Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Portuguese Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Anibal Cavaco Silva, President of the Portuguese Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Portuguese Republic which falls on 10 June 2008. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Portuguese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June — General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Jose Socrates Carvalho Pinto De Sousa, Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of Portuguese Republic which falls on 10 June 2008. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets USDA reconstruction volunteers to Ayeyawady Division

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Chairman of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein met with members of State and Division Union Solidarity and Development Associations who are going to help in reconstruction of storm-hit regions in Ayeyawady Division at the meeting hall of the association on New University Avenue, Yangon, this afternoon.

In his meeting with members of State and Division USAs, the Prime Minister said that the government, the people and the Tatmadaw managed to successfully undertake rescue works in the storm-hit regions of Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions in a short time.

Continued rehabilitation tasks are being carried out.

The USDA was set up with the aims of protecting and safeguarding the interests of the people. (See page 6)

We have to replace earth bricks with stone ones (2)

KYAW YE MIN

Pages 8+9

USDA youth members to take part in tasks of reconstruction in villages of Labutta, Bogale Tsp

YANGON, 9 June — A team comprising 264 youth members of State/Division Union Solidarity and Development Associations will leave for Labutta and Bogale Townships on 10 June to take part in the tasks of sanitation, health and reconstruction.

The programme was arranged under the leadership of Youth Affairs Group of USDA and the tasks will be carried out in Hlaingphone, Pyinsalu, Sinchayyar and Saluseik villages in Labutta Township and Kyeingyaung and Setsan villages in Bogale Township.

In the time of fostering help and aid to the storm-hit regions, USDA Headquarters will see to the general expenses of the members and will furnish them with pots, plates, and food in addition to canvas tents enough for their accommodation.

MNA

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

We have to replace earth bricks with stone ones (2)

KYAW YE MIN
Cooperate with national spirit in speedy implementation of reconstruction tasks

The State will not only fulfil the basic needs of the storm victims such as food and temporary shelters but also provide permanent accommodation for them. Moreover, the storm victims of Kyunghaya Village at Kadonkani Relief Camp in Pyapon Township will have the chance to resettle in their own place as they have wished to.

Necessary equipment and technical help are also being provided for their village reconstruction and for resumption of their businesses like agriculture, fishery and salt industry.

With power tillers, paddy strains, fertilizers and fuel oil the State has provided, farmers are to strive to boost crop yields by operating their power tillers at full capacity and employing advanced agricultural methods.

 Likewise, those engaging in fishery and salt industry are to try to rerun their businesses to return to normal with their fishing gear and accessories the State has provided.

Arrangements have been made for the students to pursue education at make-shift classrooms and they will be provided with exercise books and stationery. All those responsible with goodwill are to train the students to raise their morale so that they can learn their education healthily and peacefully.

As reconstruction tasks for the storm-stricken regions are so vast, the government is striving not only for the reconstruction but for their development by laying down plans on lists priorities.

In doing so, the people, wellwishers and national entrepreneurs are to cooperate with national spirit in the drive so as to complete the reconstruction works in a short time.

Private media donate cash and kind to storm victims in Kawhmu, Twantay townships

Kachin State donates over K 690 million

Writers, journalists and artists distribute relief aids to storm victims in the village of Natsingon in Kawhmu Township. — MNA

Foreign Minister sends message of felicitations to Portuguese counterpart
Two quakes hit Southern California

LOS ANGELES, 9 June—A pair of small earthquakes rattled the Imperial Valley and eastern San Diego County in Southern California on Sunday, but there was no immediate reports of casualties or damage, according to local media reports.

Automated seismographs placed the epicenter of the quakes at a jiggling section of desert about 128 kilometers southeast of downtown San Diego, and 64 kilometers southwest of Mexicali, both bordering the Mexican border.—Internet

Severe weather kills eight; water rises in Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS, 9 June—Wicked weekend storms pounded the country from the Midwest to the East Coast, forcing hundreds of people to flee flooded communities, spawning tornadoes that tore up houses and killing at least eight people.

Rescuers in boats continued to pluck people from rising waters in Indiana on Sunday, a day after more than 10 inches of rain deluged much of the state.

In Iowa, pumps and thousands of sandbags were sent to the Iowa City area, where officials fear a reservoir could top a spillway and flood the city of about 63,000 by Tuesday.—Internet

Astronauts end final spacewalk of shuttle mission

HOUSTON, 9 June—Spacewalking astronauts from US shuttle Discovery finished outfitting Japan’s newly arrived Kibo research laboratory and carried out other tasks during 6 1/2 hours of work outside the International Space Station on Sunday.

Astronauts Michael Foosum and Ronald Garan also did preventive maintenance on the station’s air conditioner, which NASA wants in the best shape possible before the shuttle fleet’s retirement in 2010.

Sunday’s work was the latest in an ambitious schedule to complete construction of the $100 billion station over the next two years. Nine more shuttle flights to the station are planned by the US space agency, along with a single flight to upgrade the Hubble Space Telescope.

Soaring 210 miles over Earth, Foosum and Garan floated back inside and closed the station’s airlock by 4:28 pm EDT (2028 GMT). Their main job was to replace a 550-pound (249-kg) tank of nitrogen used to pressurize the outpost’s vacuum-cooling system. Riding on the station’s 58-foot (18-metre) Canadian-built robot arm, Garan removed the old tank and picked up the new tank from a storage platform on the other side of the outpost. “Enjoy the ride,” said Karen Nyberg, who operated the crane from inside the station’s Destiny laboratory. She maneuvered the robot arm after remarking earlier Garan would be riding “on top of the world.”—Internet

Greek quake kills two people, injures 125

KATO ACHAIA, (GREECE), 9 June—An earthquake struck southern Greece on Sunday, killing two villagers, injuring 125 people and damaging dozens of homes, authorities said. Panicked residents ran into the streets and some jumped from balconies when the quake, measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale, struck at 1525 local time (1225 GMT), 54 km (33 miles) south of the western port city of Patras.

The village of Kato Achaia near the epicenter appeared to be hardest hit by the tremor, which was felt as far away as Italy.

One man was found dead under a collapsed wall and an 80-year-old woman from a nearby village died in hospital of a heart attack after being injured.

A Reuters witness said about half a dozen old houses at the entrance of the village had collapsed and one church had visible damage.

Aftershocks were continuing, with many residents in the region set to spend the night outdoors and in cars, too scared to return to their residences.

“Everyone is out, sitting in the village squares, while firefighters and emergency services are everywhere,” said Reuters photographer Yorgos Karahalis.—Internet

Gasoline rises above $4 a gallon for first time

LOS ANGELES, 9 June—The US average price for a gallon of regular gasoline topped $4 for the first time, a survey issued on Sunday by the travel group AAA showed. AAA’s survey showed a national average price of $4.005 per gallon, up from $3.67 a month ago and $3.10 a year ago.

Average national gasoline prices had stabilized last week before Thursday and Friday’s spike of US crude oil futures by $16 to a record above $139 a barrel. Friday’s one-day gain of $10.75 for crude oil was the biggest daily gain in history, and Thursday’s gain was the second biggest.—Internet

UK loses 100th soldier in Afghanistan since 2001

KABUL, 9 June—Three British soldiers were killed in a suicide attack in the south of Afghanistan, the British defence ministry has said.

This incident brings the death toll of British soldiers in Afghanistan to 100 since the 2001 invasion.

The trio who were killed were on a routine foot patrol about one kilometre (0.6 miles) west of their base in the restive Helmand Province, when they suffered a “suicide explosive device”.

Their deaths raised the overall number of fatalities among British troops since the 2001 US-led invasion to 100. Britain has about 7,800 soldiers stationed in Afghanistan, most of whom are in Helmand, where the Taliban have been waging a bloody insurgency since being ousted from power after the 2001 invasion.—Internet

Iraq suicide bomber kills US soldier, wounds 18

BAGHDAD, 9 June—A vehicle driven by a suicide bomber blew up near a patrol base in Iraq on Sunday, killing one US soldier and wounding 18 others, US forces said. Two Iraqi contractors were also wounded in the attack in Kirkuk province, about 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, the US military said in a statement.

The casualties were taken to a military hospital, it said. Iraqi police and medical sources said five civilians were wounded in the attack, which they said was by a suicide truck bomb against a joint Iraqi and US base at al-Rashad, 25 km (15 miles) southwest of the city of Kirkuk.—Internet

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The Japanese Expe-riment Module, or JEM, also called Kibo, is seen in its new home on the International Space Station in this photo released by NASA on 7 June, 2008. This view depicts Kibo’s exterior, backdropped by solar array panels for the orbital outpost and one of its trusses.—Internet

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The mine was closed on Saturday due to safety breaches and only a skeleton staff was working at the time of the blast, according to the emergency situations ministry. But some miners told Ukraine’s Kanal 5 television that work continued as usual into Sunday morning in spite of the closure. Work had been suspended at 20 mines in the region following an explosion on 23 May that killed 11 people. In November last year, a gas explosion at the Zasiadko mine in Donetsk killed 101 miners — the worst accident of its kind in the former Soviet republic.

BERLIN, 9 June — The leader of Germany’s Social Democrats (SPD) and the centre-left party’s putative chancellor candidate broke with German political Custom on Saturday and said he hoped the United States elects Barack Obama in November. SPD chairman Kurt Beck said the whole world would be better off with a President Obama instead of another Republican administration. By endorsing the Democrat, Beck broke a tacit rule to refrain from any intervention in foreign elections. “I’d like to say very openly that I really do hope that he wins,” Beck told journalists after a speech in the eastern town of Erfurt.

“It would be good for the whole world if there is an America that doesn’t close itself off to the environmental challenges we face, an America that doesn’t veto social and ecological programmes or does not support them.”

MNA/Reuters

Chavez mocks critics with ‘atomic bicycle’

CARACAS, 9 June — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez is mocking critics who question his close relationship with Iran by showing off what he calls an “atomic bicycle.”

The bicycles are produced in Venezuela under a joint venture with an Iranian company. Chavez rode one of the bikes during his Sunday TV program and joked about what he called the bicycle’s “radioactivity” and offered one to US President George W Bush. Chavez says there is no cause for concern and says the new bicycle factory will eventually be able to manufacture 100,000 bikes a year.

MNA/Reuters

BERLIN, 9 June — Uranium leader says US military is Iraq’s top problem

Tehran, 9 June — Iran’s supreme leader told the visiting Iraqi prime minister Monday that the US military presence is the main cause of Iraq’s problems, according to Iranian state television, making clear his opposition to a US-Iraqi security pact.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki’s talks with Iranian leaders during his three-day visit here have focused on the proposed security agreement that Iran fears will keep the American military in neighboring Iraq for years.

Iran, which has repeatedly said the way to end instability in Iraq is for US forces to withdraw, believes the proposed pact could lead to permanent US bases on its doorstep amid fears of an eventual American attack. “Occupiers who interfere in Iraq’s affairs through their military and security might… are the main problems,” Iran’s state television quoted Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as saying on Monday.

Khamenei said Iraqis have to “think of a solution to free” themselves from the U.S. military. Though he did not explicitly mention the security agreement, he said Iraqis — not Americans — must decide the fate of their country. “We are certain that the Iraqi people, through unity and effort, will get past these difficult conditions. For sure, America’s dream for Iraq will not come true,” Khamenei was quoted as telling al-Maliki.

MNA/Reuters

IAEA chief warns against attacks on nuclear plants

Berlin, 9 June — Threats to attack nuclear plants on suspicion they would one day make bombs could undermine the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the chief of the UN nuclear watchdog said.

“Unilateral military action undermines the international treaty framework. We’re standing at an historic turning point,” Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, told Der Spiegel magazine.

A senior Israeli official said on Friday an attack on Iran looked “unavoidable” because UN sanctions seemed unable to prevent Teheran developing nuclear technology with bomb-making potential.

ElBaradei said a growing threat to peace was coming from proliferation and an increasing readiness to consider military action against nuclear targets regarded as suspicious.

Israel and the United States have not ruled out a last resort attack on Iran to smash its atomic programme, something critics including ElBaradei say could ignite the Middle East. The Israeli official’s warning was the most explicit yet.

MNA/Reuters

Ukrainian coal miners found

YENAKIYEVO, 9 June — Twenty-three miners have been found alive in a Ukrainian coal mine more than 24 hours after they were trapped deep underground by a huge explosion.

Two hundred rescuers are searching through the dust and rubble while flood waters inside the mine continue to rise because water pumps were damaged by the blast.

Around a dozen miners are still missing.

Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez drives a bike during his weekly television programme in Santa Ana de Coro, Venezuela, on 8 June, 2008. —INTERNET

VENICE, 9 June — President Hugo Chavez is mocking critics who question his close relationship with Iran by showing off what he calls an “atomic bicycle.”

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Security breaches continue in Beirut

BEIRUT, 9 June—Security breaches and tension continued between al-Mustaqbal Movement supporters from the one hand and Hizbollah and AMAL Movement partisans from the other, local Naharnet news website reported on Friday.

Residents from Beirut’s predominantly-Shiite Tariq Jedideh neighbourhood and nearby Qasqaq took to the streets late Thursday, burning rubber tires and blocking roads, said the report. It added that these activities were against the backdrop of an attack targeting Beirut citizen Imad Zaghloul who lays in critical condition in the hospital after being shot and wounded earlier this week.

Local Press said that Imad Zaghloul, supporter of Future movement, was shot by armed men in Parliament police uniforms. Also on Thursday evening, unknown assailants shot and wounded a florist shop owner in the mountainous town of Bshamoun, southeast of Beirut, said the report.

Similar breaches were reported in west Beirut districts of Ras al-Nabaa and Sabra.

Assailants also tossed stones at civilian cars in Qasqaq and nearby Barbir, it added. —Xinhua

French urges offensive against English

PARIS, 9 June—Besieged by English and threatened with domination from the Anglo-Saxon culture, France is not doing enough to promote its language and the much touted Francophonie is in a deep crisis, French experts have said, urging the government to “increase efforts.”

The damning revelation is contained in a new report that was submitted to the French Government earlier this week, calling for the launch of a large-scale offensive to promote and demystify the language.

“The Francophonie is very little known. There is a general lack of visibility in France because we do not believe in the Francophonie and the country has failed to promote its language.” Herve Bourges said Wednesday while submitting the report to France’s Secretary of State for Cooperation and Francophonie Alain Joyandet.

“In France itself, the concept of Francophonie appears retrogressive, obsolete and unheard especially among the younger generations,” said Bourges, one of the authors of the report that was commissioned by the government. —Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

UNSG receives letter requesting probe into Bhutto killing

UNITED NATIONS, 9 June—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has received a letter from the Pakistani Government asking the world body to investigate the assassination of the country’s former prime minister Benazir Bhutto, a UN spokesperson said Friday.

The letter from Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qasqas and nearby Barbir.

Similar breaches were reported in west Beirut districts of Ras al-Nabaa and Sabra.

Assailants also tossed stones at civilian cars in Qasqaq and nearby Barbir, it added. —Xinhua

Five missing European divers found in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 9 June—Five European divers missing for two days were found off remote islands off the West Nusa Tenggara archipelago, Indonesia, by local fishermen, police said on Saturday.

A police official of the Manggarai Barat District said, fishermen who joined the search after the divers went missing late Thursday finally found them drifting in waters south off the tiny island of Rinca.

It is said the divers were apparently swept away by strong current when diving, and at least one of them was dehydrated but they are all safe without life danger when rescued. —Xinhua

Israel, Shanghai building database for refugees in WWII

SHANGHAI, 9 June—The Israeli consulate in Shanghai and Shanghai’s Hongkou District, a place where many Jewish refugees dwelled in World War II, are building a database of basic information on those refugees.

This is a first ever effort to collect information, including name, gender, birthplace, career, biography, whereabouts and contact of the former refugees in Shanghai, a nation of the country’s former prime minister Benazir Bhutto, a UN spokesperson said Friday.

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Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets...

(from page 1)

In such a situation of encountering the natural disaster, members of USDAs in cooperation with the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are to help solve the problems the people have faced. As the project sites of Ayeyawady Division are located in coastal areas, members of USDAs may encounter some difficulties during their travel and others. It is known that the USDA Headquarters has already fulfilled all the needs of the members who are going there. The members are to help the storm victims with basic needs such as accommodation, food and health out of goodwill.

The community welfare is the foundation of social sector. The members are to make all-out efforts to undertake welfare of the community in accord with the basic principles of the association.

The meeting was attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Hay Win, Joint Secretary-General of USDA U Zaw Min, Secretaries U Aung Thaung and U Thein Zaw, CEC Members, Ministers, officials concerned of the SPDC Office and USDA Headquarters and members of State and Division USDAs.

Next, the Prime Minister cordially greeted members of USDAs. Afterwards, officials concerned explained the items the members will bring along to the storm-hit regions to the Prime Minister.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister inspected the sample of a tent at which the members can temporarily camp in the storm-hit regions and gave necessary instructions.—MNA

Items to be taken to storm-hit regions by the USDA members. —MNA

Minister gives instructions on rehabilitation tasks in Kungyangon

YANGON, 9 June — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi met with members of the rehabilitation committee, sub-committee and officials concerned in Kungyangon on 7 June and gave instructions on rehabilitation tasks in the town.

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay also attended the meeting. After the meeting, the minister and party visited Myoma Market in Kungyangon and briefed vendors and owners of shops of the market on renovation tasks of the market.

The minister inspected removal of fallen trees and debris on the entrance to the town by volunteers including Tatmadawmen and members of Myanmar Police Force the next day. Afterwards, the minister viewed the ploughing in Kamapar Village in the township with the use of power-tillers and fulfilled the requirements.—MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspecting cleaning of debris and rubbish in Kungyangon.—ENERGY
Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects construction of runway of Kengtung Airport

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by officials of SPDC Office and heads of departments arrived in Kengtung by air yesterday. They were welcomed by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, senior military officers, departmental officials and more than 100 members of social organizations.

At the briefing hall of the airport, Shan State Superintending Engineer U Thaung Hay and senior engineer U Thein Zaw reported on extension of the 4,700 feet long runway to 8,000 feet one, cooperation with special groups 1 and 3 and Thawda Win Construction Group and progress of work. The commander gave a supplementary report and Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions on filling of earth in the low ground. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected extension of the runway which is 150 feet wide and can withstand 62 tons of loads. The total cost of the construction of the runway is K 4,039,009 million.

Industrial zones management committee holds coord meeting

YANGON, 9 June—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the work coordination meeting organized by Yangon Division Industrial Zones Management Committee held at the meeting hall of Yangon Command in Konmynitha, here this afternoon and delivered an address.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe made a speech saying that there were a lot of losses and damages caused by the storm. However, much success has been achieved in the drive to turn the condition into normal as soon as possible due to all-out efforts made by the government, the people and the Tatmadaw. In the drive for carrying out rehabilitation and reconstruction, he thanked entrepreneurs and companies for contributing much towards the speedy measures for regenerating of businesses. Factories are to boost their production of industrial materials to assist the reconstruction work, he said. Officials concerned are to coordinate each other to fulfill the requirements of the entrepreneurs. Private entrepreneurs on their part are to make more efforts to improve their production for the development of industrial sector.

Next, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin held the meeting. It was also attended by heads of departments, chairmen of Yangon Division industrial zones management committees, secretaries and members, entre-preneurs and guests.

Post-Nargis Joint Assessment teams to make field trips to storm-affected areas

YANGON, 9 June—Under the cooperation of the Myanmar Government, ASEAN and the UN, a ceremony to send off PONJA teams (Post Nargis Joint Assessment) to undertake filedassessments in the Ayeyawady Delta and Yangon Division for the rescue and resettlement works took place at the Grand Ballroom of the Chatrium Hotel here this afternoon. The Tripartite Core Group (TCG) chaired by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and members attended the ceremony.

The PONJA teams comprising the VTA teams (Village Tract Assessment) and the DaLA teams (Damage and Loss Assessment) will start assessment for the 30 selected townships including 11 in the Ayeyawady Delta and 19 in Yangon Division. The assessment that lasts 10 days will be carried out by six separate groups and will be compiled as a report.

The sending off ceremony for the PONJA teams was also attended by the Ambassador of Singapore and TCG members.—MNA

A man carrying relief supplies in a storm-hit region.—MNA
We have to replace earth bricks with stone ones (2)

Kyaw Ye Min

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspects fishing gear for storm victim fishermen.

On 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 and party left Pathein for Oktwin Village in Ngapudaw Township by helicopter and inspected the damages to the storm-hit region by helicopter. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted the storm victims of Oktwin, Phonedawpi and Thayyoung Villages at the relief camp at Oktwin. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Hainggyikyun in Ngapudaw Township where Commodore Myo Mynt Than of the local station reported on damages in Ngapudaw and Hainggyikyun Townships, rehabilitation tasks, measures to be taken and the reports. On hearing the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said reconstruction works have to be carried out. He spoke of the need to make efforts for making more progress than before, to make arrangements without decreasing the previous sown acreage through mechanized farming, to provide types of fishing gear and boats usually used in the region and to undertake the tasks for food and accommodation and improvement of economic enterprises.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party proceeded to Pymalau by helicopter. They inspected opening of departments offices in the temporary tents and greeted the service personnel. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye inspected accommodation of the storm victims in the temporary tents and comforted the victims. He said the storm victims are our own people and the government will fulfill their requirements for rehabilitation tasks and raising their living standard. His words encouraged and refreshed the local people.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Third Mile camp in Labutta Township and greeted the Japanese medical team. He then inspected fishing gear provided by Myanmar Fisheries Federation and the entrepreneurs for the fishermen. They left for Labutta. Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut reported on requirements for relief and rehabilitation tasks. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions on arrangements for reconstruction of the storm-hit areas. He proceeded to Township People’s Hospital and inspected roofing and repair of the hospital. He also visited the patients. They arrived back in Pathein in the afternoon.

In the evening, a meeting on rehabilitation of the areas in Ngapudaw and Labutta Townships was held at MyaE-ya Hall in Pathein. At the meeting Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave guidelines. He said in reconstructing the storm-hit regions, it was necessary to render assistance to change conventional farming to mechanized one, which is one of the objectives of the State in agriculture sector. He stressed the need to grow the crops on the full sown acreage and to make the plans for increasing acre yield in the fertile regions, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe’s exhortations of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived in Yangon from Pathein by helicopter on 4 June. They went to Kungyangon by car. At the relief camp control office there, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on reconstruction and development tasks of Kungyangon. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave instructions. They toured the township in a motorcade and went to Dedaye Township. At the meeting hall of Township Peace and Development Council Office, Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on reconstruction and development tasks of Dedaye. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye then gave necessary instructions. They toured the township in a motorcade and went to Township People’s Hospital where Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted the patients, doctors and nurses. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived back in Yangon in the afternoon.

In the evening, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye discussed rehabilitation of regions in Kungyangon and Dedaye Townships at the meeting held at Yangon Command. He said in reconstruction of towns and villages it is necessary to build hospitals that can provide better health care and to construct offices and schools with strong foundation. He also said that it is required to take preparedness and preventive measures against natural disasters by constructing stronger combined offices, schools and other government buildings with high level of foundation and by building roads leading to the coastal regions and by rebuilding 25 feet to 30 feet high roads. Concerted efforts are to be made for focusing on more development of the storm-hit regions, uplift of the social economic status of the local people to shape the brighter future of the State in accord with the expression, replacing earth bricks with the stone ones. The exhortations of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye are precise work guidelines for successful implementation of the tasks in practical field.

(Continued from yesterday)
We have to replace earth bricks with stone ones (2)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greets storm victims in Oktwin village, Ngapudaw Township.

Kyaw Ye Min

(from page 8)

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye himself comforted storm victims and fulfilled their requirements in his trips to the storm-affected areas, thereby shaping the better future of the regions and local people. Without any doubt, those regions and local residents will enjoy better living conditions with development in the near future. Not only that, he also gave instructions and encouraged those responsible in a bid to pursue the objective “We must replace earth bricks with stone ones” to improve the living conditions and the socioeconomic life of the storm-hit areas. In compliance with the instructions of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, national entrepreneurs have been assigned duties to build temporary huts, and the government will provide construction materials such as timber, corrugated iron sheets and nails for them. In the process, the entrepreneurs will have to pay 7 per cent as profits.

The government has granted permission to import CI sheets through the six-month tax exemption pattern to reconstruct private-owned buildings. The exporters in return will have to make a profit margin of only 10 per cent in distributing the imported CI sheets to the storm victims. And they will have to complete the reconstruction of schools, hospitals, government offices and religious buildings in one month and to upgrade them to better ones in six months. So, the areas will be able to enjoy development at an unprecedented level by then. Concerning the agriculture sector, plans are under way to meet the sown acreage prior to the natural disaster. In order to achieve the target, various brands of power-tillers will be provided, agricultural loans will be disbursed and paddy seeds for cultivation and fertilizers will be distributed on credit. The Ministry of Energy will provide sufficient amount of fuel oil, and will take measures to replace fuel-oil engines with bio-fuel ones in the long run. Moreover, interested local people will be granted permission to cultivate crops as tenant farmers in the ownerless farmlands. Exemptions will also be granted to import suitable brands of fishing nets with the funds to be rendered by the government, and trawlers, fishing boats and fishing gear will be distributed to the victim fishermen on credit. Those who have received assistance from the government to run agriculture and fishery will have to pay 10 per cent when their businesses return to normal. It has been encouraged that the government’s goodwill towards the people. In compliance with the instructions of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, a 200-bed hospital is under construction in Pyapon District. Like the layout of the hospital in NayPyi Taw, each hospital will be a one-storey building with at least six operation theatres with higher plinth level. Along with the constructions basic education schools will be furnished. It has been allowed to postpone the school reopening day for one month, but measures will have to be taken to reopen the schools as soon as possible. Before completion of the construction of schools, hospitals and clinics, temporary tents and buildings are being used.

Setsan town will be reconstructed by demarcating the land into plots. Labutta will be shifted to a suitable place. Schools, offices and hospitals will be built in the new town. A training centre will be built for the orphanage near the high school. Those who want to live in original places will be granted permission to do so there.

The government will allocate plots for those victims to resettle with the government funds and those who want to move to the new town. Schools, hospitals and offices will be built substantially in Hlinephone, Pyinsalu and Setsan within an about 40-foot-high embankment for the people to take shelter in case there would be floods in future.

In the storm-hit areas in Yangon Division, reasonable houses will be built for those victims who have difficulties with having own houses, and they will be provided with rice systematically for a certain period in moving to the home places from the relief camps. The uprooted trees will be removed within one month on the roads and streets in Yangon. In that regard, the fallen trees in schools, hospitals, government offices, public areas, and religious sites will be cleared away as the first priority. Large trunks and branches of the downed trees will be sawn into timber and the bases of the trees carved into handicrafts with tax exemptions. During the catastrophe, the majority of large trees in the storm-affected areas were uprooted, thus blocking the roads and streets, destroying the cable wires and phone lines, and damaging buildings. Taking lessons from those events, trees such as star flower, seinban (gold mohur), mahogany, pyinma (lagerstroemia speciosa), tamarin and Yaytamar (cedrela febrifuga) will be grown instead of large-grown trees with momentum this tree-growing season.

During the trip, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye made a tour of two townships a day, and went to the far-flung areas. In the afternoon and evening, he held meetings to assess the relief and resettlement tasks in the two townships and gave instructions on the tasks. He had lunch at about 2 pm or 2.30 pm, indicating how much he was dedicating himself to the tasks in the interests of the nation and the people. Due to his loving-kindness, goodwill and attachments, local people in the storm-affected areas will be in a position to enjoy better socioeconomic life with regional development. The trip will be put on record as one that reflects Vice-Senior General Maung Aye’s goodwill and loving-kindness for the storm-hit areas and local populace.

Overall, the trip of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye will bring great benefits to the areas. If efforts are made to systematically materialize the reconstruction tasks, development undertakings, works for improving the living conditions of locals, and natural disaster preparedness measures in accordance with the instructions of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, the storm-hit areas and the dwellers will enjoy significant development in the near future. And if the government, the people and the Tatmadaw will continue to work hard in harness, the earth bricks can be replaced with stone ones.

Translation: NY-MS
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 10 June, 2008

Staff of Htoo Trading Co Ltd
and Air Bagan Co Ltd take
part in reconstruction works

Yangon, 9 June—As the international
community has been
donating relief supplies to
the storm-hit regions, IL-76 and An-12 aircraft
carrying 19.54 tons of
mosquito-nets, medicines,
water purification
materials, disposable cups
donated by Thai-based
ICRC in Geneva Mr Krahenbuhl and party at
the ministry here today.
Also present
were Director-General of
General administration
Department U Myat Ko,
Director-General of
Bureau of Special
Investigation U Aung
Saw Win, Deputy
Director-General of
Correctional Department
U Zaw Tun, Police Brig-
Gen of Myanmar Police
Forces Khin Maung Si
and head of the office U
Nay Myo.

International Relief Supplies continue
to arrive at Yangon Airport

Yangon, 9 June—As the repair of Bogale
People’s Hospital in Bogale Township Ayeyawady
Division had been completed, staff of Htoo Trading
Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd donated medical
equipment to Bogale People’s Hospital on 8 June.
Staff of Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd donated 20 beds, 2 Air-cons and an oxygen machine
through Superintendent Dr Daw Hla Hla Kyi (Head of
Bogale Township Health Department). Htoo Trading
Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd has donated compressor,
water pumps, fibre tank, batteries and medicines and is
donating new building for the hospital.
Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd has
rebuilt 7 BEPS, 7 government offices, 17 religious
buildings so far and is presenting the storm-hit villages
with power tillers and paddy straws. They are also
repairing Sadhamahidakari monastery, Myoma
market, 88 village schools. Staff of Htoo Trading Co
Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd, based in Bogale, are
giving a helpful hand in relief and rehabilitation tasks
and also providing health care to the storm victims.

Relief supplies donated by WFP arrive at Yangon International Airport. —MNA

Health staff providing medical treatment at the relief camp of Labutta Township.—HEALTH

Staff of Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan donate relief aid to the victims through officials concerned.—NLM
European Union when he Pacific bloc similar to the idea of creating an Asia–Minister Kevin Rudd’s about Australian Prime first hand information Indonesia is eager to get deeper the idea,” the Pacific, and in learning the architecture of the Asia and the future regional archi–
ernment pays interest in Australia and the United States. Government signed by Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Akira Amari and US Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman during their bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the five-party meeting of energy ministers of China, Japan, India, South Korea and the United States.

According to the agreement effective for three years, Japan and the United States will enhance the understanding of, and accelerate research into, the geologic occurrence, distribution, exploration and production of methane hydrates. The two sides agreed to exchange scientific personnel and technical information, and have extensive research with respect to methane hydrate exploration and resource assessment.

She said the treaty gave people an opportunity to broaden their perception about what the reality and their aspirations were on the ground of the continent. She added that she felt encouraged to witness a new generation of leadership that seems to have the capacity and the courage to build the bridge between the challenges and shortcoming of the 21st Century.

“I felt excited seeing this enthusiasm at so many levels being expressed,” said another co-chair, Sadako Ogata, President of Japan International Cooperation Agency.

She believed that Africa was on a right direction of growth not only economically but also in confidence and other aspects.—MNA/Xinhua

EU treaty in peril as Irish “No” camp surges ahead

DUBLIN, 9 June—Prime Minister Brian Cowen warned on Friday of dire consequences if Ireland’s resurgent “No” camp derails the European Union reform treaty in a referendum next week.

A “No” vote in the only EU country holding a referendum would mean a state accounting for less than one per cent of the bloc’s 490 million population could sink a pact that EU leaders are anxious to implement after years of diplomatic wrangling.

“A “No” vote will not be understood (by EU partners), there will be dire consequences to all political actions,” Cowen said after a new opinion poll showed treaty opponents had doubled their support and overtaken the “Yes” camp for the first time before the 12 June vote.

The Irish vote is critical because all EU member states need to ratify the treaty for it to come into force. The “No” coalition say the treaty will dilute Ireland’s control over tax, trade and abortion and compromise its neutrality.

Cowen said he was confident of a “Yes” vote and would spend the next week extolling the treaty’s virtues. “Too much of the tactics of the opposition have been about... bringing in extraneous issues which have nothing to do with the treaty whatever,” Cowen told RTE radio. “They are raising fears, they are creating suspicions.”

MNA/Reuters

Japan, US agree to cooperate on methane hydrates

AOMORI (Japan), 9 June—Japan and the United States agreed on Saturday to conduct coop–
eration on joint develop–ment of methane hydrates, a promising alternative energy. The agreement was signed by Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Akira Amari and US Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman during their bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the five-party meeting of energy ministers of China, Japan, India, South Korea and the United States.

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MNA/Xinhua

Australian wine exports drop

CANBERRA, 9 June—A decline in bulk wine shipments has led to a 9-per-cent drop in the volume of Australian wine exports, the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation said on Friday.

The volume of wine exports fell to 724 million liters in the 12 months to the end of May this year, and the value of overall wine exports dropped 7 per cent to 2.8 billion (2.688 billion US dollars) in the same period, the corporation’s May wine export approval report said.

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MNA/Xinhua

18th World Eco Forum on Africa closes in South Africa

CAPE TOWN, 9 June—The 18th World Economic Forum on Africa concluded here in Cape Town, South Africa on Friday.

During the forum discussions, participants, who are aware of many challenges facing Africa, remained optimistic over the future of Africa.

Wendy Lathabe, chair–person of Industrial Development Corporation in South Africa and the co–chair of the forum, said the benefit of the forum was exchange of views.

MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Xinhua
The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
Kurdish forces order out Iraq oil workers

BAGHDAD, 9 June— A drilling team exploring in an Iraqi oilfield briefly withdrew this week after being warned off by Kurdish security forces, oil industry sources said on Friday.

Engineers familiar with the incident said it had no impact on pro-duction.

But it underlines riva-lries between Baghdad and the Kurdish regional government over territory and rights to Iraq’s huge oil reserves, which lie mostly in the Kurdish north or the Shi’ite south of the country.

An Iraqi Government oil official, who declined to be identified, said members of the Kurdish Peshmerga security force had taken over the Kharmala oil field on Thursday and sent away employees working there.

The field, which produces about 35,000 barrels per day of oil, lies 65 kilometres (40 miles) northwest of Kirkuk in northern Iraq, close to the border of Iraq’s largely autonomous Kurdish region.

The Iraqi Oil Ministry quickly took the employees back to the field and they resumed working, the official said. By Friday, Kurdish forces had left the area, he said.

“We consider this an irresponsible act against the Iraqi oil facilities,” the official said.

China vows severe punishment for cheating in exam

BEIJING, 9 June — Students found cheating in the national College Entrance Examination (CEE) may be disabled from next year’s registration, as well as losing all the marks this year, a Ministry of Education (MOE) official said on Thursday.

Students with “severe cheating behaviour,” including cheating with telecommunication instruments and asking someone else to take the exam, will receive punishment.

The MOE, together with the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the Ministry of Public Security, will strengthen patrolling around exam rooms to prevent people from using radio transmitters and receivers to aid in cheating.

College students taking the exam for others may be expelled from school.

The MOE ordered a safety check over examination rooms, dormitories and dining halls for students in quake-hit areas. The CEE will be postponed in the 62 counties worst hit by the 12 May 8.0-magnitude earthquake in Sichuan and Gansu provinces.

The new date for the exam has yet to be set.

India awards national prize to Chinese linguist

BEIJING, 9 June — Indian Foreign Min-ister Pranab Mukherjee awarded a national prize to Chinese linguist Ji Xianlin on Friday to honour his outstanding contribution to China-India cultural exchanges. Ji, born in 1911, has contributed significantly to the research on ancient Indian languages, primeval Buddhist languages and Sanskrit literature. He also translated works on ancient Indian and primeval Buddhist languages.

“I am greatly honoured to award the prize to you on behalf of our president,” Mukherjee told Ji at the Beijing-based General Hospital of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army, where Ji has resided for five years. He praised Ji’s research over the years on Indian literature and his great contribution to strengthening India-China friendship. The Padma Award is the highest award of the Indian Government for those who make remarkable achievements in the areas of science, arts, literature and learning.

Mukherjee pinned the prize medal on Ji’s shirt and gave him a prize scroll. “I’ll be 100 years old in two years, but I believe it is a starting point rather than an ending,” Ji told Mukherjee.

UK’s top cop calls for trials for drug-taking stars

LONDON, 9 June — Britain’s most senior police officer said on Friday that pop stars and celebrities who are pictured apparently taking drugs should be put on trial to prove they were snorting talcum powder and not cocaine.

Police Commissioner Ian Blair said he wanted juries to decide whether famous figures caught on film were indeed taking illegal drugs even if it was impossible for police to prove what the substance actually was.

A number of well-known stars such as supermodels Kate Moss and Grammy-winning soul singer Amy Winehouse, have been pictured in national newspapers allegedly taking drugs, prompting police investiga-tions that led to no charges.

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UNDP to build “green offices” to protect natural environment

QUITO, 9 June — The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on Thursday announced a plan to launch a programme to build “green offices” to promote environmental protection.

With the celebration of World Environment Day, the UNDP’s officer Cecilia Falconi said everybody has to compromise with nature.

The programme, called “Green Office,” is aimed at minimizing the impact of the operation of governmental and business facilities on the environment, she said.

The programme also seeks to save energy. It will regulate air conditioning and ventilation systems to reduce electrical consumption and avoid using incandescent bulbs and other high-energy-consuming electric fittings, Falconi added.

She also stressed water conservation. “Main-tenance is rarely carried out in offices to avoid water waste from the toilets, or to fix leaking faucets, and drop by drop, a lot of water can be wasted,” she said.

Moreover, the programme will promote savings by recycling and reducing packaging and waste.

“Governments have so much to do, legislating policies to promote the care of the environment that do not promote contamination and the improper use of resources,” Falconi said.

The new date for the exam has yet to be set.

Miss Oklahoma’s Outstanding Teen 2008 Alicia Clifton reacts while being crowned by the 2007 winner, Jamie Butemeyer, during the Miss Oklahoma’s Outstanding Teen pageant in Tulsa, Okla, on 7 June, 2008.

Atlantic City police Sgt Daryl Hall stands next to a motorized wheelchair in Atlantic City, NJ. A woman in a motorized wheelchair fell about 30 feet down a casino hotel elevator shaft on 7 June, 2008 in Atlantic City, NJ. An Iraqi Oil Ministry official, who declined to be identified, said members of the Kurdish Peshmerga security force had taken over the Kharmala oil field on Thursday and sent away employees working there.

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**Russia's Pogrebnyak ruled out of finals**

**VIENNA, 9 June —** Russian striker Pavel Pogrebnyak has been ruled out of Euro 2008 by a knee injury, tournament organizers UEFA said on Saturday.

Pogrebnyak sustained the injury after opening the scoring in Russia's 2-1 friendly win over Serbia on 28 May. Russia's Dutch coach Guus Hiddink has asked for UEFA's permission to call up uncapped midfielder Oleg Ivanov in his place, organizers said on www.uefa.com.

Pogrebnyak was quoted as telling a news conference: 'There is no point in keeping an injured player here. Life goes on, it doesn't end here. I must prepare for new games. The sooner I have the surgery the better for me and everybody else.'

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**Police arrest 7 German fans in Klagenfurt**

**KLAGENFURT, 9 June —** Austrian police arrested seven German fans on Saturday night in Euro 2008 host city Klagenfurt after the mood between a group of German and Polish fans turned hostile, police said in a statement.

Germany play Poland in a much anticipated game in Group B on Sunday, and police are braced for a possible repeat of the trouble seen in the German city of Dortmund, which led to some 400 arrests, when the teams met at the 2006 World Cup.

Klagenfurt police said the fans, drinking in the town centre, had first traded verbal insults.

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**Saudis beat Lebanon 2-1 to close in on round four**

**RIYADH, 9 June —** Saudi Arabia moved in on a place in the fourth round of Asian World Cup qualifying after beating Lebanon 2-1 on Saturday.

A second-half double from Redha Tukar kept the Saudis in second place in the Group Four standings and one point away from joining Uzbekistan in the fourth and final round.

With the match shifted to the Saudi capital because of security concerns in Lebanon, the Saudis took full advantage and went ahead two minutes after the break. Tukar struck again at the hour mark and Mohamad Ghaddar pulled one back for bottom side Lebanon in stoppage time.

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**Turkey coach says we will correct mistakes next time**

**GENEVA, 9 June —** Coach Fatih Terim is confident Turkey will avoid a repeat of their opening-match errors when they meet Euro 2008 co-hosts Switzerland on Wednesday.

"The Swiss match in Basel is obviously very important for us now," Terim told reporters after his side lost 2-0 to Group A favourites Portugal on Saturday.

"We will correct our mistakes and play better. There were times when I liked the way we played tonight but other times when there was obvious room for improvement."

Turkey held Portugal at bay at the Stade de Geneve until the 61st minute when defender Pepe played a neat one-two with Nuno Gomes and burst through to score. Terim's team pressed for an equalizer but conceded again in injury time after a sweeping move was finished by substitute Raul Meireles.

"We tried to attack and keep the match on an equal footing and I think we achieved that initially," Terim said. "But the first goal was the turning point."

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**France draws 0-0 with Romania**

**ZURICH, 9 June —** Romania's conservative approach against World Cup finalist France worked Monday in a 0-0 draw in Group C, considered the toughest in the European Championship.

The underdog French, without captain Patrick Vieira and leading scorer Thierry Henry, dominated possession, but failed to penetrate a stiff Romania defense devised by coach Victor Piturca. France showed little flair on attack.

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**Romania coach says win over France would be no shock**

**ZURICH, 9 June —** Coach Victor Piturca said it would be no shock if outsiders Romania overcame World Cup runners-up France in their Euro 2008 opener on Monday.

"It will be no surprise if we win," Piturca told a news conference on Sunday. "My strategy is that Romania win."

"Of course if we draw that will be good for us because we have to play three great opponents (in Group C). A draw is possible but a win is also probable tomorrow."

Netherlands and world champions Italy are the other sides in the section. Football is merely a game played on a pitch where the most valuable, most inspired, but sometimes the most lucky team wins," added Piturca.

Romania, who last featured in a major competition at Euro 2008, are widely viewed as the weakest team in the group. Piturca said he had not finalised his side for the opening game in Zurich.

"I still have to make a decision on one or two players," he said. "But one thing is clear (Cristian) Chivu will play.

"Whether that is in defence or more attack (in midfield) I will think about that nearer the game." — MNA/Reuters

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**Sverkos savours goal even though it was not perfect**

**BASEL, 9 June —** Czech Republic striker Vaclav Sverkos may have scored his first international goal on Saturday but he still managed to find fault with it.

"It wasn't exactly how I wanted to do it... well, it was because it went in, but I wanted to shoot higher," he told reporters after clinching a 1-0 win over Euro 2008 co-hosts Switzerland in the Group A opener to the tournament.

The 24-year-old, winning only his third cap, said scoring 15 minutes after coming on as a substitute for the experienced Jan Koller had been the best moment of his career.

"It was even better because our fans were right behind the goal... it was my best moment in my footballing life," he said with a big smile. Koller, the country's all-time leading scorer, had high praise for his young replacement. — MNA/Reuters
Tuesday, 10 June, 2008

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas

WEATHER

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Kayin State and Bago Division, fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kachin State and lower Sagaing Division.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Moganung (3.48) inches, Kanbalaung (1.92) inches, Myitkyina (1.69) inches, Mohnyin (1.34) inches, Pyay (1.30) inches, Maungtaw and Sittway (1.07) inches each and Papyun (1.03) inches.

Maximum temperature on 8-6-2008 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 9-6-2008 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 9-6-2008 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 8-6-2008 was (0.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 9-6-2008 was (0.39) inch at Mingaladon, (0.27) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.27) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (33.03) inches at Mingaladon, (39.80) inches at Kaba Aye and (52.28) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba Aye) was (10) mph from Southwest at (8:30) hours MST on 9-6-2008.

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 06:30 hrs MST today, the low pressure area over West Central Bay and adjoining Northwest Bay still persists. Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-6-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Mon State and Taninthayi Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions.

Degree of certainty is (80%). State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Delhaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 10-6-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-6-2008: One to two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-6-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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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.

Fallen trees removed, power supply tasks under way in Dedaye

YANGON, 9 June — Fallen trees in Dedaye have been cleared by Tatmadawmen and volunteers. Officers and other ranks of the No. 66 Light Infantry Division, members of Myanmar Police Force and social organizations have removed fallen trees from religious buildings, offices, hospital, schools and roads in Dedaye. They had also carried out rescue efforts in Dedaye and villages after the storm hit the areas.

Similarly, 176 staff of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise have repaired the 33KV cable linking Kungyangon and Dedaye. They re-erected 20 pylons for connection of 11-KV cables between the two towns. The 100-KV generators have been used to supply power to religious buildings, offices and hospitals.

Concerning the reconstruction tasks in Dedaye, Farmer Phoyazar Co Ltd have renovated the Sasana Beikman Religious Building, No. 2 Basic Education High School and the primary school in the village of Tawkyaik. Schools in the town and villages in Dedaye Township will be renovated by Farmer Phoyazar Co Ltd. The company donated K 10 million to storm victims in Kungyangon Township. — MNA

Medical team leaves for Bogale, Labutta and Pyapon Townships

YANGON, 9 June — Specialists and health workers left for Ayeyawady Division on 7 June. They will give health care services in Bogale, Labutta and Pyapon Townships. They were seen off by Deputy Director-General Dr Mya Win and officials on 7 June.

The specialists team includes ophthalmologists, paediatricians, psychiatrists, dentists, assistant surgeons and nurses led by specialists Dr Min Zaw Oo, Dr Moe Naing and Dr Kaung Myat.

The members of the specialists of the floating hospital will provide health care services to the people in the township and villages nearby. — MNA

A rice mill in Sukalat Village, Dedaye Township. — MNA

Relief aids are seen before transported to storm-hit areas in Ayeyawady Division by members of state/division USDAs. — MNA