Established 1914
Volume XVI, Number 54                  8th Waxing of Nayon 1370 ME    Wednesday, 11 June,  2008

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

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

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

It is just in conformity with the law

Myanmar is not the only country that promulgates the laws to prevent those who pose danger to the State. If necessary to guard the motherland and safeguard the lives and property of the people, every government has to promulgate laws and impose restrictions.

KYAW YE MIN
Discharge social functions of the people as national duty

Youth members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association with full nationalistic spirit have gone to storm-hit regions to help in reconstruction tasks in those areas in Ayeyawady Division in cooperation with the government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

At a time when the government is making concerted efforts for reconstruction tasks in the storm-affected areas, we will see active performance of younger generation of the USDA and their participation in the regional development tasks.

The USDA youths will stay with the storm victims as family members and help them with basic needs including education, health and social affairs.

In participating in the reconstruction tasks members of the USDA will not discharge their duties perfunctorily. They will be actively taking part in the tasks for improvement of socio-economic life of local people.

Based on goodwill, generosity and patriotism, the people from the length and breadth of the nation are donating goods and other supplies to the storm victims continuously.

Members of the USDA are serving the interest of the people and the nation in new nation-building tasks in various parts of the regions in the country under the correct leadership of the association.

The community welfare is the foundation of the social sector of the national affairs. We firmly believe that members of the USDA will undertake the welfare of the community dutifully as the national duty in accord with the basic principles on social affairs of the association.

Visas granted to 911 persons, 569 foreign aid workers carrying out relief efforts in storm-hit areas

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June — The government has granted visas to members of aid groups to render humanitarian assistance, to enable international experts to assess damages, to carry out relief work and to provide medical care to storm victims of the Cyclone Nargis which hit the country on 2 and 3 May.

Altogether 911 persons have been permitted to enter the country from 5 May to 5 June. Visas were granted to 458 persons from UN, NGOs, INGOs and 357 from ASEAN nations and neighbouring countries to provide medical care to victims and 96 persons to attend UN-ASEAN Meeting.

So far, 342 persons have left and 569 have been working in storm-hit areas.— MNA

Foreign exchange donations fully spent for victims without making any deductions

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June — Foreign broadcasting stations have accused the government of making 10 percent tax cuts from contributions of foreign countries to the storm-affected areas.

Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account 1DA 06-00002 has been opened at Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank for US dollars, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account 1EA 06-00016 for euro and Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Sub-Committee Account 1SA 06-00002 for Singapore dollars.

Foreign currencies deposited in those accounts are not deducted and are spent fully on relief and rehabilitation efforts for storm survivors. — MNA

Private Media entrepreneurs donates K 5 million to storm victims

YANGON, 10 June — On behalf of the well-wishers of private media entrepreneurs, Vice-Chairman U Tin Kha (Tekkatho Tin Kha), secretary Dr Tin Tun Oo (Dr Tin Tun Oo), Joint-secretary U Soe Shein (Maung Soe Htaik-Thonze) of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association presented K 5 million for the storm victims at the office of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council this afternoon.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win accepted the donation.— MNA

Health Minister meets leader of Japanese medical team

YANGON, 10 June — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint met Japanese medical team led by Mr Kanai Kaname and members together with Counsellor Mr Suzuka Mitsuji of the Japanese Embassy and Mr Umezaki Michiko, resident representative of JICA, at the temporary control office in Yangon General Hospital this morning.

The minister thanked the team for their performance in helping health care services in storm-affected regions and presented the certificate of honour to them.— MNA

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint receives Japanese medical team led by Mr Kanai Kaname. — HEALTH
Algerian officials say bombings killed two, not 13

Algiers, 10 June—Algiers’s Defence Ministry on Monday denied reports that a weekend bombing attack at a train station killed 13 people, saying that only two people died. A statement said a French citizen and his Algerian chauffeur were killed, as reported, in the double bombing at the Beni Amrane train station, about 60 miles southeast of Algiers.

“The figures reported by the Press are inexact,” the statement said.

The French Foreign Ministry confirmed the death of a French engineer, and Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner advised French citizens working in Algeria to take precautions.

Thousands of Bolivians protest at US Embassy in La Paz. On Monday, demanding the US Embassy in La Paz, of leftist president Evo Morales, send home thousands of supporters who blame Sanchez Berzain and asylum. The protesters stepped down as president and for being too often criticizes Sanchez de Lozada for his pro-business policies when in office and for being too close to the US government. Sanchez de Lozada stepped down as president during the political upheaval of 2003 and fled to the United States 13 months into his second term as president of the poor South American country.

Top Philippine TV reporter missing on rebel island

Manila, 10 June—One of the Philippines’ top television reporters is missing on an island that is the battlefield of radicals linked to al Qaeda, the ABS-CBN network said on Tuesday.

It said that Ces Drilon and two other members of her TV crew were out of communication. “We are trying to re-establish contact and determine their exact location,” the network said in a statement.

Police said Drilon was missing since Sunday, when she and the crew left a hostel on the island of Jolo. Drilon is a reporter and news anchor for ABS-CBN and also hosts current affairs talk shows for the network.

Abu Sayyaf militants, who are notorious for kidnapping for ransom, use the rugged interior of Jolo as a base along with Indonesian militants suspected of involvement in the 2002 Bali bombings.

An engineering soldier prepares to fire a missile to blast boulders in a man-made sluice channel in quake-hit Tangjiaohan, Sichuan Province, on 8 June, 2008, in this picture distributed by China’s official Xinhua News Agency.

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,094

Washington, 10 June—As of Monday, 9 June, 2008, at least 4,094 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 3,335 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

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.

An engineering soldier prepares to fire a missile to blast boulders in a man-made sluice channel in quake-hit Tangjiaohan, Sichuan Province, on 8 June, 2008, in this picture distributed by China’s official Xinhua News Agency.

Internet

Turkish warplanes strike northern Iraq

SULAIMANIYA, (Iraq) 10 June—Turkish warplanes attacked northern Iraq on Monday, Iraqi security officials said on Tuesday.

Attacks by artillery attack, not a bombing by airplanes. The Turkish military has regularly attacked rebel positions of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) in the mountains of northern Iraq, where several thousand militants are believed to be holed up.

Mobile ban for Singapore toilet Peeping Tom

Singapore, 10 June—A Singapore man has been banned from owning a camera phone for a year after he was found guilty of secretly filming a woman in an airport toilet, a newspaper reported on Tuesday.

Samuel Ong, 19, sneaked into a female toilet at Singapore’s Changi Airport earlier this year and used his camera phone to snap shots of a woman from under the cubicle door. The woman caught him and reported him to the police. Ong, who pleaded guilty, has to do 60 hours of community service, observe a curfew as part of his sentence and continue psychiatric treatment, the Straits Times reported. His parents also had to sign a S$5,000 (1,860 pounds) bond ensuring his good behaviour.

Rogue breeders smuggle handbag dogs

London, 10 June—Rogue breeders are exploiting the demand for lapdogs used as fashion accessories by smuggling puppies from Eastern Europe, Sky News has uncovered.

The fashion for so-called handbag dogs among celebrities like Paris Hilton and Nicole Richie has led to world-wide demand of pint-sized puppies that can fit in your hand.

Devoted followers have even set up celebrity dog-blogs, dedicated to spotting the famous with their pooches in tow. But for those purchasing a portable puppy of their own, the tiny dogs do not come cheap, and people are getting more inventive when searching for a bargain.

A Sky News investigation has found evidence that new-borns are often transported hundreds of miles in cramped conditions and sold at cut price.
**Indonesia restricts foreign advertisement on domestic media**

JAKARTA, 10 June — The Indonesian ministries of Information and Tourism issued a joint decree on the restriction of foreign advertisement on the Indonesian media, the Antara news wire reported here Saturday.

“The joint decree issued in the form of a ministerial regulation was signed by Minister Muhammad Nuh and Cultural and Tourism Minister Jero Wacik on 30 May, 2008. In line with the regulation, advertisements to be shown in Indonesia must use human and natural resources of Indonesia. “The joint decree is aimed at giving more opportunities to domestic production houses, and the employment of one foreign expert must be accompanied by three domestic workers for transfer of skill,” Minister Nuh said. The joint decree made some exceptions for advertisements on tourism promotion of foreign countries, properties located outside Indonesia; international games, competition and education, and brand global or brand image with same actors all over the world.”

**Thai Govt says tourism declines due to protests**

BANGKOK, 10 June — Thailand’s Government spokesman Wichianchot Sukchotrat Saturday blamed the anti-government protests led by the People’s Alliance for Democracy (PAD) for the disappearance of tourists by some 80 per cent from Japan.

Wichianchot was quoted by local news network, The Nation as saying that the protests in central Bangkok by the PAD scared away foreign investors and tourists.

He said the disappearance of tourists also affected the aviation industry.

The spokesman said the government was trying to negotiate with the protesters to move to another site because the protests had severely affected the country and affected many other people’s rights.

The PAD has held the round-the-clock demonstrations in central Bangkok for some two weeks, calling the government led by Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej to step down.

**Small plane with 10 people on board missing in Chile**

SANTIAGO, 10 June — A small airplane with 10 people on board went missing after taking off from an airport in southern Chile on Saturday, Chilean media reported on Sunday.

The Cessna 208, which belonged to Patagonia Airlines, took off from an airport in Chile’s southern city of Puerto Montt in the afternoon and was heading for the southern town of La Junta in Aysen Region, an Air Force officer was quoted as saying.

The missing plane, with nine Chilean passengers and a pilot on board, was scheduled to reach La Junta at 3 pm local time (1900 GMT). It was declared missing four hours later, the official said.

The airlines said the weather conditions were good when the plane took off. But according to the families of the passengers on board, the plane was supposed to take off in the morning, but was delayed to afternoon because of poor weather conditions.

The Air Force has already launched searching operations.

**A Long March-3B rocket carrying Zhongxing-9 blasts off from the launch pad at the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on 9 June, 2008. Zhongxing-9, a satellite ordered by China Satcom and produced by the France-based Thales Alenia Spazio, will be used for television live broadcast before the Beijing Olympic Games. —XINHUA**

**People play Chinese chess outside a teahouse in Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province, earlier this month. Life in this city of leisure is gradually returning to normal after the earthquake. —XINHUA**

**Canadian national arrested for heroin possession in Nicaragua**

MANAGUA, 10 June — A Canadian national was arrested for carrying 3.2 kilos of heroin in the Southern Caribbean region of Nicaragua, the Nicaragua Navy reported on Friday.

The Canadian, 52, was captured Thursday in the city of Bluefields, capital of the Autonomous Region of the South Atlantic (RAAS), when returning from Isla del Maiz (Corn Island) in the Caribbean Sea, the Navy said.

She apparently entered Nicaragua from Brazil, according to her passport.

The Caribbean Sea is frequently used by drug cartels from Colombia and Mexico as a corridor for the transfer of drugs.

**Tiger kills zoo keeper in Kyoto**

TOYOSU, 10 June — An 11-year-old Siberian male tiger attacked and killed a male zoo keeper Saturday at a Kyoto zoo, said reports from the west-central Japanese city of Kyoto.

Police said that Atsushi Ito, 40, failed to shut the cage door after luring the tiger out and starting to do the cleaning, and he was found lying on the floor in the tiger’s cage with injuries on his head, face and neck.

Ito was pronounced dead at a hospital about three hours after being attacked by the big cat weighing 150 kilogrammes. The zoo was shut following the incident.
India to enhance trade with Thailand

BANGKOK, 10 June—The Indian Government has set an ambitious target of 10 billion US dollars in bilateral trade with Thailand by 2010, the Indian Ambassador to Thailand said here on Saturday.

At the India-Thailand Business Summit held in Bangkok on Saturday, Indian Ambassador Latha Reddy said that the goal was realistic, given the increased foreign direct investment (FDI) from Thailand to India, and more Indian exports to India.

The summit was organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). Reddy was quoted by the Bangkok Post’s web news as saying that “in 2007-08, the value of bilateral trade stood at 6.5 billion US dollars which gives us hope that we are likely to cross the target of 10 billion US dollars by 2010.”

He cited the increased Indian investment and a greater Thai Awareness of India. “Indian companies like Tata Group and various other pharmacetical and automobile companies are investing in Thailand, and at the same time, Thai companies are registering a growing presence in India in sectors like agriculture, construction, automobiles and banking,” Reddy said.

China’s Ex-Im volume in service trade tops $200b in 2007

BEIJING, 10 June—China saw its export and import volume in service trade (excluding government service) stand at 250.91 billion US dollars in 2007, said the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) on Friday. The figure increased 30.9 per cent over the previous year, the MOC said on its Website.

Export volume of service trade in 2007 hit 121.65 billion US dollars, up 33.1 per cent over the previous year, while the import volume of service trade was 129.26 billion US dollars, up 28.8 per cent.

The trade deficit stood at 7.61 billion US dollars, representing a decrease of 14.6 per cent year on year.

China was the seventh biggest service export country and the fifth largest service import country in 2007.China’s Hong Kong, the United States, Japan and the Republic of Korea are the four biggest service trade partners of China’s mainland, according to the MOC—MNA/Xinhua

Iran sees oil price at $150 per barrel by end-summer

TEHERAN, 10 June—World crude prices are expected to reach 150 US dollars per barrel by the end of summer, Iran’s representative to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was quoted as saying on Sunday.

“I forecast that by the end of summer the price of oil will reach 150 US dollars per barrel,” Mohammad Ali Khataibi was quoted as saying by Iran’s state broadcaster, referring to the summer in the northern hemisphere.

As reasons for this, he cited a weak US dollar as well as the situation in the Middle East, without elaborating.

Iraq, which is embroiled in a deepening standoff with the West over its disputed nuclear programme, is the world’s fourth-largest oil producer.

Israel’s deputy prime minister said in remarks published last week that an attack on Iran’s nuclear sites looked “unavoidable”. A senior Israeli defence official said on Sunday the remarks did not reflect Israeli policy.

Russia to become world’s sixth largest economy in 2008

MOSCOW, 10 June—Russia’s First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov said Russia will become the world’s sixth largest economy by the end of 2008, Russian news agencies reported on Sunday. “For the past eight years, Russia has been developing. By the end of this year, we will become the world’s sixth largest economy,” Shuvalov was quoted by the RIA Novosti news agency as saying at the 12th St Petersburg International Economic Forum. Russia, which joined the G-8 in 1998, has now “become a fully-rigded member of the world’s largest economies,” the deputy prime minister said. “We are beginning to put behind us the severe crisis of the last decade, and have given ourselves new goals—to become a country with developed institutions, a modern democracy with a post-industrial economic structure, and to build a global financial centre,” he said—MNA/Xinhua

Jerry Yang, who was accused of “sabotaging” the possibility of a deal with Microsoft, Investment funds controlled by Icahn hold about 59 million shares and options, or about 4.28 per cent of the company.

Icahn, a billionaire veteran of numerous shareholder campaigns, renewed his attack on Yahoo and its co-founder Jerry Yang, who accused him of “sabotaging” the possibility of a deal with Microsoft. Investment funds controlled by Icahn hold about 59 million shares and options, or about 4.28 per cent of the company.

Icahn tells Yahoo to sell for $48.7b

NEW YORK, 10 June—Carl Icahn on Friday told Yahoo Inc that it should offer to sell the company to Microsoft Corp for $34.375 per share, or about 48.7 billion, US dollars as the financier fired another volley in an acrimonious war of words.

In his latest letter to Roy Bostock, Yahoo’s chairman, Icahn said that if Microsoft does not accept the offer “in a friendly and cooperative transaction”, he would push the Internet company to do a deal with Google Inc if he wins control of the Yahoo board. Icahn, who is running a dissident slate to replace Yahoo’s board at its annual meeting on 1 August, hadn’t previously named a price at which he believes Yahoo should agree to a sale.

Microsoft on 3 May walked away from a 33-US-dollar per share, or 47.5 billion US dollars offer, after Yahoo demanded 37 US dollars a share. Yahoo shares were recently trading up 17 cents to 26.52 US dollars. Icahn, a billionaire veteran of numerous shareholder campaigns, renewed his attack on Yahoo and its co-founder Jerry Yang, who accused him of “sabotaging” the possibility of a deal with Microsoft. Investment funds controlled by Icahn hold about 59 million shares and options, or about 4.28 per cent of the company.

People stroll past giant soccer shoes in the colours of the countries participating in the Euro 2008 European Soccer Championships, on 9 June, 2008, outside a Vienna complex housing various museums. INTERNET

A local worker steps on bags of stones making up a temporary dam built against the possible coming floods in Huangtu town of Anxian county, Sichuan Province, on 8 June, 2008. INTERNET
The government of a nation is responsible for safeguarding sovereignty and independence of the nation as well as for ensuring community peace and the rule of law. To be able to do so, it has to promulgate necessary laws. It has to take action against those who have violated the law. In the process, the law prescribes some sections, under which action is taken against the offenders only after they have committed crimes, and some sections are designed to prevent possible violation of the law.

In that regard, the government has to promulgate the law and take action against violators without any discrimination against or favour of any particular persons in the interests of the nation and the people. The government and the people are like the parents and their children. Sometimes, the parents have to prevent their children from doing something bad, and going to somewhere improper. They have to scold or punish their children after the latter have done something wrong. Similarly, in taking measures for safeguarding the nation’s sovereignty, and ensuring community peace and the rule of law, the government has to take action against the culprits only after they have violated the law. Sometimes, it has to take necessary measures to prevent possible committing of crimes. It is reasonable.

Supposing, an organization or person is hitching a plot to harm severely the nation, will it be right to take action against the violator with profound evidences only after the organization or the person has violated the crime of being disloyal to the nation, regarding the serious case to be just as a normal crime? Such a case does not concern only a single citizen. It can pose a threat to the security of the State and the lives of the people. Does a thief have to be caught only after he has got into the house? Under some of the normal criminal laws, those who often commit crimes have to be restricted to be in a particular area or are banished, as necessary in order to prevent their possible violation of law. So, it is vividly clear that preventive measures need to be taken in the cases that concern the State and the entire people.

Our country has promulgated some laws to protect the State and the people. One of them is the 1975 Law to prevent those who pose danger to the State. Section (7) of the law says:

“The cabinet can restrict as necessary any of the fundamental rights of a citizen if reliable evidences are found out that the citizen committed, is committing or will commit something that can pose dangers to the sovereignty and security of the State, or community peace”. Therefore, any such person will have to be punished in accordance with the law. The law is not intended to take action against a particular person.

In this regard, the central body was formed to take action on behalf of the cabinet. Section 10 says if a citizen is believed to have harmed or to harm the sovereignty and security of the State, and community peace, the central body has the power:

(a) to hold the culprit under detention for 180 days, without exceeding more than 60 days in one time,
(b) to restrict the culprit for one year.

That is the power bestowed upon the central body. If need arises to continue to restrict the subject or to do so for more than the term, the approval of the cabinet shall be sought in advance. In this regard, the cabinet can give approval in advance to continue to restrict the subject or to do so for more than the term, for five years in a row without exceeding more than one year in the five years.

Therefore, under the 1975 Law to prevent those who pose danger to the State, the central body has the power to restrict a citizen for one year, and if need arises, it can grant permission to continue to do so for five more years. That point is enumerated exactly in the law.

I have to explain the law in detail because these days, those from the anti-government groups who claim themselves to be legal experts are criticizing that the government’s restrictions on certain persons are not in conformity with the law, and the restriction term is already up. The foreign radio stations that praise and air whatever such organizations and persons say are airing repeatedly the same subject.

In fact, in pursuance of the seven-step Road Map to build a discipline-flourishing democracy nation, the government is dealing with anti-government groups and persons with great patience in order to achieve national reconsolidation. At the press conferences, officials concerned had clarified many times that profound evidences, man and material, had been got that some parties and persons had committed the crimes for which the parties and persons could be dissolved or sentenced to long prison terms. However, the government is dealing with those cases with great patience in order to regain national reconsolidation.

Actually, the persons on whom the government has placed restrictions received at home and were corresponding with insurgents who are engaged in armed insurgency against the government, and were posing great threats to the national security, receiving cash and kind from insurgent groups and foreign governments. Due to the crimes they have committed, they well deserve inflicting punishment as in the case of naughty children. However, the government that is like the parent of the people has to issue restriction order in order that they will not be in a position to commit similar crimes again.

Myanmar is not the only country that promulgates the laws to prevent those who pose danger to the State. If necessary to guard the motherland and safeguard the lives and property of the people, every government has to promulgate laws and impose restrictions.

Very simply, if they do not want action to be taken or to be placed under restrictions, they should serve the interests of the nation and the people in the framework of the law or in accordance with the saying “It is safe to live in the framework of the law”. In Malaysia, for example, National Security Law has been promulgated. Under the law, the police has the power to place a person who harmed or is believed to harm the security and interest of Malaysia under custody for 180 days, without putting him on trial. When the period of 60 days elapses, he can still be detained for two years with the approval of the minister of home affairs. If necessary to continue to do so, the minister can renew the restriction without exceeding two years in one time.

Singapore promulgates similar law. Like the law of Malaysia, under the law of Singapore, a two-year restriction can be placed, and the restriction can be renewed without exceeding two years in one time. In Singapore, Chia Thye Poh of Barisan Sosialis, a political organization, was detained for 32 years under the law.

In the aftermath of the September 11 attack, even the US, that respects the individual rights, promulgated Patriot Act in order to protect the nation from possible terrorist attacks. According to the Act, the organizations responsible for restoration of the rule of law have the power to tap telephone conversations, to get secretly biographies and bank accounts of the citizens without warrant of the court, and to exile the offenders, and detain them without time limits. It is, indeed, restriction on the individual rights. However, the US Congress and citizens accepted the law because the law is designed to serve the interests of the nation and the people. In like manner, after the September 11 attack, Britain, democracy pioneer, promulgated Anti-Terror Law, and vested the police with many powers including the power to detain the suspects for long without putting them on trial in order to take punitive action against not only terrorists but also relevant persons and accomplices.

As a matter of fact, every country has to take action as necessary if its security comes under threats. In the process, it sometimes has to unavoidably impose restrictions on the rights of a citizen in the interests of the nation and the people. Likewise, the remaining countries promulgate necessary laws to safeguard the national security according to the situations and dangers posed to the nation concerned. They respect privacy and rights, but they will not remain indifferent of someone who is posing and trying to pose threats to the nation and the people.

In our country, certain parties and persons under the pretext of democracy and human rights resorted to and are resorting to various means to make the motherland lose sovereignty and independence and undermine the stability and the rule of law. The government is dealing with those cases with great care. As mentioned above, the government has showed great patience in dealing with the cases for which it can take punitive action, and just imposed minimum restrictions. It is very clear in doing so that it took action in the framework of the law.

Certain organizations and persons did violate the law, but they claim that the restrictions are unfair and are not in line with the law when action was taken against them. They should consider to find out whether their actions are logical. Very simply, if they do not want action to be taken or to be placed under restrictions, they should serve the interests of the nation and the people in the framework of the law or in accordance with the saying “It is safe to live in the framework of the law”. Translation: MS *****
KNU-planted-mine-explosion damages windscreen of a car
No passenger injured

YANGON, 10 June — A mine explosion caused minor damage to a passenger car on Kawakreik-Myawady motor road in Myawady Township yesterday, but no one was injured in the explosion. The Hilux truck with plate No. 6B/3075 left Kawakreik for Myawady at about 12.45 pm yesterday, and upon arrival at mile-post No 93 saw its windscreen damaged owing to the KNU-insurgent-planted mine explosion. The passengers on board the car were not injured. The local battalions are in hot pursuit of the KNU insurgents. — MNA

Complaints about relief aids misappropriation invited

NAV PYI TAW, 10 June — National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee released an announcement on 15 May and said anyone may inform if he witnesses or knows the cash assistance and relief supplies donated to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular purposes, or misappropriated for other purposes.

The committee announced that it has made all necessary arrangements to look into the cases to invite complaints from the people about malpractices. Therefore, authorities concerned have invited complaints from the people about malpractices. — MNA

MAS to distribute paddy strains to Mawlamyinegyun Tsp

YANGON, 9 June—Myanmar Agriculture Service will open the 15 front-line camps at Kyet Shar, Shaukchaung, Kwin Chaung, Nat Hmu and Myat Thar Ze Byuvillages in Mawlamyine-gyun township to distribute 11,748 baskets of paddy strains, said deputy division Manager of MAS U Tin Maung Tun. — MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win meets with departmental officials in Shan State (East)

NAV PYI TAW, 10 June—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence met with departmental officials at state level at the meeting hall of Triangle Region Command yesterday.

At the meeting, Chairman of Shan State (East) PDC Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing briefed Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on location and area of Shan State (East), population, cultivation and production of monsoon paddy, annual increase in per acre yield, rising sown acreage, completion of cultivating main crops in 2007-2008, regional rice and edible oil security, cultivation and production of poppy-substitute crops, growing of tea leaf, arrangement under way for cultivation of physic nut plants in 2006,2007 and 2008 and progress of education and health sectors.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that he was pleased to see the rapid development of the whole region. Such development was achieved due to harmonious efforts of departmental officials and the local people. Concerted efforts must be made for ensuring regional rice security in Shan State (East). Officials concerned are to carry out the tasks with full capacity. They are to try to boost regional economy by means of agriculture. Increasing number of grower are needed to enhance per acre yield. Now, officials concerned are to try to carry out agricultural tasks in Shan State (East) to support the rice requirement of delta regions. Other departmental officials are to participate in nation-building endeavours with the national spirit.

Max Myanmar Co donates supplies to victims

YANGON, 9 June — Chairman of Max Myanmar Co U Zaw Zaw today donated food and 10 kinds of personal commodities to the storm victims in Labutta Township at the relief camp in Pyinsalu.

The relief supplies were donated to the victims of the relief camps in Sar chek village-tract and the relief camp in Pyinsalu of Labutta Township. — MNA

MRCS to use speedboats for health care tasks

YANGON, 9 June — Myanmar Red Cross Society will use speedboats to carry out emergency health care services in the storm-hit regions in Mawlamyine-gyun Township.

No I Soft Drink Co owner U Hla Myint and wife donated three speedboats to the Myanmar Red Cross Society. A speedboat can carry six passengers. Out of three speed boats, one will be used in Mawlamyinegyun Township and the other two will be sent to Bogale and Labutta townships. — MNA

Health care services being provided to storm-affected regions

No outbreak of contagious, epidemic diseases in storm-hit areas

NAV PYI TAW, 10 June — Under the instructions of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee and supervision of the Secretary of the Sub-committee for Health Deputy Minister for Health, health care services have been given to storm victims soon after the storm ‘Nargis’ swept some regions in Myanmar. The Sub-committee for Health gives emphasis on medical treatment and preventive measures. In the process, health staff from district/township and village in storm-hit areas have been carried out medical care services in the areas. Moreover, medical staff from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Defence and medical experts from Non-governmental organizations totaling 2386, four floating hospitals, medical units sent by entrepreneur and organizations, private medical practitioners, members of Red Cross Society, Fire Services and other health and relief teams totaling over 36,000 and 398 members of 13 foreign medical units are also taking part in the drive for health care.

From 3 May to 3 June, a total of 183,450 out-patients and 22,589 in-patients had received medical treatment. So far, there has been no outbreak of contagious disease and epidemic in the storm-affected areas.— MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence meeting with departmental officials at Triangle Region Command. — MNA

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No I Soft Drink Co owner U Hla Myint and wife donated three speedboats to the Myanmar Red Cross Society. A speedboat can carry six passengers. Out of three speed boats, one will be used in Mawlamyinegyun Township and the other two will be sent to Bogale and Labutta townships. — MNA

Max Myanmar Co donates supplies to victims

YANGON, 9 June — Chairman of Max Myanmar Co U Zaw Zaw today donated food and 10 kinds of personal commodities to the storm victims in Labutta Township at the relief camp in Pyinsalu.

The relief supplies were donated to the victims of the relief camps in Sar chek village-tract and the relief camp in Pyinsalu of Labutta Township. — MNA

Health care services being provided to storm-affected regions

No outbreak of contagious, epidemic diseases in storm-hit areas

NAV PYI TAW, 10 June — Under the instructions of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee and supervision of the Secretary of the Sub-committee for Health Deputy Minister for Health, health care services have been given to storm victims soon after the storm ‘Nargis’ swept some regions in Myanmar. The Sub-committee for Health gives emphasis on medical treatment and preventive measures. In the process, health staff from district/township and village in storm-hit areas have been carried out medical care services in the areas. Moreover, medical staff from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Defence and medical experts from Non-governmental organizations totaling 2386, four floating hospitals, medical units sent by entrepreneur and organizations, private medical practitioners, members of Red Cross Society, Fire Services and other health and relief teams totaling over 36,000 and 398 members of 13 foreign medical units are also taking part in the drive for health care.

From 3 May to 3 June, a total of 183,450 out-patients and 22,589 in-patients had received medical treatment. So far, there has been no outbreak of contagious disease and epidemic in the storm-affected areas.— MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence meeting with departmental officials at Triangle Region Command. — MNA

Complaints about relief aids misappropriation invited

NAV PYI TAW, 10 June — National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee released an announcement on 15 May and said anyone may inform if he witnesses or knows the cash assistance and relief supplies donated to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular purposes, or misappropriated for other purposes.

The committee announced that it has made all necessary arrangements to look into the cases to invite complaints from the people about malpractices. Therefore, authorities concerned have invited complaints from the people about malpractices. — MNA

MAS to distribute paddy strains to Mawlamyinegyun Tsp

YANGON, 9 June—Myanmar Agriculture Service will open the 15 front-line camps at Kyet Shar, Shaukchaung, Kwin Chaung, Nat Hmu and Myat Thar Ze Byuvillages in Mawlamyine-gyun township to distribute 11,748 baskets of paddy strains, said deputy division Manager of MAS U Tin Maung Tun. — MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win meets with departmental officials in Shan State (East)

NAV PYI TAW, 10 June—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence met with departmental officials at state level at the meeting hall of Triangle Region Command yesterday.

At the meeting, Chairman of Shan State (East) PDC Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing briefed Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on location and area of Shan State (East), population, cultivation and production of monsoon paddy, annual increase in per acre yield, rising sown acreage, completion of cultivating main crops in 2007-2008, regional rice and edible oil security, cultivation and production of poppy-substitute crops, growing of tea leaf, arrangement under way for cultivation of physic nut plants in 2006,2007 and 2008 and progress of education and health sectors.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that he was pleased to see the rapid development of the whole region. Such development was achieved due to harmonious efforts of departmental officials and the local people. Concerted efforts must be made for ensuring regional rice security in Shan State (East). Officials concerned are to carry out the tasks with full capacity. They are to try to boost regional economy by means of agriculture. Increasing number of grower are needed to enhance per acre yield. Now, officials concerned are to try to carry out agricultural tasks in Shan State (East) to support the rice requirement of delta regions. Other departmental officials are to participate in nation-building endeavours with the national spirit.

Max Myanmar Co donates supplies to victims

YANGON, 9 June — Chairman of Max Myanmar Co U Zaw Zaw today donated food and 10 kinds of personal commodities to the storm victims in Labutta Township at the relief camp in Pyinsalu.

The relief supplies were donated to the victims of the relief camps in Sar chek village-tract and the relief camp in Pyinsalu of Labutta Township. — MNA
Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets students learning at temporary shelters of a primary school in Patok Village. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein observes lamp-posts being set up by workers on Kawhmu-Kungyangon mortar road. — MNA

Education sector plays a pivotal role in turning out qualified human resources in the national development tasks.

Chairman of NDPCC...
(from page 1)

They inspected basic education school there and Headmistress Daw Win Tin and officials reported on damages, repair and school boys and school girls learning at the school.

In his discussions, the Prime Minister said the education sector plays a pivotal role in turning out qualified human resources in the national development tasks. He spoke of the need for the teachers to train the students to become brilliant educated persons and to nurture them to be well-disciplined ones with good morals and patriotism when they are at school.

The Prime Minister and party inspected removal of fallen trees near Shwesandaw Pagoda by Tatmadaw members and Myanmar Police Force and Red Cross Brigade members.

The Prime Minister and party proceeded to Basic Education High School in Kawhmu Township where they met the school head and teachers. The Prime Minister enquired repair of school buildings and teaching. The Prime Minister and party went to temporary health care centre there and they greeted medical team led by Dr Munar Lubis of Indonesia. They observed treatment given to the storm victims in cooperation with doctors from the Health Department.

At the Township General Administration Department office, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint who is closely supervising the reconstruction tasks reported on damages, measures taken for rehabilitation and progress of work, reconstruction of the township and requirements for development with audio visual aids.

Chairman of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council U Zaw Win reported on wards and villages, arrangements for construction of new wards and survey and programmes for allocation of land for the storm victims.

The Prime Minister and party inspected mobile health centre there and they greeted medical team led by Dr Munar Lubis of Indonesia. They observed treatment given to the storm victims in cooperation with doctors from the Health Department.

Next, Myanmar Shweyin Co presented bags of rice for the victims to Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Myint Swe.

The Prime Minister and party inspected collective cultivation of monsoon paddy in Kamapa Village with the use of power tillers and sanitation work on the road to Kungyangon Township by Tatmadaw and MPF members.

They went to control camp where Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint reported on installation of 33 KV power lines linking Kawhmu, Kungyangon and Dedaye Townships.

The Prime Minister and party inspected the teaching at the temporary classroom.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and officials reported on construction of temporary classrooms. The Prime Minister attended to the needs and came back to Yangon in the afternoon. — MNA
Guiding principles to be followed by UN agencies, inter-governmental organizations, INGOs, and NGOs in carrying out aid and assistance activities for cyclone victims briefed

YANGON, 10 June—The briefing on Guiding Principles to be followed by UN agencies, inter-governmental organizations, INGOs and NGOs in carrying out aid and assistance activities for cyclone victims took place at the Archives Department of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, here, this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, departmental officials, invited resident representatives and officials of UN agencies, and officials of INGOs and NGOs, totaling 94.

Minister U Soe Tha in his speech said that the purpose was to brief UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs on work programme and aid and assistance being rendered by the international organizations and the guiding principles to be followed in carrying out aid and assistance activities for the cyclone victims.

Some responsible person who attended the briefing held on 18 May discussed the submission of detailed information about relief supplies and the importance of coordination mechanism for distribution. However, that could not be materialized yet.

Unsystematic distributions might lead towards duplication. Uncoordinated activities should not take place in aid and assistance rendered to cyclone victims.

Only when complete compilation of data and statistics of relief supplies from donor countries and organizations was available, would it be possible to record the donor countries and the relief aid. So, it was needed to send detailed lists of relief supplies.

It was vital that victims received much-needed supplies. The nation did not accept any situations in which victims sold unusual supplies because it could tarnish the image of the country.

Respective township coordination committees had been formed under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development (MNA) for distribution.

The works were to be carried out in collaboration with respective ministry and the Tripartite Core Group (TCG).

Some organizations were spreading groundless information such as there was or would be shortage of rice in Myanmar.

The rice output in the storm-affected areas in Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions made up only 2.3 per cent of the nation’s total rice output. The uncultivable acreage is barely 1 per cent of that of the whole nation, he said.

In conclusion, he urged the UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs to follow the guiding principles.

The minister answered the queries raised by the attendees.

Relief aid from foreign countries arrives

YANGON, 10 June—Two C-130, IL-76 and AN-12 flights carrying 98.42 tons of tents, drinking water bottles, chlorine, emergency foods and milk powder donated by UNICEF at 09.00 am, 13.50 pm, 14.35 pm, 16.00 pm and 17.00 pm, IL-76 flight loaded with 38 tons of foods for children contributed by WFP based in India at 10.40 am, two C-130 flights carrying 20.038 tons of packages of boiled rice, corn, drinking water bottles, foods donated by the Government of Thailand at 11.25 am and 11.45 am, C-130 flight loaded with 9.5 tons of canned food, soaps, milk and soya milk contributed by the United State of America at 12.25 hours arrived at Yangon International Airport today.—MNA

Construction materials for Pyinsalu

YANGON, 10 June—Construction materials were shipped to Pyinsalu today to build 50 low-cost houses in the town.

As part of a plan for building 50 low-cost houses in Pyinsalu, those materials were shipped from the Jetty in Labutta to Pyinsalu with Aung Myanmar-2 Ship.

MWEA President Daw Khin Myint

Myint receives ASEAN outstanding Women Entrepreneur Award from Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, MWEA

MWEA Outstanding Women Entrepreneur Award winner arrives back

YANGON, 10 June—The 11-member team led by founder of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association, advisor professor Daw Yi Yi Myint (Retd) attended Global Summit of Women 2008 held at Hanoi of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam from 5 to 7 June.

The team comprised MWEA President Daw Khin Myint Thudhama Theingi Daw Khin Myint Myint (Excellence Performance in Social Field (class-1) accepted ASEAN Outstanding Women Entrepreneur Award presented by Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and arrived back here by air on 8 June.

Global Summit of Women 2008 will donate over 30,000 US dollar for storm victims in Myanmar and earthquake victims in the People’s Republic of China.—MNA

Specialists providing vaccines to orphans at a relief camp in Myaungmya—Health

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Outstanding

Women

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Award

winner

arrives

back

Wednesday, 11 June, 2008

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

9
We went to the Headquarters of the Union Solidarity and Development Association on the New University Avenue in Bahan Township to meet youth members of the USDA staying at the headquarters before they left for storm-hit areas in Ayeyawady Division. Under the leadership of the Youth Welfare of USDA, the youth members will carry out reconstruction tasks in the storm-hit areas in the delta region.

Dr Zaw Min Aung, the leader of the Group-1, replies to queries of a media man.

Kayan, Rakhine and Shan State (East) USDAs and five from Ayeyawady Division USDA and will camp at Hlinebone Village in Labutta Township to carry out reconstruction tasks in Hlinebone Village and other villages near Hlinebone. The USDA Headquarters will support the trip and reconstruction works. The group will bring along dry rations, cooking utensils and tents to the areas.

The group-2 that will camp at Pyinsalu Village in Labutta Township is led by Joint-Secretary of Sagaing District USDA Dr Win Myint Aung. He said Group-2 consists of 12 USDA members from Chin State, 20 from Sagaing Division, 10 from Yangon Division and five from Ayeyawady Division. The Group-3 which will camp at Hsinchayyar Village in Labutta Township. The Group-4 which will camp at Seiksalu Village in Labutta Township as a base is led by Executive of Mawlamyine District USDA U Sai Nyi Nyi Lwin. He said the Group-4 comprises 12 members each from Bagon (East) Division, Mon State, Shan State (North) and five from Ayeyawady Division.

Equipment and materials to be used in construction works in storm-affected areas.

Vehicles carrying USDA members who will participate in the reconstruction works leave for Ayeyawady Division.
Pakistan, Afghanistan to install border control system

ISLAMABAD, 10 June — Pakistan and Afghanistan Sunday agreed to introduce the biometric control system along their borders to check the illegal cross-border movement, officials said. The two sides agreed on the system during a visit to Kabul by A Rehman Malik, adviser to the Pakistan Prime Minister on interior. Malik met Afghan President Hamid Karzai and Afghan Interior Minister Zarar Ahmad Muqbal, a Pakistani Interior Ministry statement said.

“The adviser discussed the security situation on the international border of the two countries. To improve the security situation, restoration and installation of border biometric control system was emphasized,” it said. The two sides agreed to task the technical teams on both sides to meet security and finalize the installation.

A man looks at a cardboard cutout of a cow symbolizing a US cow injected with mad cow disease in front of the city hall in Seoul on 9 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Senegal says Hamas, Fatah talks help restore trust

DARAK, 10 June — Talks between Fatah and Hamas in the Senegalese capital Dakar this weekend had restored “an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect” between the Palestinian factions, a statement signed by both sides said on Sunday.

Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade, Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, offered his services in March as a mediator between the two parties, which clashed a year ago when Islamist Hamas fighters wrested power from Fatah in the Gaza Strip.

A Senegalese police officer stands guard alongside an unfinished sculpture portraying the map of Africa, during the opening ceremony of a two-day commemoration for seminal African filmmaker Ousmane Sembene, in Dakar, Senegal on 9 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Australian troops in Iraq arrive home after delay

CANBERRA, 10 June — More than 130 Brisbane-based soldiers finally arrived home in Brisbane in east Australia with family and friends welcoming them back at the Brisbane International Airport early Monday morning.

Australian Associated Press reported the troops were the first major contingent of the Australian troops based in the province of Shi Qar in Iraq to return since Australia officially ceased its combat role in Iraq last week.

They were due to arrive in Brisbane around 3 on Sunday afternoon but their return was delayed after a bird struck an engine of their plane. The troops were grounded in Darwin until the Army was able to organize a new chartered flight.

MNA/Xinhua

Seven dead, three missing in N-W China boat collision

XI’AN, 10 June — Seven people were dead and another three went missing when two boats collided and one of them capsized in northwest China’s Shaanxi Province on Saturday, the local government said on Monday.

A passenger boat capsized and all the 14 people on board fell into the Hanjiang River after a collision with an empty cargo boat off Shaanping Village in Ziyang County at around 1:10 pm Saturday.

Four of them were saved, safety authorities with the county government said.

By Monday morning, rescuers had retrieved seven dead bodies and were still searching for the three missing.

MNA/Xinhua

Six killed in US small plane crash

WASHINGTON, 10 June — A small plane crashed in a neighbourhood in Fremont, Ohio on Sunday, killing all the six people aboard.

Gene Damschroder, 86, a former state lawmaker, was flying the fixed-wing single-engine Cessna when it crashed, according to Ohio police. All the five passengers who were invited by Damschroder for a joyride also died in the crash.

No one on the ground was injured, and no buildings were damaged, police said.

There was no severe weather in the area at the time, the National Weather Service said.

Investigations are under way. Damschroder was a World War II pilot who was a certified flight instructor and was licensed to fly both single- and multi-engine planes.

MNA/Xinhua

Residents gather at the site of a bomb attack in Baghdad’s Karrada district on 9 June, 2008. A roadside bomb killed at least four people, including one Iraqi soldier, and wounded at least 12 other people, when it exploded near an Iraqi Army patrol in Baghdad, police said.—INTERNET

Israelis round on DPM’s “political” Iran threat

JERUSALEM, 10 June — Israeli defence officials and political pundits rounded on Deputy Prime Minister Shaul Mofaz on Sunday after he threatened attacks against Iran, accusing him of exploiting war jitters to advance his personal ambitions.

Mofaz, a former Armed Forces chief and likely challenger to the Prime Minister Ehud Olmert in the Kadima Party, said in a newspaper interview last week that Israeli strikes on Iran looked “unavoidable” given progress in its nuclear plans.

The remarks helped drive up oil prices by nearly 9 per cent to a record 139 US dollars a barrel on Friday and drew a circumspect response from Washington, which has championed UN sanctions against Iran. Only hinted force could also be a last resort.

While the White House suggested Mofaz was giving voice to the Jewish state’s fear of the Islamic republic’s in Israel’s Defence Ministry pointed to a power-struggle roiling centrist Kadima as Olmert tries to beat off a bribery scandal.

“Turning one of the most strategic security issues into a political game, using it for the internal purposes of a would-be campaign in Kadima, is something that must not be done,” Deputy Defence Minister Matan Vilnai told Israel Radio.

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (MS-514)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (MS-514) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.6.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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US accounts for 45% of world’s milly expenditure in 2007
STOCKHOLM, 10 June—The United States spent $46.8 billion US dollars on its military in 2007, a new high, accounting for 45 per cent of the world’s total military expenditure for that year, according to figures released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) on Monday.

In 2007, the world’s total military expenditure stood at 1.339 billion dollars, up 6 per cent from 2006, the SIPRI said in its annual book.

The figure corresponded to 2.5 per cent of the world’s gross domestic product (GDP) and 202 dollars for each person across the world, it said.

The biggest military spender is the United States, whose military expenditure rose by 6.94 per cent in 2007 from a year earlier, higher than the world average.

Its military expenditure increased by 59 per cent between 2001 and 2007.

Over the 10-year period between 1998 and 2007, the subregion with the highest increase in military expenditure was Eastern Europe, at 162 per cent, and Asia-Pacific, at 132 per cent.

Substation fire cuts power to London homes
LONDON, 10 June—Thousands of homes in southeast London were cut off from power on Sunday morning after a fire at an electricity substation that also forced the closure of a nearby rail line.

The fire damaged two electrical transformers, said London Fire Brigade.

Six fire engines and 30 fire fighters brought the blaze under control shortly before midday.

EDF Energy cut supplies to homes connected to the substation at Forest Hill shortly before 9 am for safety reasons, restoring power to the majority of those affected around three hours later.

Network Rail said train services passing the burning substation had been suspended on the advice of the Fire Brigade.—MNA/Reuters

Spain truckers say govt offer will not stop strike
MADRID, 10 June—The Spanish government offered aid to truckers on Sunday to ward off an imminent strike over high fuel prices but it was immediately rejected as insufficient, news agency EFE reported.

The president of the National Federation of Road Transport Associations (Fenadismer), Julio Villaescusa, said the government offers merely repackage existing measures and would not stop the strike due to commence at midnight local time on Sunday (2200 GMT), EFE said.—MNA/Reuters

Soldier killed by blast in S-E Turkey
ANKARA, 10 June—One soldier of the Turkish security forces was killed and four others injured by a blast in southeastern Turkey, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported Monday.

A land-mine planted by militants of the banned Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) went off in the mountainous area in Semdinli town of southeastern Hakkari Province, the report said.

In another incident, two PKK members were killed in clashes with Turkish security forces in eastern province of Tunceli, added the report.

The PKK, listed by the United States and Turkey as a terrorist group, took up arms against Turkey in 1984 with the aim of creating an ethnic homeland in the southeast. More than 30,000 people have been killed in the over-two-decade conflict.

INJURED SWISS FORWARD ALEXANDER FREI, CENTER WITH CRUTCHES, IS SURROUNDED BY PHOTOGRAPHERS AS HE WALKS AWAY FROM A PRESS CONFERENCE OF THE SWISS NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM IN FEISSTETT, SWITZERLAND, ON 9 JUNE, 2008, DURING THE EURO 2008 EUROPEAN SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS IN AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND.—INTERNET

Afghan reporter for BBC killed in Helmand
LASHKAR GAH (Afg-Hanistan), 10 June—An Afghan reporter working for BBC radio has been killed in the southern province of Helmand, Afghan officials said on Sunday.

Abdol Samad Rohani, who worked for BBC radio, reported on a drug-burning ceremony at the airport in Lashkar Gah, Helmand’s provincial capital, on Saturday morning, then after lunch left home without saying where he was going, local reporters said.

His body was found on Sunday, Local officials said he had been abducted and killed.

Helmand is one of the most violent provinces in Afghanistan and alone produces nearly half the world’s opium, which is refined to make heroin.

Afghan security forces backed by mainly British troops hold a string of towns along the Helmand River that feeds a fertile strip cutting through the desert, but Taleban insurgents are still active throughout the area.

A Taleban spokesman denied any involvement in the killing.

Rohani had worked alongside the BBC’s Kabul correspondent and was the Helmand reporter for the Pashto language service of the BBC World Service.—MNA/Reuters

AERAt attacked by mainly British troops hold a string of towns along the Helmand River that feeds a fertile strip cutting through the desert, but Taleban insurgents are still active throughout the area.

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Rohani had worked alongside the BBC’s Kabul correspondent and was the Helmand reporter for the Pashto language service of the BBC World Service.—MNA/Reuters

Guideline would boost cholesterol drug use

NEW YORK, 10 June — The number of US adults on cholesterol-lowering medication could rise by one-quarter to one-half if doctors were to routinely scan adults’ arteries for plaque buildup, a study suggests. In 2006, a group of prominent cardiologists, dubbed the SHAPE Task Force, drew up recommendations for a new way to assess middle-aged and older adults’ heart attack risk.

Instead of looking only at standard risk factors—like smoking and high blood pressure—doctors, the task force said, should routinely use CT scans to look for calcium deposits in the coronary arteries. Calcium is a component of the artery-clogging “plaques” that can eventually trigger a heart attack. Studies show that a person’s calcium score, determined via CT scan, is predictive of his or her odds of suffering a heart attack.

The SHAPE group recommended that most men ages 45 to 75 and most women ages 55 to 75 have a CT scan to help predict their heart risks. The results would also help determine whether they need to start on a statin drug to better control their “bad” LDL cholesterol.

MNA/Reuters

ETA rebels bomb Basque newspaper building

MADRID, 10 June — A bomb exploded outside a newspaper plant in northern Spain early on Sunday in an attack police blamed on ETA Basque separatists. No one was hurt by the blast, at the back of El Correo’s sprinting Press building in the Basque town of Zamudio at about 3 am (0100 GMT) on Sunday.

Fifty staff were in the building at the time, the newspaper said on its website (http://www.elcorredigital.com/vizcaya). “The bomb at our plant in Zamudio will not stop us printing and will not silence our voice, which speaks for hundreds of thousands of Basques who want to see the end of ETA,” El Correo said in an editorial.

A police spokeswoman confirmed that ETA was believed to be behind the attack on El Correo, part of the newspaper group Vocento which controls the conservative national daily ABC.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia gets no refund from OPEC

JAKARTA, 10 June — Indonesia will not get a refund from the 9 million US dollars it has invested in the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) although the country plans to quit membership very soon, an official said Monday.

“We cannot draw the money unless the OPEC Fund is dismissed,” Indonesia’s representative in OPEC Maizar Rahman quoted by leading news website Detik.com as saying.

By keeping the money in the OPEC Fund, Indonesia can maintain close contacts with OPEC members, he said. Maizar said the country will officially pull out of the charter early in 2009, as it has paid the annual membership fee for 2008.

MNA/Xinhua

Cyclists raise $11.6m for HIV/AIDS research

LOS ANGELES, 10 June — More than 2,500 cyclists rode into Los Angeles on Saturday, wrapping up a seven-day, 545-mile (886-kilometre) trip that began in San Francisco to raise funds for HIV/AIDS research and services.

As the bicyclists arrived at the Veterans’ Administration complex in West Los Angeles, thousands of friends and supporters were on hand to greet them and take part in a closing ceremony.

The seventh annual AIDS/LifeCycle ride, which began last Sunday, raised a record 11.6 million US dollars for the AIDS/LifeCycle 7 set a new record for participation and money raised, attracting cyclists from 12 countries and 42 states, including a contingent of people living with HIV known as the Positive Pedalers.

The 545-mile trek from San Francisco is the largest annual HIV/AIDS fundraiser in the country. Some 60,000 people donated a record 11.6 million US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Children canoe in flooded yards in Racine, Wis, on 8 June, 2008, following heavy rains. Weekend storms pounded the US 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 five people.—INTERNET

HoMedics Thera-P(TM) Blood Pressure Monitors are known for innovative technology and exclusive features that empower consumers to take control of their health and well-being. The new compatibility of all HoMedics blood pressure units with Microsoft HealthVault, a web-based platform for consumers’ health data, offers another advanced tool to help achieve optimum wellness. Pictured here, the Thera-P Deluxe Automatic Blood Pressure Monitor with DK Technology(TM), which uses a built-in microphone to take an accurate reading. —INTERNET

Sightings

President Richard Levin said in a letter to alumni posted on Yale’s website: “The last significant increase in the student body came with the admission of women in 1969, said Professor George W Bush, who has been getting harder due to a surge in applicants.

Other prestigious schools, including Yale’s arch-rival Harvard, are seeing a similar rise. Yale now admits fewer than 10 per cent of more than 20,000 students who apply to the undergraduate school each year, compared with about 20 per cent in 1999, said Levin.

MNA/Reuters
Man City hopeful of landing Ronaldinho and Jo

LONDON, 10 June — English Premier League club Manchester City say they are hopeful Brazilian striker Ronaldinho will be playing for them next season.

The club are also confident of securing a deal for CSKA Moscow’s Brazilian striker Jo in the coming week. Speaking on BBC Radio on Sunday, the club’s chairman Garry Cook said Barcelona had given City clearance to talk to Ronaldinho over a switch to England.

“It’s at a tenuous stage and I don’t want to give too much away,” Cook said. “We had some people in Brazil this weekend, who we’ve been talking to, but we have a long, long list of things we need to get done because of the type of player he is — the world’s greatest player.

“We are nowhere near completing (a deal) but Ronaldinho wants to show that he is one of the greatest footballers in the world. The Manchester City fans would love to see him kick off the new season with us and I am holding out hope on that happening.”

Cook said negotiations for Jo were much further advanced.

“I think we will be taking care of that one pretty quickly. It might be within the next seven days, sooner if possible,” he said. — MNA/Reuters

Over 230,000 foreign fans pour in Austria, Switzerland

VIENNA, 10 June — More than 230,000 foreign football fans poured in hosts Austria and Switzerland for the 2008 European football championship on the first day of the 24-day tournament, organizers announced on Sunday.

The figure has created a new record for the trans-Europe football gala. However, the organizing committee of the tournament said 29 football fans have been arrested by Austrian police for their wrongdoings.

The organizers noted that on the whole the fans behaved very friendly. “We are satisfied with the situation on the first day,” said Wolfgang Eichler, a spokesman with Austria’s organizing committee. — MNA/Klub

Russia call up Ivanov to replace injured Pogrebnyak

BASIL, 10 June — Russia have replaced injured striker Pavel Pogrebnyak with uncapped midfielder Oleg Ivanov in their Euro 2008 squad, tournament organizers UEFA said on Sunday.

Pogrebnyak pulled out of the championship on Saturday with a knee injury he picked up shortly after scoring in a warm-up match against Serbia on May 28. The 21-year-old Ivanov, who plays for Russian club Krylya Sovietov Samara, featured in coach Guus Hiddink’s provisional squad for the tournament.

Russia’s forward options for their Group D opener against Spain on Tuesday were already limited before Pogrebnyak’s injury because playmaker Andrei Arshavin is suspended for the first two matches.

The other teams in the group are Sweden and European champions Greece. — MNA/Reuters

Tiger Woods watches his shot from the first tee in a practice round for the 101st US Open Championship golf tournament in San Diego on 9 June, 2008. — INTERNET

Poland’s soccer players run during a training session of the national soccer team of Poland in Bad Waltersdorf, Austria, on 9 June, 2008. Poland is in Group B at the Euro 2008 European Soccer Championships in Austria and Switzerland.—INTERNET

Spain’s David Villa (7) scores his third goal past Russia’s goalkeeper Igor Akinfeyev during their Group D Euro 2008 soccer match at the Tivoli Neu Stadium in Innsbruck, on 10 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Villa’s 3 goals lift Spain over Russia

INNSBRUCK (Austria), 10 June — David Villa scored three times on Tuesday in Spain’s resounding 4-1 victory over Russia, a win that confirmed the Spaniards as a team to beat at the European Championship.

After completing his hat trick, Villa saw teammate Cesc Fabregas also score. Russia’s goal came from Roman Pavlyuchenko long after things were decided.

Villa scored the first hat trick in the tournament since 2000.—INTERNET

Over 230,000 foreign football fans poured in hosts Austria and Switzerland for the 2008 European football championship on the first day of the 24-day tournament, organizers announced on Sunday. The figure has created a new record for the trans-Europe football gala. However, the organizing committee of the tournament said 29 football fans have been arrested by Austrian police for their wrongdoings.

The organizers noted that on the whole the fans behaved very friendly. “We are satisfied with the situation on the first day,” said Wolfgang Eichler, a spokesman with Austria’s organizing committee. — MNA/Klub

Russia call up Ivanov to replace injured Pogrebnyak

BASIL, 10 June — Russia have replaced injured striker Pavel Pogrebnyak with uncapped midfielder Oleg Ivanov in their Euro 2008 squad, tournament organizers UEFA said on Sunday.

Pogrebnyak pulled out of the championship on Saturday with a knee injury he picked up shortly after scoring in a warm-up match against Serbia on May 28. The 21-year-old Ivanov, who plays for Russian club Krylya Sovietov Samara, featured in coach Guus Hiddink’s provisional squad for the tournament.

Russia’s forward options for their Group D opener against Spain on Tuesday were already limited before Pogrebnyak’s injury because playmaker Andrei Arshavin is suspended for the first two matches.

The other teams in the group are Sweden and European champions Greece. — MNA/Reuters

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Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah and Kayin States, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin and Mon States and Mandalay Division, scattered in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine State, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mogok (3.31) inches, Sittway (2.04) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (1.69) inches, Bhamo (1.46) inches, Falun (1.30) inches, Katha and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.26) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 9-6-2008 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 10-6-2008 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 10-6-2008 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 9-6-2008 was (Nil). Rainfall on 10-6-2008 was (1.69) inches at Mingaladon, (1.26) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.71) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (34.72) inches at Mandalay, (41.06) inches at Kaba-Aye and (52.99) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (16:30) 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 moderate to strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 11-6-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon. Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan, Chin and Mon States, Bago Division and isolated to scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Swells with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 11-6-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%). Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-6-2008: One to two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty (80%). Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-6-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Make donations to the storm victims

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

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

- 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.

☆ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
☆ BBC lying
☆ VOA deceiving
☆ RFA setting up hostilities
☆ Beware! Don’t be bought by those ill-wishers

Witness may inform about misappropriation of internal and international relief funds and supplies

Anyone may dial the following phone numbers of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement if he witnesses or knows that the cash assistance and relief supplies donated from abroad and at home to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular persons and organizations, or misappropriated for other purposes.

Head of Office Ph: 067 404021 and 067 404022
Deputy Head of Office Ph: 09 860 1002