**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

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**Plans under way for settlement of storm victims in new places or native lands**

**Prime Minister visits Ayeyawady Division**

**NAY PYI TAW, 7 June –** Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Central Committee member ministers, the deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office and officials, left Yangon by helicopter for Myaungmya of Ayeyawady Division this morning.

At the helipad, the Prime Minister met Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, Chairman of Myaungmya District PDC U Aye Han and officials.

Next, the Prime Minister greeted members of No 4 special medical team led by Lt-Col Kyaw Zin Nyunt of the Directorate of Medical Services of the Ministry of Defence, members of the medical team led by Dr Min Min Myo Lwin of the Ministry of Health and another medical team led by Dr Kanrom of Thailand.

The Prime Minister and party viewed health care services being given by the medical teams to the storm victims.

They also greeted storm victims from Pyinsalu and its surrounding villages and heard reports on conditions of health and accommodation and delivery of relief supplies.

(See page 6)

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**The enemy who is more destructive than Nargis**

At present, some foreign broadcasting stations are making attempts to undermine the national unity under the pretext of Nargis. Those foreign broadcasting stations that are attempting to put the nation into a state of 1948-1949 are worse than Nargis. They also cited and instigated the people to oppose the draft constitution before the national referendum was held.

But Myanmar people were able to overcome the instigation of those broadcasting stations that are worse than Nargis.

**INSTRUMENT OF THE UNION**

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**Patients transferred from Bogale Township to Yangon getting on an ambulance.** — MNA

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**NGAR MIN SWE**
Strive for timely cultivation of paddy in storm-hit areas

Monsoon has now set in and it is time for farmers to prepare for cultivation and to enter their farmland.

The cyclonic storm that occurred earlier last month severely hit seven townships in Ayeyawady Division and 40 townships in Yangon Division. A large number of houses were destroyed and draught cattle were killed. Moreover, salty water entered some cultivable farmland in the storm-affected regions and some farmlands were flooded.

Local organizations, departments, companies and other organizations are rendering assistance for cultivation of paddy in the farmlands. Food, shelter and health care services for those who would like to live in their original places are being provided.

Power tillers are being delivered to Ngapudaw, Labutta, Mawlamyinegyun and Bogale Townships in Ayeyawady Division. Departments concerned provide farmers with farm equipment, fuel, paddy strains, fertilizers and pesticides after opening tractor stations in the regions. They also disburse cultivation loans to farmers.

Over four million acres of monsoon and summer paddy of Ayeyawady Division are included in over 19 million acres of monsoon and summer paddy grown last year in the whole country. The amount of the loss of cultivation acreage in the storm was just 0.009 per cent of the whole nation. 0.036 per cent of Ayeyawady Division and 0.009 per cent of the whole country. The amount of the loss of monsoon and summer paddy grown last year in the whole country.

The government, national entrepreneurs, organizations and the people are rendering necessary assistance for rehabilitation of the storm-hit regions. By doing so, rice-growing Ayeyawady Division will reach its target of sown acreage during the cultivation season.

Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win views 12 XG JAO 150-8 brand motorcycles to be used by Yangon Division Traffic Police Force.—MNA

Deputy Minister views salvage work

YANGON, 7 June—Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung on 5 June heard reports on salvage of ships and tub boats, which sank and piled onto the banks, by Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT at the hall of IWT.

The Deputy Minister inspected conditions of damaged and sunk ships, Myat Thanda ship which was swept onto the bank at Myanmar Industrial Port, repairing and docking of tub boats and ships at Ahlon Shipyard and pulling back three ships RoRo-2, Z-105 and Yaykywe into the river from Gyaungwaing Village, and left necessary instructions.—MNA
Both Arabs, Israelis lose as conflict continues

AJMAN, 7 June — Jordan’s King Abdullah II said as the conflict between Arabs and Israelis continues, people on both sides lose, local daily The Jordanian Times reported on Thursday. The King made the remarks when addressing the Oxford University on challenges facing the Middle East on Wednesday, the report said. Speaking on the eve of the 41th anniversary marking the eruption of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, the King said war remains a consistent feature in the Middle East, while conflict has been relegated to the annals of history for most of the developed world. Abdullah said that “4 June, 1967 marks the last day a Palestinian lived free of occupation”.

“It is time to help people win. For Palestinians, justice and a future, in an independent, sovereign and viable state. For Israelis, recognition and security — a security that is isolation, behind walls and military forces can never bring,” he said. MNA/Xinhua

Cirque du Soleil acrobats perform during a media rehearsal of the show “Quidam” in Malaga, southern Spain, on 4 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Clinton backs Obama and bows out

WASHINGTON, 7 June — Democrat Hillary Clinton on Saturday threw her “full support behind” Barack Obama to be the next US president as she formally ended her historic bid for the White House.

“The way to continue our fight now, to accomplish the goals for which we stand is to take our energy, our passions, our strengths and do all we can to help elect Barack Obama, the next president of the United States,” she told thousands of cheering supporters.

“As I suspend my campaign, I congratulate him on the victory he has won and the extraordinary race he has run. I endorse him and throw my full support behind him.”

INTERNET

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,092

WASHINGTON, 7 June — As of Friday, 6 June, 2008, at least 4,092 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,332 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The AP count is one more than the Defence Department’s tally, last updated Friday at 10 am EDT.

The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, South Korea, one death each.—INTERNET

Crude prices rocket more than 10 dollars

NEW YORK, 7 June — Crude prices rocketed more than 10 US dollars in a day on Friday, approaching 140 dollars a barrel on weak dollar and Morgan Stanley’s forecast.

Friday’s surge was the biggest single-day price increase in the history of the New York Mercantile Exchange crude contract.

The dollar weakened against other currencies on data showing the US economy lost jobs for a fifth straight month and the unemployment rate shot up to its highest in more than three years.

Crude prices also boosted by Morgan Stanley’s report, which predicted oil prices would hit 150 dollars by early July.

Light, sweet crude for July delivery rose 10.75 dollars to 138.54 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after hitting 139.12 dollars earlier.

INTERNET

Five killed, seven injured in bomb attack in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 7 June — At least five people, including three policemen, were killed and seven others were injured in a bomb attack in northwestern Pakistan on Friday night, local media reported.

The attack occurred in Dera Ismail Khan, a city of North West Frontier Province (NWFP), when a remote control bomb exploded near a police mobile van, NewsNetwork International (NNI) news agency reported. Further details are not available.

INTERNET

Demonstrators display placards during a rally in Kerbala, 80 km (50 miles) southwest of Baghdad, on 6 June, 2008. Several thousand demonstrators attended rallies in Sadr City, Kufa and Kerbala on Friday to protest against talks between Washington and Baghdad on keeping US troops in Iraq after 2008, responding to a call by anti-American cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. The placards read, “No agreement with the US occupiers.”—INTERNET

Policemen guard a parking area in Dhok Kala Khan, where security officials recovered three vehicles with a large quantity of explosives in Rawalpindi, near Islamabad, on 6 June, 2008. Pakistan boosting security in the capital Islamabad and neighboring Rawalpindi on Friday where three vehicles laden with explosives were intercepted just days after attack on the Danish Embassy.—INTERNET

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Sunday, 8 June, 2008

INTERNET

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“As I suspend my campaign, I congratulate him on the victory he has won and the extraordinary race he has run. I endorse him and throw my full support behind him.”

INTERNET
Pakistan protests US missile strikes in tribal areas

ISLAMABAD, 7 June — Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said Thursday the government had protested to the US and NATO forces in Afghanistan over air strikes in the country’s tribal regions.

Over 10 people were killed and scores of others injured in a US missile strike at Pakistan’s tribal region of Bajaur last month.

“A very strong protest has been launched at every level including the United States and NATO,” Qureshi told the National Assembly.

“Even the Prime Minister took up the issue with (US) President Bush during his meeting at Sharm el-Sheikh last month and expressed concern and anxiety of the people of Pakistan,” Qureshi said.

Pakistan is aware of the international obligations regarding war on terror, but Pakistan will not compromise on its national interests and sovereignty while curbing the menace, he said.

“The government is determined to re-establish its writ in the Tribal Areas through political means and socio-economic development but it would not shy away if it has to use power for this purpose,” said Qureshi.

McCain raises $22m in May

ST PETERSBURG (Florida), 7 June — Republican US presidential candidate John McCain raised $22 million US dollars in May, beating his April amount after a month focused on raising cash, a campaign source said.

McCain, an Arizona senator who has wrapped up his party’s nomination to run in November’s election, raised 18.5 million US dollars and had 21.8 million US dollars in the bank at the end of April, according to figures filed with the Federal Election Commission.

The source did not say how much cash McCain had at the end of May.

McCain has spent a large chunk of his time raising money in between campaign stops while Democrats Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton — who have both outraised McCain — duked over their party’s presidential nomination.

Fund-raising figures for May are not due to the FEC until later this month for all of the candidates.

Obama, who clinched his party’s nomination on Tuesday, raised 30.7 million US dollars in April, FEC filings show.

He had 46.6 million US dollars in the bank at the end of that month, with debts of two million US dollars.

President Barack Obama has both outraised John McCain and his running mate. — MNA/Reuters

Israeli Army halts Gaza oil supply due to rocket attack

JERUSALEM, 7 June — Israel Defence Forces (IDF) on Wednesday ceased oil transfers to the Gaza Strip after a Hamas rocket hit the Nahal Oz fuel terminal.

The spokesman of IDF told Xinhua that the rocket fired by Palestinian militants hit the Gaza side of the Nahal Oz crossing. One Palestinian worker was severely wounded.

No Palestinian militant group has claimed responsibility for the attack amid ongoing similar home-made rocket attacks targeting Israeli communities along the border with the Gaza Strip.

Residents walk across a damaged bridge over the Pen Jiang River which connects to the Tangjiashan quake-lake in Qinglian town of earthquake-hit Jiangyou county, Sichuan Province on 5 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Two soldiers die as helicopter crashes in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 7 June — Two service members of the US-led Coalition forces were killed in a helicopter crash Thursday afternoon on a routine-maintenance mission near Kandahar of southern Afghanistan, the Coalition said.

“The cause of the incident is currently under investigation, however there were no reports of hostile activity in relation to the crash,” the US-led military said in a press release issued from Bagram Air Field, 50 kilometres north of Afghan capital Kabul.

The Coalition did not release the casualties’ nationalities. Around 20,000 multi-national forces, majority US troops, are deployed under the flag of Coalition forces across Afghanistan, fighting militants and helping with reconstruction process.

Turkey Army says working with Iran on PKK strikes

ISTANBUL, 7 June — Turkey’s military is cooperating with Iran by sharing information and coordinating strikes against PKK guerillas in northern Iraq, a senior Turkish general said on Thursday.

“We haven’t done it (coordinated strikes) for one or two months but we would do it if necessary,” General Ilker Basbug, head of the land forces and the second most powerful man in the Turkish military, told reporters at a security conference.

The Turkish military has regularly attacked Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) rebel positions this year in the mountains of northern Iraq, where several thousands are believed to be holed up. Turkish troops conducted a large-scale incursion across the border in February.

Iranian forces have often clashed in Iraqi border areas with rebels from the Party of Free Life of Kurdistan (PJAK), an offshoot of the PKK. Analysts say PJAK has bases in northern Iraq from where they operate against Iran.

The European Union and the United States are keen for NATO-member Turkey, which says it is defending itself against a terrorist organization, to keep its attacks in northern Iraq limited to avoid destabilising Iraq and the wider region. — MNA/Reuters

Palestinian Hamas supporters attend a Hamas rally calling for the end of Israeli sanctions, at the Rafah border in the southern Gaza Strip on 6 June, 2008. Egypt deployed hundreds of riot police along the border with the Gaza Strip on Friday, fearing hundreds of Palestinian protestors may try to storm the Rafah crossing, security officials said. — INTERNET

A wildfire spanning over 20,000 acres burns on 5 June, 2008, in Tyrrell, Hyde and Washington Counties, NC. The wildfire that started on a wildlife refuge in rural eastern North Carolina and burned into privately owned rural land doubled in size as it sent smoke and ash as far away as the Outer Banks and neighboring Virginia. — INTERNET

Egyptian troops, majority US

forces, majority US
**Sudan bars US firms from Darfur contracts**

El Fasher, 7 June — Sudan said on Thursday it was banning US companies from working with international peace-keepers in Darfur and would not renew a contract held by a unit of US defence from Lockheed Martin Corp.

The move deepened a rift between Africa’s biggest country and the United States, which this week suspended talks on normalizing relations after a decade of US sanctions. “We are not going to allow American companies in this country with the mission in Darfur,” said Sudan’s Ambassador to the UN, Abdalmahmoud Abdalha-leen, at the start of a visit by the UN Security Council of Darfur.

“There are sanctions — so they can not benefit. Why are they sanctioning us?”

Abdalha-leen added Sudan would not renew an engineering contract held by PA&E, a 100 per cent owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin, when it finished in July.

US, Sudan envoy Richad Williamson suspended talks on normalizing relations with Sudan this week, saying northern and southern Sudanese leaders were not serious about ending recent clashes that have stoked fears of a return to civil war.

**Combined forces raid Thai southernmost province**

Bangkok, 7 June — More than 600 combined security forces on Thursday swooped on some 60 targets in five districts in Thailand’s southernmost province of Narathiwat, detaining at least nine suspects.

Two of the arrested were suspects with arrest warrants. Three were taken for possessing marijuana, three for further questioning and one held under the controversial martial law, local news network The Nation reported.

Thailand’s three southernmost provinces — Yala, Narathiwat and Pattani have been troubled with insurgency-related violence which has claimed more than 3,000 lives since it resumed in early 2004.

**Obama toughens Iran stance, backs Israel on Jerusalem**

Washington, 7 June — Barack Obama toughened his terms for diplomacy with Iran and backed Israel’s stance on Jerusalem on Wednesday in his first foreign policy speech since capturing the Democratic nomination for US president.

The Illinois senator vowed to stop Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon and insisted Jerusalem should be the undivided capital of the Jewish state in a speech to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, a pro-Israel lobby group.

Obama, who clinched the nomination on Tuesday, has faced wariness among Jewish voters over his commitment to Israel, buoyed partly by a rumour campaign suggesting he is a Muslim and that his advisers have a pro-Arab bent.

**Bollywood actor Abhishek Bachchan and his wife Aishwarya Rai Bachchan arrive for the world premiere of the film “Sarkar Raj” during the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards in Bangkok, on 6 June, 2008. —INTERNET**

**Manila to buy 10 military helicopters from Singapore**

Manila, 7 June — The Philippines is negotiating to buy 10 second-hand combat helicopters from Singapore to beef up the military’s efforts to defeat Muslim and Communist rebels, a senior general said on Wednesday.

The Air Force general, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Reuters the government had allocated 400 million pesos (nine million US dollars) to buy the night-capable refurbished aircraft from Singapore in a commercial deal.

“This is not the first time we’re entering into a deal with Singapore to acquire US-made UH-1H helicopters,” the general said, adding 20 similar single-engine aircraft had been transferred by Singapore in 2005.

The Philippines has 40 helicopters, mostly second-hand, donated by the United States as part of military assistance to fight communist New People’s Army rebels and Muslim militants with ties to Jemaah Islamiah.

**Four Polish miners killed in pit accident**

Warsaw, 7 June — At least four miners have been killed and more than 20 others injured in an explosion in southern Poland, officials said on Thursday.

Three of the injured miners are in a serious condition following the accident, which occurred late on Wednesday night at the Borynia mine, TVN24 reported.

Jaroslav Zagarowski, head of the company that runs the mine, said the accident was probably caused by a methane explosion, TVN24 web portal said.

**Seven killed in road accident in Ukraine**

Kiev, 7 June — Seven persons were killed and two others were seriously injured after a minibus and a truck collided on the highway near the Ukrainian capital Kiev, Interfax-Ukraine news agency reported Wednesday.

The accident took place at Wednesday noon. The minibus suddenly lost control and crashed into the truck. The injured was taken to a hospital immediately, witnesses said. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

**Sudanese leaders were not serious about ending recent clashes that have stoked fears of a return to civil war.**

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Plans under way for settlement of storm victims...

(from page 1)

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that after the storm, the government gave priority to undertaking relief task as soon as possible. He added that arrangements were made for carrying out the tasks for storm survivors. Now, more than a month has passed. If the victims want to live in the regions where relief camps are being opened, arrangements will be made for resettling them there. In addition, the government will fulfil the requirements of basic needs for them to a certain degree for some time, he said.

The Prime Minister continued to say that arrangements are being made for fulfilling the requirements of those who want to live in native regions in the temporary and permanent settlements. Furthermore, temporary tents will be built for the victims in their regions. After construction of the temporary tents, the victims will be transported from the relief camps to their native regions. If the native regions are in good conditions to build permanent houses, the government will make plans for construction of their houses, he said.

He said rations for one week will be provided for those who would like to return to their places from the relief camps. Moreover, the nearest relief camps will make arrangements for fulfilling food requirements in the long run. Officials concerned of the camps have fulfilled the needs such as clothing, utensils, mosquito nets and blankets.

He said arrangements will be made for those who are engaged in agriculture to supply power tillers and paddy strains and for fishermen fishing equipment. The government, on its part, will provide assistance for storm victims for more improvement of their living standards, he added.

The Prime Minister gave instructions on bringing up the orphans and creating new happy life. They went to Saluseik Village by helicopter in Labutta Township. The Prime Minister together with the region in-charge Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut met village people and asked them about supply of goods and their living conditions and health care services.

He also inspected the temporary shelters and comforted the victims in the village, saying that the government would continue to carry out rehabilitation and reconstruction tasks including rescue works.

More roads would be built in the areas in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State. The roads would contribute not only towards regional development but also towards disaster preparedness measures, he said.

The government would take measures to improve the living standards of the storm victims, he said.

The Prime Minister presented a CDMA 450 telephone of the Myanma Posts and Telecommunications to the secretary of the Village USDA for better service personnel, and members of social organizations.

He touched upon the programmes for rehabilitating the storm-hit areas including Hsincheeya Village, and presented a CDMA 450 telephone of the Myanma Posts and Telecommunications to an official of the Village USDA for the convenience of the village.

The Prime Minister proceeded to Third Mile relief camp in Labutta Township, and inspected the camp by car. At the control office, Director-General of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development U Aung Win reported on his survey at the places, 3 miles, 5 miles and 7 miles from Labutta for extension of Labutta Myothit, conditions of the places, and potential for establishing a new town.

Prime Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut who was supervising the tasks for enlarging Labutta reported on the lands chosen for the new town, Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, on the places where offices, departments and buildings could be built.

In response, the Prime Minister asked some questions about the plan and fulfilled the requirements. He viewed the sample of school buildings for the education of the students. Next, he viewed the sample of the temporary school building built of local products, and a make-shift school building built of tarpaulin and gave instructions to officials concerned.

The Prime Minister greeted the officials from various organizations who are engaged in the reconstruction tasks, and doctors and health staff who are giving health care to the victims in Labutta Township.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein cordially greeted the members of the Japanese medical team led by Dr Kanai Kaname, and had a look at the medical treatment to the victims.

The Prime Minister and party left the Third Mile relief camp in Labutta Township by helicopter and arrived at Pathein at 2.10 pm.—MNA

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School children being taught at make-shift tents of Thuwunna BEHS in Thingangyun Township. (News reported)— MNA
Yangon, 7 June — A ceremony to seek the Ovadakatha for all-round renovation and re- hoisting Seinbudaw (diamond orb), Hngetmyatnadaw (pennant-shaped vane) and Hitdaw (umbrella) atop Kyaikkasan Pagoda hit by the storm was held at the pagoda in Thingangyun Township on 5 June. Joint Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Dvipitakadhara Dvipitakakovida Agga Myitzima Gonyi Sayadaw made an opening Ovadakatha. Kyaikhtiyo Sayadaw Abhidhajà Bhaddanta Pannadipa explained the tasks for the pagoda. Ovadacariya Sayadaws of the pagoda gave speeches and reviewed the supplication of the members of the pagoda board of trustees and officials. Next, they viewed the damaged Seinbudaw, Hngetmyat-nadaw and Hitdaw. Also present on the occasion were Adviser to the State Peace and Development Council U Arnt Maung, Chairman of the pagoda board of trustees Thiba Thudhamma Manijotadhara U Tin Shwe (Hsinmin) and well-wishers. Zay Gabar Co Ltd will sponsor the all-round renovation of the pagoda. NLM

More relief aids arrive at Yangon International Airport

Yangon, 7 June — Two IL-76 and one AN-12 flights carrying 75,226 tons of milk-powder, tents, office-used materials, tarpaulins, energy biscuit donated by Thai-based WFP arrived at Yangon International Airport at 7.45 am, 10.35 am and 3.17 pm. Jet star flight carrying 45 boxes of variety medicines donated through Myanmar Embassy in Singapore, four C-130 flights carrying 28.02 tons of candles, spoons, curry-pots, blankets, mosquito nets, soap, fiber cups, plastic buckets, fiber water-bags, two water purifiers and two 10,000-litre water tanks donated by USA, AN-12 flight carrying 6 tons of nylonrobes, plastic buckets and mosquito nets donated by Switzerland-based Doctors Without Borders, IL-76 flight carrying 38.67 tons of tarpaulin donated by Indonesia-based doctors without borders arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

Relief supplies donated from abroad have been sent to storm-hit regions by helicopter, car and ship. — MNA

The congregation seeks ovadakatha from Sayadaws for all-round renovation of Kyaikkasan Pagoda.— NLM

Renovation of Kyaikkasan Pagoda coordinated

Yangon, 7 June — Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kovida of Myitzima Gonyi Mahasi Sasana Yektha near National Races Village in Thakayta Township has so far donated cash and kind worth K 700 million to the victims of various storm-hit regions.

On 5 June, Daw Aye Yi, on behalf of the Sayadaw, donated 100 sets of robes, 100 umbrellas, 100 slippers, 70 fans and 100 C-f sheets worth K 1 million to storm victim monks to the Ministry of Religious Affairs, here. — MNA

WFP-donated items arrive at Yangon International Airport.— MNA

Daw Mar Mar Wai offers alms to nuns in Yangon East and South Districts.— MNA

Yangon Division MCWSC donates cash and kind to storm-hit nunneries

Yangon, 7 June — Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee held a ceremony to donate nun robes and provisions to storm-hit nunneries in Yangon East and South Districts at Sasana Gonyi nunnery in Thingangyun Township this morning.

Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai and party presented K 100,000 and 500 nun robes worth K 3.5 million donated by Yangon Division MCWSC, 80 bags of rice worth K 2,725,550, 80 viss of salt, 80 viss of gram, 180 viss of edible oil, 182 viss of onion donated by Yangon East District and 18 bags of rice worth K 1,015,000, 50 viss of edible oil and 250 viss of salt donated by Yangon South District to nunneries through the Presiding Nayaka Nun of Sasana Gonyi nunnery. Next, they asked after the health of the nuns in the nunnery. — MNA

Myitzima Gonyi Sayadaw makes more donations

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Floating hospitals in service of storm victim patients in Bogale, Pyapon and Labutta townships of Ayeyawady Division

I have heard the news for many days that health care services are being provided to storm victims of Ayeyawady Division on board floating hospital, and that health staff went to the storm-hit villages by boat for giving medical treatments to the locals.

However, some foreign media said that the effective health care services were not given to the storm victims. To know how health care services are being provided effectively to the victims on board floating hospital, I sought an interview with Deputy Director-General Dr Win Myint of the Department of Health under the Ministry of Health.

In the interview, Deputy Director-General Dr Win Myint said, “The Ministry of Health supervises health care services to the victims in the storm-hit regions as soon as possible going there by land and by boat.”

After the storm, the Minister for Health organized six emergency medical teams comprising specialists, assistant surgeons and nurses to promptly give medical treatments to the storm victims of Ayeyawady Division. The medical teams went right down to the grassroots-level by land and by boat.

In providing health care services to the victims by boat, Dr Win Myint explained, “Three medical teams formed with 13 members each comprising a physician, a pediatrician, an orthopaedist, a psychiatrist, a dentist, assistant surgeons and male nurses gave medical treatments to the victims in Bogale, Labutta and Pyapon townships on board three ships namely Taing Aye, Ta Taing Hmwe and Way Than Tayar from 19 to 25 May.”

In doing so, the medical teams discharges their duties for 10 days. At present, the teams were changed with new ones only once in every two week. When the ships berthed at the jetty, local storm victims received medical treatment on board the ship. Likewise, the medical teams provided health care services to the storm victims from the villages going there by boat.

Every floating hospital was facilitated with clinic room, medicines and dental chair for enabling the victim patients to receive free medical treatment on various complaints and diseases. Further more, the emergency patients were transferred to the nearest hospitals or the general hospitals in Yangon.

With regard to the requirements of medicines for the floating hospitals, Dr Win Myint explained, “The Central Medical Store Depot under the Ministry of Health is supplying necessary medicines to the floating hospitals. Carrying adequate medicines on board the floating hospitals, the victim patients could undergo proper medical treatment by specialists.”

He added, “Most of the victim patients received the treatments on dental and other common diseases. So far, there has been no outbreak of infectious disease, and patients with infectious disease complaint were very rare. In the works, the floating hospital daily provided health care services to about 1,000 victim patients in total, and these were common complaints.”

Three seven-member medical teams including specialists and male nurses went again to Bogale, Labutta and Pyapon townships in three ships third time, three seven-member medical teams including male doctors, dentists and male nurses also provided health care services to the locals at the same venues on board the same floating hospitals from 29 May to 7 June.

Likewise, an eight-member medical team including one specialist psychiatrist left for Mawlamyine-gyun Township by ship Pa Pa Win on 1 June, and they are performing health care services to the victim patients.

Dr Win Myint continued to say, “In early days, the medical teams on the floating hospitals were substituted with new teams with clinic room, medicines and dental chair for enabling the victim patients to receive free medical treatment on various complaints and diseases. Further more, the emergency patients were transferred to the nearest hospitals or the general hospitals in Yangon.”

The Ministry of Health daily supervises medical teams giving medical treatments to victim patients of villages. Carrying adequate medicines on board the floating hospitals, the victim patients could undergo proper medical treatment by specialists.

“Medical treatments are being given daily,” said Dr Win Myint, Deputy Director-General of Health Department.

In the interview, Deputy Director-General Dr Win Myint said, “The Ministry of Health daily supervises medical teams giving medical treatments to victim patients of villages. Carrying adequate medicines on board the floating hospitals, the victim patients could undergo proper medical treatment by specialists.”

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It is more than a month Myanmar has faced the nightmare of Nargis that rocked the country, claiming very high death toll and damage to the property. It moved to Thailand and then abated. The storm is now no more. However, the enemy that is more destructive than Nargis has reared its ugly head. The enemy that is worse than thieves and robbers is fire. Who is the enemy that is more destructive than Nargis?

Now, foreign countries and international organizations, and individual donors are offering donations to the victims generously. The Myanmar government and the people are accepting with thanks the donations with no strings attached. Nevertheless, there was a broadcast aired by certain foreign radio stations. One of the regular contributors of those radio stations said, “I don’t know whether storm victims get instant noodle packets or not, but they are now available in Nyaungbinlay Market”. Foreign-made instant noodle packets have been available in stores, supermarkets and markets. Maybe, some victims sold their quotas of instant noodle packets to get some money. Then, I visited several markets to find out whether foreign-made instant noodle packets were on sales there. I found them, but not many.

The exaggerated news story was intended to destroy the generosity of donor countries and organizations. In a broadcast, one said that he witnessed a truck loaded with CI sheets donated by foreign donors reached in Ayeyawady Division this year. I wish they would know that fish and prawn will be plentiful in Ayeyawady this year. So, many more fingerlings and shrimps will survive. So, fish and prawn will be plentiful in Ayeyawady Division this year. I wish they would know that fish and prawn are so plentiful in Ayeyawady Division that even there is no need to use fishing net to catch fish and prawn, and they can be caught just by hand.

At the conference held on 25 May the Prime Minister clarified that any donations from any nations without political strings attached are accepted with thanks. The statement of the Prime Minister is the attitude of the government. The people of Myanmar are in oneness with the government. It is sure that every Myanmar citizen with nationalistic fervour will oppose any donations made with the intention of tarnishing the image of the nation. No parents would accept such a kind of donation made by a well-to-do donor that he did so with the intention of having sexual relations with their young daughter. This is the pure spirit of Myanmar people.

Some western big nations are imposing economic sanctions against Myanmar with the evil intention of undermining national solidarity. They seem to be assuming that Myanmar would yield to them when its economy gets bankrupt. However, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are marching toward the discipline-flourishing democracy in uniform. And now, they are nearly reaching their goal. At such a time, the nation was hit hard by the severe storm. Whatever danger may befall the nation Myanmar people will continue marching toward the national goal with diligence and perseverance. They approved the draft constitution and their new political system that is in conformity with its prevailing situation and made progress. Myanmar had encountered such bitter experiences. Soon after it regained independence there emerged internal armed insurgency as the nation was undermined by foreign nations. The internal armed insurgency that reigned since 1948-1949 lasted for about 40 years. The impact of the 40-year long internal armed insurgency on the nation was far greater than that of the severe storm Nargis. Those who triggered the internal armed insurgency that were worse than Nargis are the ones who are more cruel and brutal than the storm. Owing to alien instigation, the nation had suffered much in the past. Taking lessons from the past incidents, the nation will in no way accept the interference of foreign nations.

At present, some foreign broadcasting stations are making attempts to undermine the national unity under the pretext of Nargis. Those foreign broadcasting stations that are attempting to put the nation into a state of 1948-1949 are worse than Nargis. They also cited Nargis. Nevertheless, he did not mention the number plate of that truck. Construction materials such as cement, corrugated iron sheets and nails are transported by truck from and to every brokerage house. Such groundless news stories are designed to undermine the trust of donor countries and organizations in Myanmar and its people.

I read an article in the Kyemon daily published on 29-5-2008: “Storm-hit areas will have been generated with thriving trees and crop plantation if it rains early”. It is a good article. In it, he said that the people of Ayeyawady Division could survive with self-reliant efforts even if they were not given chocolate bars from international community. Ayeyawady dwellers managed to continue to survive with fish and edible frogs for dishes that were abundant in the fields and ditches and some vegetables that grew naturally such as wather clover and asparagus. He said, indeed, the writer did not mean to insult the donor countries and organizations, and he just showed victims the ways to survive, by disclosing the prevailing situations of the nation. He also said that Myanmar people were accepting wholeheartedly the relief from the international community. Maybe they need temporarily instant noodle and biscuit packets. It made it clear that the writer had no intention to insult the donor nations and organizations. He just urged the residents of Ayeyawady Division to make self-reliant efforts in conformity with one of the Buddha’s teachings, “Atthathi Atlatho Natho” that means “the person on whom one can rely is he himself”.

The sentence “The people of Ayeyawady Division could survive with self-reliant efforts even if they were not given chocolate bars from international community” came under the criticism of the foreign radio stations. They have come to destroy the generosity of the donor countries and organizations. They aired similar stories three or four days in a row. Their broadcasts will have adverse effects on the victims only.

It was very rude of him to ask what would the victims have to eat if they did not have chocolates and biscuits, and if they would have to eat the dead bodies, then. I am a fish and prawn breeder, so I have some knowledge of fish and prawn. In Myanmar, the month of May is a period when female fishes find suitable places for laying their eggs. This year, no one was in a position to catch pregnant fishes. Even a spawning fish, prawn or crab can give birth to millions of fries. Food is more plentiful for them in their pastures this year than previous years. So, many more fingerlings and shrimps will survive. So, fish and prawn will be plentiful in Ayeyawady Division this year. I wish they would know that fish and prawn are so plentiful in Ayeyawady Division that even there is no need to use fishing net to catch fish and prawn, and they can be caught just by hand.

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**Agricultural facilities, feedstuff, paddy strains supplied**

**Schools, offices and religious buildings under repair in Dedaye Township**

**Yangon, 7 June** — The measures to restore agricultural development in Dedaye Township are being closely supervised by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.

A total of 196 agricultural facilities have been provided to the 88 villages out of 93 in the township. More facilities will continue to arrive there. Until 3 June, a total of 4765 acres have been ploughed in the township.

Moreover, drought cattle and feedstuff are also being provided to the region. Tasks for giving vaccines to the draught cattle are carried out in the township.

Myanma Agriculture Service of Dedaye Township has distributed 6520 baskets of various kinds of paddy strains to 40 village tracts. The township has a target to grow 1,82,143 acres of paddy in the rainy season of 2008-2009. And plans for supplying paddy strains from the states and divisions to the storm-hit regions are underway.

Likewise, 30 schools and health facilities including township hospital, station hospital, rural health care centre were repaired and so were the offices and religious buildings.

The damaged drinking water lakes and the rest of damaged buildings are under repair. —MNA

**Construction of schools in Hainggyigyun, Ledaw, Thetkethaung completed by 100%**

**Yangon, 7 June** — Local and foreign well-wishers, national entrepreneurs and construction companies joined hands with the government are carrying out reconstruction of storm-hit regions with added momentum.

Moe Kyei Sin Construction Co has completed 100% of reconstruction of storm-hit Basic Education High School in Hainggyigyun Township, BEPS in Ledaw Village and Basic Education Post-Primary School in Thetkethaung Village.

In addition, the company donated relief supplies worth K 130 million to the storm victims of the regions. —MNA

**Donations for storm victims**

**Yangon, 7 June** — Well-wishers from abroad and at home are donating cash and kind to storm victims in storm-stricken regions.

Chairman of fund accepting and issuing sub-committee Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe accepted K 55 million, Euro 6390 and US$ 49984.22 donated by wellwishers at Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch) in Yankin Township, here, today. —MNA

**Repair work of damaged power lines inspected**

**Yangon, 7 June** — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials inspected repairs of damaged power lines and maintenance of power lines in Kawhmu Township yesterday.

The minister and party also inspected the repairs of power lines along Kawhmu-Kungyangon motor road and gave instructions to the officials.

At Township Electric Engineer’s Office in Kungyangon township, the minister inspected 33/11 KV (2.5 MVA) transformer and 300 KVA transformer, office building and construction of new staff quarters attended to their needs. —MNA

**Farmers get power tillers**

**Yangon, 7 June** — A total of 60 drought cattle and 198 power tillers have been sent to storm-affected Mawlamyinegyun Township up to yesterday.

Power tillers were being delivered to the farmers without delay. —MNA

**Rehabilitation materials for storm victims**

**Yangon, 7 June** — Mawlamyinegyun Township Red Cross Society has provided clothes, household goods, foodstuff and water purifying tablets to storm victims in 12 villages in the township until today.

Two blankets, two tarpaulins measuring 18 ft x 12 ft and materials to be used in rehabilitation works have been presented to each household in the respective villages. —MNA

**Provision of health care services supervised**

**Yangon, 6 June** — A medical team led by Dr Mya Than Nwe (Infectious Disease/Lower Myanmar) yesterday supervised health care services for the victim families being provided by Dr Nan Mon Sai and party at the relief camp in the sports ground in Seikgyi Kahanuto Township, Yangon South District.

The medical team provided demonstration of using chlorine tablets to the health personnel and inspected putting of chlorine tablets into drinking water and prevention against cholera.

It also comprised Assistant-Director U Htay Win, Dr Khin San Oo of the Ministry of Health and Dr Ohn Ma Aye, Head of Township Health Department. —MNA

**Financial Subcommittee Chairman Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe accepts K 30 million donated by U Ko Ko Htoo-Daw Sanda Aung of Myanmar Industrial Port. —MNA**

[A nurse of North Okkalapa General Hospital giving vaccine to a child in Bogale Township. —HEALTH](#)
A giant soccer ball is placed on the roof of the Burgtheater in the official Euros 2008 fan zone in Vienna on 6 June, 2008. — INTERNET

Israel killed in rocket attack near Gaza

JERUSALEM, 7 June — An Israeli was killed and three others were hurt when a rocket hit a kibbutz near the border with the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip, Israel’s ambulance service said on Thursday.

Hamas’s armed wing said it fired three mortar bombs at an Israeli Army base which it said “killed a Zionist and wounded some others”. Police said the rocket hit a factory at the Nir Oz kibbutz in southern Israel.

“We will confront the occupier with all our means and we will continue striking the Zionist military sites and settlements around Gaza in response to the continued aggression against our people,” Hamas said in a statement.

Israel’s government spokesman David Baker blamed Hamas for the attack and said it would be held accountable for the “dirty bomb” attack.

Japan reimposes ban on British poultry imports

TOKYO, 7 June — The Japanese Government announced on Wednesday its decision to reimpose the ban on poultry imports from Britain since avian influenza broke out again in the country.

Japanese officials said they had learnt that a new strain of avian influenza had broken out in the UK since November 2007 due to the outbreak of the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu, and lifted the ban on 26 May.

The newly-confirmed avian influenza in Britain belonged to the more benign H7 strain.

On Wednesday announced Japan’s Cabinet’s decision to ban British poultry imports after avian influenza was found again in Britain.

Philippines forms food-energy council

MANILA, 7 June — The Philippine Government on Wednesday announced that it has created a high-level policy-making body, the National Food and Energy Council (NFEC), to address the issues related to food and energy supplies.

In a statement issued by the presidential palace, the administration said President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo will chair the newly-formed council with the secretary of the National Economic and Development Authority as vice chairman.

Members of the council include the secretaries of agriculture, environment and energy, and the heads of the National Anti-Poverty Commission, National Security Council, National Power Corp., and National Food Authority.

Arroyo has signed the Executive Order 728 to enact the NFEC and defines one of its obligations as “advising the president if and when the exercise of emergency powers would be required to address food and energy problems,” the statement said.

Flooding from storm “Arthur” kill 5 in Belize

BELIZE CITY, 7 June — Flash floods caused by tropical storm Arthur have killed at least five people in southeastern Belize, including a toddler, the government of the tiny Central American country said on Wednesday.

Arthur, the first storm of the year in the Atlantic, dumped over 11 inches (28 centimetres) of rain across Belize this week as it moved inland, also dumping southern Mexican states.

The body of a two-year-old boy was found on Tuesday evening. His father had struggled for half an hour in turbulent floodwaters before the infant was washed away. Two people from the southeastern district of Stann Creek were still missing on Wednesday. — MNA/Reuters
Yangon University of Foreign Languages Invitations for application of MA (EFL) Course

1. The First Year academic programme leading to the MA (EFL) degree for 2008-2009 academic year will be opened in June 2008.
2. Those who wishes to attend the course should
(a) be Myanmar citizens
(b) fulfill the requirements for admission to the First Year academic programme leading to the MA (EFL) degree.
3. Applications should be submitted by 18 June 2008

China launches massive quake zone reconstruction

CHENGDU, 7 June — China, facing emergencies ranging from swollen lakes to rehousing millions after last month’s devastating earthquake, is looking to the future, planning a huge reconstruction of schools, homes and hospitals reduced to rubble.

The 12 May quake centred in southwest China’s Sichuan Province killed 69,122 people with 17,991 more missing and 17,189 dead, according to the latest official figures, but many more are feared to have died or gone missing.

More than 15 million residents have been displaced and tent cities have been going up across the ravaged region as the usually sweltering summer settles in, making life far from comfortable. The government said the massive quake zone would continue to be the 4th priority of China’s 11th Five-Year Plan for reconstruction.

The government has said reconstruction would take up to three years.

Nicaragua destroys illegal weapons

MANAGUA, 7 June — The National Police of Nicaragua on Thursday destroyed almost 2,000 firearms seized from illegal owners or voluntarily handed over by citizens, officials said.

The destroyed weapons included 492 AK assault rifles, 993 handguns, 70 revolvers, 200 sub-machine guns, 71 BZM2 fusils, and two 81-mm and 79-home-made mortar launchers. MNA/Xinhua

Brazil arrests suspect in torture of journalists

RIO DE JANEIRO, 7 June — Brazilian police arrested on Wednesday one of two suspected leaders of a paramilitary group believed to have tortured journalists with beatings and electric shocks in a Rio de Janeiro slum.

The journalists made the allegation on Sunday in their O Dia newspaper, saying they, along with their driver and a local resident, were captured and tortured by the group on May 14 while reporting undercover in the slum in the west of the city.

“We got to these people through the testimony of the victims,” police commander Claudio Ferraz told reporters.

The two suspects were identified as Davi Leberato de Araujo, 32, and Odinei Fernando da Silva, 35, who police said were the leaders of the paramilitary group in the slum.

De Araujo, a prisoner serving time in a semi-open jail, was arrested. Da Silva, a police officer, is still at large, Ferraz said. MNA/Reuters

Chile diesel demand spikes amid natural gas cuts

VALLPAРАÍSO (Chile), 7 June — Demand for diesel in Chile is skyrocketing as the energy-poor country enters the Southern Hemisphere winter amid cuts in natural gas imports from sole supplier Argentina.

ENAP Chief Executive Enrique Davila said after a meeting with Congress in Chile’s port town of Valparaiso on Wednesday that average diesel consumption spiked 50 per cent in 2007 over 2006 and was rising at the same rate this year.

“Last year the rise in diesel demand was 50 per cent and in the first five months of this year the rise has been the same again or a little more,” said Davila. “We’ll have to wait and see what happens in the second semester.”

Argentina has limited natural gas supplies to Chile since 2004, and cuts have grown more acute. Last week it cut exports to central Chile completely on Wednesday and Sunday. Chilean electricity generators must shift to diesel, dirtier and more expensive than natural gas.

During 2007, diesel demand in Chile was about 1.2 million cubic metres per month, up sharply from about 500,000 cubic metres per month in 2006. ENAP produces about 350,000 cubic metres per month of diesel, meaning it has to import the remainder. MNA/Reuters

Israel army arrests 13 Palestinians in West Bank

RAMALLAH, 7 June — The Israeli Army arrested 13 Palestinians all over the West Bank on Thursday, Israeli and Palestinian security sources said. Palestinian security sources said Israeli soldiers stormed houses in the town of Nablus, searched the contents inside and arrested seven Palestinians for questioning.

The sources said the Israeli Army forces erected new roadblocks around the town, stopped cars and searched them, noting that all over the West Bank, Israel set up over 600 checkpoints which blocked the people’s movement.

In Bethlehem, the Israeli soldiers arrested four Palestinians, including a Palestinian woman, said the sources, adding that two more Palestinians were arrested near Tulkarem in the northern West Bank. MNA/Xinhua

ROK, Finland agree to widen industrial coop

SEOUL, 7 June — South Korea and Finland on Thursday agreed to expand practical co-operation in information technology, shipbuilding, machinery and other industrial fields during summit talks between President Lee Myung-bak and Finland’s Prime Minister Matti Vanhanen.

Lee and Vanhanen also agreed to widen personnel exchanges and deepen cooperation for an early conclusion of the ongoing free trade agreement negotiations between South Korea and the European Union.

“Lee expressed deep interest in Finland’s high global rankings in national competitiveness and various transparency indices. In addition, the two leaders agreed to closely cooperate on global issues,” said a presidential secretary.

Vanhanen arrived here Thursday for a three-day visit designed to celebrate the opening of regular commercial flights between South Korea and Finland. Earlier this week, Finnair, Finland’s flagship carrier, started offering five weekly flights between Seoul’s Incheon International Airport and Helsinki, becoming the fourth European carrier to fly directly to South Korea after Air France, Lufthansa and KLM.

MNA/Xinhua

One-time Obama fundraiser guilty in corruption trial

CHICAGO, 7 June — A day after Barack Obama claimed the Democratic party’s presidential nomination, his one-time fundraiser was found guilty of corruption on Wednes-day, a development the Republican Party said raises serious concerns about his fitness for the White House.

Antoin “Tony” Rezko, a Chicago real estate developer and one-time fundraiser for several politicians including Obama, was found guilty of fraud, attempted bribery and money laundering.

Obama figured only briefly in the trial and had severed his connections with Rezko. But the Republican National Committee immediately issued a statement noting the verdict came right after Obama came “wheezing over the finish line” to beat party rival Hillary Clinton.

“This is further proof that Obama’s high-flying rhetoric is just that ... today’s verdict and Obama’s friendship with Rezko raise serious questions about whether he has the judgment to serve as president,” it said. MNA/Reuters

Earthquake survivors dig out useful things from the ruins of destroyed houses in Leigu town of earthquake-hit Beichuan county, Sichuan Province, on 6 June, 2008. — INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

UN tips to cut car, ditch electric tooth brush

ROME, 7 June — Better insulation at home, less use of the car and even giving up an electric toothbrush can help people in rich nations halve emissions of greenhouse gases, a UN report said on Thursday.

“Adopting a climate-friendly lifestyle needn’t require drastic changes or major sacrifices,” according to the 202-page UN Environment Programe (UNEP) book entitled “Kick the CO2 Habit: the UN Guide to Climate Neutrality”.

Issued to mark the UN’s annual World Environment Day on 5 June, it outlines ways for people to combat global warming with measures such as packing lighter suitcases when flying or going jogging in a park rather than on an electric treadmill.

World emissions of greenhouse gases blamed by the UN Climate Panel for heating the globe total about 4.5 tons per person for all of the world’s 6.7 billion population.

The guide outlines ways for people in Europe, Australasia and North America — the major contributors to global warming historically — to halve their emissions. Among examples and their savings of carbon dioxide (CO2):

— Use a wind-up alarm clock rather than an electric one: 48 grammes CO2 a day.

— Pack lighter suitcases. It says that world savings would be 2 million tons a year if every airline passenger cut the weight of baggage to below 20 kilos and bought duty free goods on arrival.

— Use a non-electric toothbrush: 48 grammes a day.

Jordan to cut Internet sales tax for boosting users

AMMAN, 7 June — Jordan planned to largely slash the Internet sales tax on household user in a bid to increase the number of Internet user, local daily Jordan Times reported on Wednesday.

The Ministry of Finance is finalizing a decision to reduce the tax from currently 16 percent to between 5 and 8 percent, said a senior official.

The decision, which is expected to be released soon, will help expand the Internet penetration in Jordan, which currently stands at about 20 percent, and accelerate the implementation of its Information and Communication Technology (ICT) strategy.

The national strategy seeks to increase the number of Internet users to 50 per cent by the year 2012, Minister of Information and Communications Technology Bassem Roussan said.

Blood sugar level important in diabetes-free people

NEW YORK, 7 June — Elevated blood sugar in people without a prior diagnosis of diabetes raises the risk of premature death, results of a study show.

Only a few prospective studies have looked at associations between blood sugar levels among subjects initially free of diabetes and subsequent risk of death, Dr Naomi Brewer, of Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand, and colleagues point out in the journal Diabetes Care.

Among individuals, who attended the August 1969 Woodstock Music and Art Fair — was offered to people without diabetes during a screening program for hepatitis B in a region of New Zealand from 1999 to 2001. Mortality risk was examined to the end of 2004 in these subjects.

Among a total of 47,904 individuals, whose average age was 38 years, 815 died during the median follow-up of 4.4 years.

Astronauts float into Japan’s space lab

HOUSTON, 7 June — Japan’s space lab is now open for business, science — and art.

Astronauts aboard the International Space Station floated into the lab module on Wednesday after power was activated, kicking-starting Japan’s permanent place in space.

“The Kibo module is now open,” said Japanese astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, before the opening of the hatch.

Hoshide, brandishing a sign that said “Welcome” in English and Japanese, then floated in with his crewmates.

Dubbed “Kibo” or “Hope,” the lab was delivered by the shuttle Discovery, which blasted off from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Saturday for a two-week mission that has included a plumbing call and an art.

A painted bus is seen at the Woodstock museum at Bethel Woods in an undated handout photo. The Museum at Bethel Woods brings the Age of Aquarius into the age of the Internet for $15 a ticket. Seniors over 65 — which would account for many of those who attended the August 1969 Woodstock Music and Art Fair — pay $11.

Calif county votes to ban marijuana cultivation

LOS ANGELES, 7 June — Mendocino County’s reputation as a marijuana haven may be going up in smoke.

Voters on Tuesday leaned toward repealing a law allowing home marijuana growing, according to preliminary results of a ballot measure vote released on Wednesday.

Critics say a cottage industry had grown out of control. California in 1996 voted to allow possession and cultivation by residents of marijuana for medical purposes, despite federal law which declares it illegal.
Pele weighs in on altitude debate

SANTIAGO, 7 June — Brazil’s Pele has criticized FIFA’s recent decision to lift a ban on playing World Cup qualifiers at more than 2,750 metres above sea level.

“If we are thinking about equality and protecting the players, if there’s a chance to play in a lower city in the same country it would be better for the protection of the players,” he told reporters on Wednesday during a visit to Santiago.

FIFA last month reversed a ruling that banned matches at high altitude. Their decision will allow Bolivia to stage games in their traditional venue La Paz, 3,600 metres above sea level, and for Ecuador to host matches in the capital Quito at 2,800 metres.

Captain Ljungberg fully fit for Swedish assault

LUSSANO (Switzerland), 7 June — Swedish captain Fredrik Ljungberg said on Wednesday he was back to full fitness after a rib injury that had threatened his Euro 2008 participation.

“I am 100 per cent healthy now and I’m ready to go full speed,” the midfielder told reporters after his team’s first workout at their lakeside training base in the Swiss Alps.

Olympic Pandas” make debut at Beijing Zoo

BEIJING, 7 June — Eight “Olympic Pandas” nominated by netizens to add cheer to the games this summer met the public on Thursday morning at the Beijing Zoo.

The display featuring the endangered animals was launched in a special ceremony. Enthusiastic visitors queued to buy tickets to the renovated panda hall and took pictures from outside the newly expanded glass enclosure, where wooden toy trees, a mural and swimming pools create a homey environment. The pandas live in three pens held at a constant temperature, similar to their natural habitat.

Kaka ruled out of Argentina clash

RIO DE JANEIRO, 7 June — Kaka has been ruled out of Brazil’s World Cup qualifiers against Paraguay and Argentina this month after undergoing surgery on his knee two weeks ago, the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said Wednesday.

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WEATHER

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Saturday, 7 June, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kayah State and Lower Sagaina Division, fairly widespread in Kayin State and Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Katha (2.56) inches, Mawlamyine (1.97) inches, Mawlaik (2.73) inches, Homalin (2.37) inches, Pnilaung (1.38) inches, Sittwe (1.34) inches, Kengtung and Thandwe (1.10) inches each and Myeik (1.02) inches. Maximum temperature on 6-6-2008 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 7-6-2008 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 7-6-2008 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 6-6-2008 was (1.9) hours (approx). Rainfall on 7-6-2008 was (0.15) inch at Minglelodon, (0.51) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.44) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (31.57) inches at Minglelodon, (38.82) inches at Kaba-Aye and (51.50) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 6-6-2008.

Bay inference: According to the observation on 06:30 hrs MST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay and adjoining West Central Bay has to Southwest Bay and still persists. Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 8-6-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated to scattered in Kayah State, Lower Sagaina and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State and Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavy fall in Rakhine State, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 8-6-2008: One or two rains or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 8-6-2008: Some rains. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 8-6-2008: Isolated rains or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Sunday, 8 June

View on today
7:00 am
1. မြန်မာ့ကျောင်းသား ကြည်ချိန်း ၁၇:၃၀ချက်
7:25 am
2. ကြည်ချိန်း ၁၇:၃၀ချက်
7:30 am
3. သြားကြည်ချိန်း ၁၇:၃၀ချက်
7:40 am
4. ကြည်ချိန်း ၁၇:၃၀ချက်
8:00 am
5. ကြည်ချိန်း ၁၇:၃၀ချက်
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.

- Certain internal and external anti-government elements, self-centered persons and unscrupulous elements are now seeking their self-interests by sending to the foreign news agencies the stories about relief and rehabilitation work they have made up and shot on video.
- Storm victims are hereby warned to remain vigilant with nationalistic spirit against the deceptions of the self-centered persons and unscrupulous elements.

Medical teams provide health care to storm victims

YANGON, 7 June — A medical team comprising specialists, doctors and nurses led by Professor Dr Kyaw Swa Lin of North Okkalapa General Hospital on board Taing Aye floating hospital are providing health care to storm victims at the villages in Bogale Township.

On 5 June, the medical team gave medical treatments to 175 patients and 22 dental patients at Ywathit and Kyeechaung villages provided pre-natal care to 21 pregnant women and inoculated 40 children.

Similarly, a specialist team led by Professor Dr Thein Nyunt of Toungoo People’s Hospital provided health care to 200 out-patients and some in-patients at Bogale People’s Hospital and performed surgical treatment to needy patients.

They also opened clinics in the wards and gave vaccines to the children.

Doctors and the health assistant trainees of University of Community Health in Magway led by Dr Khin Maung Lin chlorinated drinking water, gave health knowledge to social organizations in the region and took preventive measures against DHF. — MNA

YANGON, 7 June — The Myanmar Red Cross Society joining hands with the International Committee of the Red Cross is supplying drinking water processed by LMS water purifiers that were donated by the France Red Cross Society to urban and rural areas of Dadeye Township in Ayeyawady Division.

Likewise, No. 1 Water Purifier can produce 10,000 litres of drinking water per hour and it can run 10 hours a day. Ten litres bags of water are being delivered to 80 villages of 23 village-tracts on Sukalut and Kyonda islands in Dadeye Township.

No. 1 Water Purifier can produce 40,000 litres of drinking water per hour and it can operate 10 hours per day. At present, the drinking water is being supplied to the villages on either side of Dadeye-Pyapon-Kyaiklat Road.

Weather Forecast for (8-6-2008)

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

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

Mandalay and neighbouring area: Isolated rain or thundershower. Degree of certainty is (80%).