Foundation of Indians (Funai) reported on Saturday. The Indians, who remained unknown before being discovered Friday, aimed their bows and arrows at a helicopter taking pictures of the newly sighted community, the report said. No one was hurt, it said, adding the discovery was made on the border with Peru, bringing to 68 the number of Indian tribes found living in Brazil’s Amazon rainforest, isolated from modern society. Of the 68 tribes, 24 are found in the state of Acre, with the rest located in the southern state of Amazonas.

The newly discovered indigenous Indians live in huts covered with palm leaves. Upon seeing the helicopters and planes that flew over their compound, the Indians felt threatened and took the defensive action of lancing bows and arrows at the aircraft.

LA hospital to settle $1m for dumping patient

LOS ANGELES, 3 June — The Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Centre in Los Angeles has agreed to pay one million dollars for dumping a paraplegic patient on skid row, a newspaper report said on Saturday.

The resolution of the lawsuit, reached on Friday, marks the biggest settlement so far in the Los Angeles city attorney’s efforts to crack down on hospitals and other institutions that “dump” patients on skid row, the Los Angeles Times said.

Another hospital, Kaiser Permanente, agreed to a smaller settlement last year, and the city attorney’s office said it is investigating several other hospitals and medical offices suspected of dumping.

As part of the settlement, Hollywood Presbyterian agreed to adopt new discharge rules and enhance services for homeless patients. The one million dollars will go to nonprofit groups that aid the indigent and homeless patients in the Hollywood area and other parts of the city. — MNA/Xinhua

Storm “Arthur” threatens flooding in south Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 3 June — Tropical Storm Arthur, the first of the year in the Atlantic, weakened to a depression over Mexico on Sunday but still dumped torrential rain across the south of the country that threatened to create floods.

Arthur, which had been forecast to move early Sunday into the Gulf of Mexico where there are many oil installations, was still overland and was seen moving farther inland in coming hours and then losing punch.

Still, Arthur’s wicked winds forced the closure of two of Mexico’s three main oil exporting ports in the Gulf of Mexico because of rough seas.

With sustained winds of 35 miles per hour (55 kilometres per hour), Arthur brought heavy rain to parts of the Yucatan Peninsula as well as neighbouring Belize and Guatemala, the Miami-based National Hurricane Centre said.

Celebrex shows promise in lung cancer prevention

CHICAGO, 3 June — A high dose of the arthritis drug Celebrex showed early signs that it may help prevent lung cancer in heavy smokers, US researchers said on Sunday.

The Pfizer Inc drug, also known as celecoxib, works by blocking the COX-2 enzyme that causes inflammation, which has been linked with cancer.

A six-month study of 212 current or heavy smokers found a reduction in a specific type of precancerous change in lung cells in people who took a high dose of Celebrex compared with those who took a placebo.

None of the study participants had any heart-related problems such as those with Merck & Co Inc’s now withdrawn arthritis drug Vioxx, another COX-2 inhibitor.

“Celebrex was safe and we did not see any cardiovascular events,” said Dr Edward Kim of MD Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston, who presented his findings at an meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology in Chicago.

London’s ban on booze on tubes, trains begins

LONDON, 3 June — A ban on alcohol on London’s transport system comes into force on Sunday, designed to make buses, tubes and trains safer for the public, but with unions warning staff could be put in greater danger instead.

The ban was a key manifesto pledge of new mayor Boris Johnson’s election campaign, and just days after his victory over Ken Livingstone, he announced plans to enact the measure.

“I’m determined to improve the safety and security of public transport in London and create a better environment for the millions of Londoners who rely on it,” Johnson said. “Firmly believe that if we drive out so called minor crime then we will be able to get a firm grip on more serious crime.”

The ban will apply to buses, underground trains, trains and stations.

Residents walk through a flooded street at a village in Kalenimulla, Colombo, on 2 June, 2008. Floods triggered by torrential rain have killed at least 16 and forced thousands of people from their homes in Sri Lanka, with some taking shelter in schools and temples, officials said on Monday. — Internet
**SPORTS**

Nigeria comfortably win World Cup qualifying opener

**ABUJA, 3 June — First half goals from Ike Uche and Obinna Nwanyi gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday.**

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a "We are back again and we've sent out a message that" Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

Obinna Nwaneri gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday. "We are back again and we've sent out a message that"

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

Obinna Nwaneri gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday. "We are back again and we've sent out a message that"

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

Obinna Nwaneri gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday. "We are back again and we've sent out a message that"

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

Obinna Nwaneri gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday. "We are back again and we've sent out a message that"

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

Obinna Nwaneri gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday. "We are back again and we've sent out a message that"

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

Obinna Nwaneri gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday. "We are back again and we've sent out a message that"

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

Obinna Nwaneri gave Nigeria a comfortable 2-0 win over South Africa in their World Cup African zone Group Four qualifier in Abuja on Sunday. "We are back again and we've sent out a message that"

Uche scored inside the first 10 minutes, climbing over the South African defence to head home a cross by John Utaka.

Nwanyi scored in stoppage time at the end of first half with another powerful header.

Nigeria thrilled with their timid opponents against soaring heat and humidity which ensured the game was played at a pedestrian pace.

The win was only the second in a competitive outing this year for Nigeria, who had a disappointing African Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.

"We are back again and we've sent out a message that tough," said Portsmouth striker Nwankwo Kanu, a Nations Cup tournament in Ghana earlier this year.
Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours weather has been partly cloudy in Ayeyawady Division, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan and Mon States, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kaleawya (2.68) inches, Nyaung U (1.46) inches, Myink (0.91) inch, Mawlamyine (0.87) inch and Pyay (0.79) inch.

Maximum temperature on 2-6-2008 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 3-6-2008 was 76°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 3-6-2008 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 2-6-2008 was (3.5) hours approx.

Rainfall on 3-6-2008 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (0.04) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.12) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (29.06) inches at Mingaladon, (34.06) inches at Kaba-Aye and (42.28) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (16:30) hours MST on 2-6-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 4-6-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Kayin, Rakhine States and Mandalay Division and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of decrease of rain in the Coastal areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-6-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-6-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area after 4-6-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
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.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye makes arrangements to facilitate rehabilitation tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 3 June—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave necessary instructions to responsible persons including ministers and national entrepreneurs concerning rehabilitation tasks in Mawlamyine, Kyun and Bogale Townships at Mya Ayeyar meeting hall in Pathein yesterday.

In his address, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that it was encouraging to witness the concerted efforts made with nationalistic fervour by departmental officials, local people and national entrepreneurs to carry out relief and reconstruction tasks in the storm-hit regions.

Giving a helping hand to storm victims so that they can overcome any difficulty reflects strong nationalism and Union Spirit of the nation (See page 8)

As arrangements have been made for fulfillment of basic commodity wherever necessary, local people are now enjoying food security.

True mandate of the people

It can be said that the support of the majority of the people for the State constitution reflects the genuine desire of the people in 1988. In return, the State constitution will translate into reality people’s desire of the multi-party democracy, the market economy, Union system, active and non-aligned foreign policy, and the five principles of peaceful coexistence.