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Tuesday, 17 June, 2008

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

Prime Minister inspects project to reclaim new plots for storm survivors of Labutta

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June —Chairman of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein visited relief camps in Myanmara and Labutta in Ayeyawady Division today and gave instructions on relief works to officials concerned.

The Prime Minister was welcomed by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig. Gen Kyaw Swe and officials at Bo Myat Tun Bridge in Nyaungdon Township.

First, they went to the gunnysack factory in Myaungmya where a relief camp was set up for storm survivors from Labutta. At the meeting hall of the factory, Chairman of Myaungmya District Peace and Development Council U Aye Han reported on arrangements for storm survivors who want to go back to their native areas of own volition and for those who want to settle in Myaungmya Township.

After hearing reports, the Prime Minister explained arrangements made by the government for providing relief aids to the storm survivors and enabling them to resume their livelihood, and called for prompt reconstruc-
tion of education and health infrastructures for providing health care to storm victims and timely opening of schools and participation of entrepreneurs in the drive.

He also spoke of the need not only to fulfil the reconstruction tasks but also to pay attention to develop-
ment of Myaungmya and called for officials to strive for meeting the cultivation target of Myaungmya Dis-
trict and for boosting the rice output in the district.

(See page 8)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Deputy Foreign Minister of Vietnam

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June—Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Develop-
mment Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo received a delega-
tion led by Deputy Foreign Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet-
nam Mr Dao Viet Trung at the office of SPDC here this evening.

Also present were Minister for Foreign Af-
fairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Di-
rector-General of the SPDC Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win and Director-
General of Protocol Department under Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Kyaw. The delegation was accompanied by Vietnamese Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Tran Van Tung.

INSIDE

Why did Myanmar people unanimously vote for State constitution?

Whether a constitution wins the support of the people or not rests on how much the constitution reflects the social life of the people and is based on human rights and democ-

AUNG ZE MIN
PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 17 June, 2008

Grow more trees for greening environment

Global warming has triggered deforestation and desertification. At present, many world nations are extensively engaged in the fight against global warming with the extended establishment of forests.

Forests are capable of generating a mild weather and of preventing floods and landslides while enriching soil layers.

The government has preserved the nation’s rich natural resources while regenerating a large array of forests and establishing nature reserves and protected forest region-wise. In the meantime, it has laid down and is implementing the 13-district greening project. As a result, forests are now thriving in those regions. Trees and forests contribute much to the existence of living beings. In addition, they are the basic resources for national economic progress and for greening the regions.

The nation is usually engaged in extended growing of different kinds of trees including teak in the rainy season for greening the whole nation.

It is learnt that work is well under way to grow over 600,000 saplings in four districts of Yangon Division in this year’s tree growing ceremony. The Forest Department has established 1500 acres of teak plantations as commercial plantations in Yangon Division Reserve Forest and 1200 acres of watershed plantations in catchment areas of dams and reservoirs since the first week of May.

We firmly believe that the extensive growing of trees, flowers and other plants by the departments and the people will contribute a lot to generating fine weather and greening tasks.

People’s Desire

Tuesday, 17 June, 2008

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister U Nyan Win receives Mr Dao Viet Trung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Minister signs Book of Condolences

Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe signs the Book of Condolences at Vietnamese Embassy in Yangon.—MNA

L&F Ministry to disburse loans to fish farms

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein at the meetings with the businessmen and fishermen on his tour of Pyapon, Bogale and Dedaye on 8 and 9 June. Local fishermen are allowed to catch fish for free in common fishing areas on June, July and August. Fishery farms are exempted 50% from tax and they can pay the tax in instalments from July to December. Moreover, fishing nets and boats will be provided to local fishermen.—MNA

Insurgent mine kills innocent person

Ministry for Livestock and Fisheries will disburse loans to fish farms and fishermen in the region. They can take out loans from the Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Development Bank to construct cold storage factories, motorized boats and fish ponds, said Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein at the meetings with the businessmen and fishermen on his tour of Pyapon, Bogale and Dedaye on 8 and 9 June. Local fishermen are allowed to catch fish for free in common fishing areas on June, July and August. Fishery farms are exempted 50% from tax and they can pay the tax in instalments from July to December. Moreover, fishing nets and boats will be provided to local fishermen.—MNA

U Wam Shin Nate and family of 46th street in Botahtaung Township donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Patron U Aung Than of the home.—t
Anti-war demonstrators clash with police as Bush visits in London

LONDON, 16 June—About 2,000 protesters on Sunday gathered in London for a anti-war demonstration as US President George Bush arrived in London for the final leg of his farewell tour of Europe.

The demonstration was organized by the Stop War Coalition, CND and the British Muslim Initiative, and the protesters rallied in Parliament Square, shouting, “George Bush, terrorist,” and holding placards showing blood patches and handcuffs.

The demonstrators had planned to march to Downing Street, but police closed down Whitehall and used heavy reinforcement to ensure the metal barrier they erected was not breached, and a few scuffles broke out as the protesters tried to breach the barrier as Prime Minister Gordon Brown and his wife Sarah had an informal dinner with Bush and his wife Laura, the BBC said in a report. It is said that about 13 people were arrested during the clashes.

Southern China flooding kills 57, more rain ahead

BEIJING, 16 June—Massive flooding across a broad stretch of southern China killed almost 60 people and forced 1.3 million others from their homes, state media reported Monday.

People were forced to flee their homes across nine provinces, including Sichuan, still reeling from last month’s earthquake that killed nearly 70,000 people. At least 57 people died and eight were missing.

Heavy rain is expected to pummel the southern region over the next few days, said a spokesman at the China Meteorological Administration.

Water levels on the swollen Wujiang River in Guangdong Province rose to nearly 79 feet, far surpassing the “dangerous level” of 20 feet, he said. Heavy rain in Sichuan, Guizhou and Yunnan provinces will further raise water levels downstream, especially in the coastal manufacturing powerhouse of Guangdong. Most of those areas are expected to receive more heavy rain over the next 10 days.

The worst-hit province was Guangdong, where 20 people died and eight were missing, and nearly 5.8 million people in 17 cities were affected.

Economic losses have reached $1.5 billion because of the floods, it said. More than 45,000 houses collapsed and 140,000 had been damaged.

Israel kills three Gaza militants

GAZA, 16 June—Israeli strikes in southern Gaza killed three Palestinian gunmen Monday and injured three others, militants said.

Three men were killed by Israeli fire when they were planting explosives along the Gaza-Israel border, according to Abu Ahmad, a spokesman for the group.

The military confirmed that troops crossed into Gaza and shot the militants.

In a separate incident, an Israeli airstrike injured three Hamas militants, one of them critically, Hamas said. The military confirmed the attack.

Japan quake death toll rises to 10

Tokyo, 16 June—The death toll in a powerful earthquake that hit northern Japan at the weekend rose to 10 on Monday as troops and rescue workers searched for survivors in the remote, mountainous area worst hit by the tremor.

A fourth body was pulled from the ruins of an inn in the northern prefecture of Miyagi, a local official said. The building was crushed in a massive mudslide triggered by the 7.2-magnitude quake, which struck on Saturday morning. Twelve people remain missing, including three at the inn, and at least 231 people have been injured, according to Tokyo’s fire and disaster agency.

More than 200 people are staying in shelters and water is being trucked into the hardest-hit areas, where about 3,500 households are without water and about 300 households are without electricity, local government officials said.
Afghan soldiers wounded as patrol vehicle struck by mine

KABUL, 16 June—Two Afghan national army soldiers were wounded as their patrol vehicle was struck Monday morning by a roadside mine planted by Taliban militants in Gereshk district of Helmand Province, southern Afghanistan, an official said.

One army vehicle was damaged in the blast, Helmand’s police chief Mohammad Hussein Andival told Xinhua.

Taliban militants, fighting Afghan government and international forces since being ousted from power in 2001, have claimed to take the responsibility for the incident. Intensified insurgency-related violence and conflicts claimed over 8,000 lives in the war-battered country last year, a bloodiest one since six and half years ago.—Internet

Survivor sues Netherlands over Srebrenica massacre

THE HAGUE, 16 June—A Dutch court on Monday began hearing from a survivor of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre who says Dutch troops guarding the Bosnian town as part of a UN force allowed Bosnian Serbs to murder his family.

It is the first civil action by relatives of Srebrenica victims against the Netherlands over its part in the 1992-95 Bosnian war.

Srebrenica was declared a UN safe haven and guarded by a Dutch army unit serving as part of a United Nations force, but it was overrun by Bosnian Serb forces commanded by Ratko Mladic on 11 July, 1995.

More than 8,000 men and boys were massacred.

Hasan Nuhanovic, an interpreter with the United Nations, says his father, mother and younger brother were killed after they were expelled from a Dutch military base in the town.

He said he was allowed to remain inside the base because he had a UN identity card.

The court will hear a separate suit on Wednesday filed by about 6,000 relatives of Srebrenica massacre victims against the Dutch state and the United Nations.—Internet

Iran rules out nuclear halt after powers offer deal

TEHERAN, 16 June—Top EU diplomat Javier Solana handed Iran an offer by six major powers of trade and other incentives on Saturday to try to coax it into halting sensitive nuclear work, but Tehran again ruled out any such suspension.

“If the package (from the six powers) includes suspension it is not debatable at all,” Iran’s government spokesman Gholamhossein Elham told reporters.

“Iran’s view is clear: any precondition is unacceptable.”

He was speaking shortly after Solana, the European Union’s foreign policy chief, presented the incentives package from the United States, China, Russia, France, Britain and Germany to Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Motaki.

The offer, including civilian nuclear cooperation, is a revised version of one rejected by Iran two years ago and diplomats have played down any hopes of a breakthrough in a dispute that has helped push up oil prices to record highs.

The world’s fourth-largest crude producer is refusing to stop activities it says are for generating electricity but which the West suspects are aimed at making bombs.—MNA/Reuters

S Korea, US end talks on beef without agreement

SEOUL, 16 June—South Korea and the United States ended their “additional talks” in Washington on the resumption of US beef imports without an immediate deal, officials from the foreign ministry in Seoul said Monday.

Trade Minister Kim Jong-hoon left Washington for home Sunday Washington time, an official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade told Yonhap, adding that “there has not been a compromise yet.”

The two sides agreed to continue related talks through diplomatic channels, the official said.—Internet

US outlets linked to cases of tomato-borne salmonella

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—Two outlets of a restaurant chain might be linked with the sickness of nine people by a salmonella outbreak, a newspaper report said on Saturday.

The sick ate fresh tomatoes tained by salmonella at two restaurants from the same chain, said the Los Angeles Times, quoting federal officials at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

But the FDA declined to name the chain or the restaurant locations, citing confidentiality.

A spokesman for the agency also declined to provide the time frame for the cases or say whether the restaurants were in the same state.

The Chicago Department of Public Health identified nine people who ate at a restaurant in May and came down with salmonella, said Tim Hadac, a spokesman for the department.

None of the nine Chicago victims were hospitalized.

Hadac said the department was withholding the name of the restaurant, which he said had several related restaurants in the city but was not part of a national chain.

But FDA officials stressed that the locations where the illnesses were reported were not an indication of where the contaminated tomatoes originated.—MNA/Xinhua

US Coast Guard rescues British charity rowers

LONDON, 16 June—Four Britons attempting to row across the Atlantic for charity have been rescued by the US Coast Guard after their boat capsized, British officials said.

The 29-foot boat of rowers Chris Jenkins, Tim Garrett, Wayne Davey and Joby Newton capsized 420 nautical miles east of Cape Cod early on Saturday, while the men were in the boat’s two cabins.

“The crew have been taken aboard the Gulf Grace at 8 am — we understand all are relatively safe and well, but suffering slight hypothermia,” British coastguards said in a statement.

The Britons had been attempting to row from New York to the Isles of Scilly to try to break the record of 55 days set in 1896 by George Harboe and Frank Samuelson on a route that has only been successfully completed six times.—MNA/Reuters

Crowds of people line up to buy Arkansas grown tomatoes at the Farmers Market, on 14 June, 2008 in Little Rock, Ark.—INTERNET
Mugabe says still strong to rule Zimbabwe

WASHINGTON, 16 June—
Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe has said he was not too old to be leader of the country, the state media New Ziana reported on Saturday.

Speaking at a National Youth Convention on Friday, Mugabe said memories of the brutal on-going western onslaught on Zimbabwe make him strong and ready for new challenges.

“The sun may be setting for some of us while rising for you,” he said. “But if I am not yet old, I am very strong. My legs still have good muscles to carry me for more years,” he added.

He said his age must not mean that the country could now sell its sovereignty to Britain and its allies because a number of innocent lives were lost during the liberation struggle for independence. “I speak not for just myself, but for all the others who are now gone. There is a voice behind them that says we must not let them down. Zimbabwe is ours and should always remain in our hands,” Mugabe added.

Chadian rebels threaten to attack French war planes

YAOUNDE, 16 June—
The Chadian rebels, who launched a new offensive in the east of the country on Wednesday, have called on France to stop flying “reconnaissance” missions or risk its aircraft becoming a “legitimate military target,” according to information reaching here.

“We want to make a last and solemn appeal to France to immediately stop acting as an enemy towards the armed forces of the opposition. Otherwise, the Breguet Atlantique and other Mirage fighter jets would become the targets,” National Alliance spokesman Ali Gueddei said in a statement on Friday.

“If the Armed Forces of the opposition have been favourable to the presence of the EUFOR mission that is charged with protecting civilian populations, France has distorted this by its behaviour,” said the rebel spokesman.

“France would be better inspired to stop its repeated provocations against opposition forces by providing information to government troops,” said the spokesman, threatening with unspecified consequences.

Former UN chief Ghali’s book published in Persian

CAIRO, 16 June—The book Egypt’s Road to Jerusalem wrote by former UN secretary general Boutros Boutros Ghali, an Egyptian, has been published in Persian language, the Egyptian MENA news agency reported on Saturday.

Ghali, who was minister of state for foreign affairs to the late Egyptian president Anwar Sadat and accompanied the president on his historic first trip to Jerusalem in 1977, on Saturday received a copy of the translated book, MENA said.

Egyptian diplomatic mission dispatched the book to Ghali, who is chairman of the Egyptian National Council for Human Rights, after the translator dedicated it to the Egyptian interest section in Iran—Xinhua

About 3,000 left homeless by forest fire in E Canada

OTTAWA, 16 June—About 3,000 people have been left homeless by a fast-spreading forest fire in an area east of Halifax, a major city of Canada’s eastern province of Nova Scotia.

Two water bombers and three helicopters, hampered by heavy smoke and winds, resumed their attacks on the fire burning south of Porters Lake Saturday morning, commercial television CTV reported. The fire began Friday afternoon and has scorched an area measuring eight kilometres long and two kilometres wide. The smoke could be seen by residents of Halifax, which is about 20 kilometres away.—Xinhua

2.5 mln rand worth of cocaine seized at S Africa airports

JOHANNESBURG, 16 June—About 2.5 million rand worth of cocaine has been confiscated at Johannesburg and Cape Town’s main airports, police said on Saturday.

Spokesman Captain Dennis Adriao said a shipment of motorcycle parts was searched at Johannesburg’s OR Tambo International Airport following a tip-off.

“When we cut open the parts, bags of cocaine with a street value of 1.5 million rand was found. The shipment was coming from Sao Paulo in Brazil and was headed for Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo,” he said.

A Libyan couple shop for fresh fish at the new fish market in Tripoli, Libya, on 15 June, 2008. The Libyan authorities removed random fish markets from the coast of the capital Tripoli and relocated all at a new main fish market as part of plan to create more space to encourage tourism investments, with a visible rising constructions of towers over looking the sea along the country coastal cities. —INTERNET

Sichuan reopens 13 cities to tourists

CHENGDU, 16 June—
Quake-battered Sichuan Province reopened 13 cities and prefectures to tourists on Saturday in a move to revive its once-booming travel industry. The cities are Zigong, Panzhihua, Luzhou, Suning, Neijiang, Leshan, Nanchong, Yibin, Guang’an, Dazhou, Meishan, Ziyang and Liangshan, according to the provincial tourism bureau.

“Among the world heritage sites, Dujianyan- Qingcheng Mountain and the Wolong National Natural Reserve were just partly damaged. The Juzhaigou and Huanglong scenic spots, Ermei Mountain and the Leshan Giant Buddha suffered no damage in the earthquake,” said Zhang Gu, the bureau head.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency
Quake causes severe damage to cultural heritage items

BEIJING, 16 June — Intangible cultural heritage items were severely damaged in regions hit by the magnitude-8.0 earthquake on 12 May, the Ministry of Culture said here on Saturday.

In the provinces of Sichuan, Shaanxi and Gansu and Chongqing Municipality, 14 national-level and 466 provincial-level cultural heritage items were damaged, 150,099 precious items destroyed, and 27 museums and 17 folklore villages sustained severe damage, according to statistics released by the ministry.

Ten state-level intangible cultural heritage promotion individuals were injured in the quake, it said.

Sichuan Province had the greatest loss, with seven national-level intangible cultural heritage sites ruined. The intangible cultural heritage in Beichuan County, a Qiang minority autonomous county, was leveled by the tremor.

The US military said coalition forces searching for prisoners using airstrikes west of Rawonay, Kandahar Province, on Saturday to destroy a farming compound after insurgents attacked with small arms fire. More than 15 insurgents were killed.

A large cache of munitions and bomb-making material were discovered during the search and five suspects were taken into custody, it said.

Eritrea rejects US criticism of Djibouti clashes

ASAMARA, 16 June — Eritrea has responded angrily to a US accusation that it was guilty of aggression against Djibouti when at least six Djiboutian soldiers were killed in border clashes between the two Red Sea states.

Ties between Asmara and Washington, which has a military base in Djibouti, have been strained over Eritrea’s alleged involvement in Somalia’s conflict, and its long-running border dispute with Ethiopia, another US ally in the region.

“It is unfortunate that the US administration is currently embroiled in instigating, compounding and inflaming regional conflicts with the purpose of creating turmoil,” Eritrea’s Foreign Ministry said in a statement issued late on Thursday.

It said it rejected the US allegations “as false and denounced them as part of a ‘routine vilification campaign’.

Over 15 Taleban killed in Afghan prisoner hunt

KABUL, 16 June — US-led and Afghan forces killed more than 15 insurgents in a search for hundreds of prisoners, including Taleban, who broke out of jail after comrades blew up the gates, the US military said on Sunday.

The jailbreak in the southern city of Kandahar after dark on Friday came as violence has been intensifying in Afghanistan despite the growing numbers of foreign troops supporting the government.

The US military said coalition forces searching for prisoners using airstrikes west of Rawonay, Kandahar Province, on Saturday to

UK police launch probe after teenager shot in head

LONDON, 16 June — British police have arrested a 19-year-old man after a teenage girl was shot in the head in Manchester on Saturday, police said.

The 16-year-old girl was discovered with a gunshot wound to the head after police were called to the Gorton District of Manchester early on Saturday and is in a critical condition in hospital.

“We have already arrested a man in connection with this incident and have a team of detectives currently gathering all possible evidence,” Greater Manchester Police superintendent Simon Barraclough said.

“However, I would still like anyone that witnessed the incident or who knows anything about what happened to contact us.

“The incident is being treated as an isolated incident, however there will be extra patrols in the area to reassure residents.”

“Anybody with information should contact police on 101, requesting Crime 147766.”

Egyptian police shoot Bedouin man at Israel border

ISMAILIA (Egypt), 16 June — Egyptian police shot and wounded an Egyptian Bedouin man on Friday who was trying to slip across the Sinai Peninsula’s desert border into Israel, security sources said.

The sources identified the man as Barhoum Ahmed Atallah, 25, and said he was wounded in the abdomen.

One security source said Atallah was suspected of being involved in smuggling, while others could not say why he sought to reach the Jewish state.

The Israeli-Egyptian border is a busy conduit for Egyptian goods smugglers and mostly African migrants seeking work or asylum in Israel.

Japanese man seized in Iran last year freed

TEHRAN, 16 June — A Japanese tourist who was abducted by bandits in southeastern Iran last October has been freed, Iran’s intelligence minister said on Saturday.

The student, 23, abducted while travelling in the southeastern Iranian province of Kerman, was the latest tourist to be seized in a region notorious for clashes between security forces and drug smugglers.

“A Japanese tourist who was kidnapped by drug smugglers and armed bandits in the east of the country ... was released,” Intelligence Minister Gholamhossein Mohseni-Ejei was quoted as saying by the official IRNA news agency.

The Japanese man had been reported to have been taken to neighbouring Pakistan after being kidnapped last year.

An Afghan policeman keeps watch at a checkpoint in the city of Kandahar in southern Afghanistan, on 15 June, 2008. — INTERNET
The people have studied the constitution that bestows better rights, making a comparative study of the three constitutions and taking lessons from the events they have faced in successive periods. That is the reason why 98.12 per cent of the eligible voters cast votes in the referendum, and 92.48 per cent of the voters cast ‘yes’ vote for the State constitution (draft).
Prime Minister inspects…  
(from page 1)  
Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party flew to the 3rd Mile Relief Camp in Labutta Township. At the camp, Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut reported on condition of sites around the camp which are chosen to be reclaimed for plots. Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party went to the 7th Mile Relief Camp and inspected the reclamation of plots for the storm victims who do not want to go back to their native areas.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of SRV Mr Dao Viet Trung at the SPDC office in Nay Pyi Taw. (News on Page 1)—MNA

Relief aid from foreign countries arrives  
YANGON, 16 June—Three C-130 flights loaded with 20.03 tons of drinking water, tents and tarpaulin presented by the United States of America and AN-12 flight loaded relief aid from foreign countries arrives with 19.392 tons of 480 package of tarpaulin contributed by doctors without borders based in Switzerland arrived at the Yangon International Airport today. Moreover, two IL 76 flights and AN-12 flight carrying 53.59 tons of instant food, 118 packages of milk powder, 433 packages of noodles, 375 packages of plastic and 244 blankets donated by WFP based in Thailand and two C-130 flights carrying 19.18 tons of food, medicine, clothes, drinking water, blankets and bed sheets presented by the government of Thailand also arrived at the airport.—MNA

Well-wishers continue making donations for storm victims  
YANGON, 16 June—Chairman of the Funds Accepting and Issuing Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe today accepted donations made by well-wishers for storm victims at the donation centre based at the Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch) under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue in Yankin Township, Yangon Division. The donations include K 100,000 by Daw San Kyi and family of Thuwanna; K 300,000 by Capt Taing Kyaw (Retd) of Kachin State; K 1 million by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win and family in memory of late U Tin Ngwe and parents of both sides; K 3 million by Dr Aung Myat Soe (Eye Hospital, Yangon) and Daw Thazin Myint Aung (Myittha Eye Clinic, Yangon); K 200,000 by Dr Kyi Oo and Dr Khin Mar Shein and family of Toungoo; K 50,000 by Capt Kaung Htet San and Ma Theint Moe Yu and family of South Okkalapa Township and K 200,000 by Captain Sai Maung Phwe and Daw Yi Yi Myint and family of Kamayut Township. The donations received on 15 and 16 June amounted to K 104,850,000. MNA

Two wounded in mine explosions  
NAY PYI TAW, 16 June—U Kyaw Ngwe, aged 36, son of U Poe Taw of Thapyaygon village in Kyaukkyi Township, Bago Division, was injured in a mine blast planted by the insurgents on 13 June and his left leg was blown up. Similarly, U Joe Kyaw, aged 45, son of U Chit Phu of Bawghahta village in Shwekyin Township was wounded in another mine explosion while searching for his lost buffalos in the woods the same day. The injured were rushed to the People’s Hospitals in Kyaukkyi and Shwekyin and received medical treatment. The insurgent groups are committing destructive acts that are harmful to stability of the State and prevalence of law and order resorting to various ways and means and killing the people and making them panic.—MNA

Farm equipment to be used in storm-hit regions in Dedaye Township. — MNA
Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects rubber plantations, timber production, physic nut plantations in Tachilek

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win visits Shwemyethaya rubber plantation in Tachilek.—MNA

Major rice mills in operation

YANGON, 15 June — Some major rice mills in Mawlamyinegyun Township re-started milling of rice after they had been repaired. The township has 32 rice mills and about 150 hullers. Milled rice is sold in the township and other regions, said Rice Mill Owners Association in Mawlamyinegyun. MNA

Volunteers plough rice fields in Bogale Township

YANGON, 15 June — Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd have volunteered for ploughing rice fields in Kyenchaunggyi village in Bogale Township since 10 June with the use of farming machinery. Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd have donated rice seeds and power tillers to villages in Bogale Township that was hit by Cyclone Nargis and also volunteered for growing rice in the villages. They will provide voluntary services in the farming until the harvesting season. They also transported 440 bags of rice donated by Myanmar students from Institute of Management in Singapore to 10 villages in Bogale Township recently. Teachers and students of Teachers Training College also distributed 90 bags of rice, clothes and relief aids to Kyenchaunggyi Village yesterday. Students of Institute of Management in Singapore also donated K5.4 million and donors from Singapore donated bags of rice, clothes and blankets worth K4.0 million to the village recently.—NLM

YANGON, 15 June — UNICEF provided 4,250 CI sheets and nails for the damaged schools in Mawlamyinegyun Township. They will be delivered to the schools beginning 16 June. Altogether 3,000 CI sheets and nails provided by the government had been distributed to the schools in the towns and villages. MNA

Local farmers ploughing fields with the use of power-tillers.—NLM
Relief, reconstruction work in storm-hit areas completed in short period—thanks to strength of human resources

YANGON, 16 June—
The opening of the special refresher course No. 13 for faculty members was held at Nawarat Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township this morning.

On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiri Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein delivered a speech.

Also present were Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, the deputy ministers, members of CSSSTB, departmental heads, the rector of CICS (Phaunggyi), the pro-rector, instructors and trainee teachers.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein said the State Peace and Development Council is making efforts in every sector to enable the Union of Myanmar to keep abreast of the progress of the nations of the world.

The government is laying emphasis on the importance of science and technology and the pivotal role of the scholars, he said. After taking up the duties of the State, the government has been making endeavours for development of various fields based on the strength of arts and science scholars, doctors, engineers and architects. It built infrastructures such as dams and reservoirs, bridges and roads, international airport and ports and implemented urban development tasks with the assistance of technicians, he said. The government also promoted education and health standards, he added.

There were few infrastructures on development in the past and now modern technology has developed in various aspects, he said.

Efforts made for development of every sector in accord with the far-sightedness of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe have become strengths when unexpected situation like a severe cyclonic storm Nargis occurred.

Dams and reservoirs were built for sufficiency of rice in every part of the country. Endeavors were made for turning Sagaing Division into rice bowl of the country like Ayeyawady Division. Likewise, efforts were made for turning Taninthayi Division into the edible oil pot like Magway Division.

Therefore, there is surplus of food for the country though it faces difficulties, he said.

In the transport sector, international cargo planes can land at Mingaladon International Airport as it was upgraded. International ports have emerged in private-owned and State-owned sectors and modern freight handling equipment was installed. The 15,000-ton capacity cargo ships can moor at the ports. Relief items provided by international community can be delivered to Yangon easily.

He said necessary goods for reconstruction can easily be transported to the storm-hit areas as the roads and bridges were built across creeks and rivers in Ayeyawady Division.

The strength of human resources such as engineers, architects, practitioners, doctors, teachers and the strength of social organizations are contributing to the success of relief and reconstruction work in the storm-hit areas in a short period.

It is heartening to see that the people across the country participated in the work with family spirit and Union Spirit. Particularly, 98.12 percent of eligible voters came to vote and 92.48 percent cast 'yes' vote to approve the draft constitution. It has also proved that the people are equipped with the national spirit and Union Spirit. These fruitful results are achieved because the State itself trained the people including students to promote their morale as well as their education.

Nowadays, most of the people including the younger generation have enjoyed the opportunity to use the Internet and ICT-related infrastructures built by the State. As a result, they have been well-informed and gained knowledge.

High education, health and fitness and improvement of socio-economic life help the people promote their national spirit and Union Spirit as well as their physical and mental strength. All in all, faculty members are urged to strive to develop science and technology in all sectors and produce more human resources through the education sector.

After the ceremony, the minister greeted the trainee teachers. A total of 298 university and college teachers are taking the four-week course.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein addresses opening of special refresher course No. 13 for faculty members at CICS in Phaunggyi.—MNA

BEPS at Ngantantaya Village opened

YANGON, 16 June—
Basic Education Primary School of Ngantantaya Village in Mawlamyinegyun Township was opened on 9 June.

The government contributed 130 zinc sheets to repair the roof of the school that was damaged in the storm. At the school, 127 school children are learning their lessons in 2008/09 academic year and text books were distributed to the school children.

Specialists giving medical treatment to patients in Mawlamyinegyun Township.—MNA

Minister Dr Chan Nyein greets trainees at CICS in Phaunggyi.—MNA

Minister for Education Primary School of Ngantantaya Village in Mawlamyinegyun Township opened on 9 June.

MNA
Celestino Corbacho told an Immigration minister of origin, Labour workers financial in-unemployed immigrant Spain will offer building sites are laying has halted Spain’s Sunday.

Kevin Rudd praised on the final leg Rudd, on the final leg BANDA ACEH (Indonesia), 16 June— Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd praised on Saturday the rebuilding of Indonesia’s tsunami-devastated Aceh Province and pledged that Canberra would remain a long-term partner.

Australia was the first nation to offer aid to Indonesia after the disaster, sending transport aircraft and military personnel, as well as millions of dollars in government cash. Rudd, on the final leg of a Asian trip after visiting Japan, said it was unimaginable what had happened when the monster waves hit the province of Aceh, which lies on the northern tip of Sumatra Island, after a huge quake on 26 December, 2004.

A supporter of the Croatian soccer team has his face painted prior to the Euro 2008 European Soccer Championships match between Poland and Croatia, in Klagenfurt, Austria, on 16 June, 2008.  

Barack Obama and John McCain, his Republican rival, showed similar rates of Internet use, the study found. But the study pointed to a Democratic edge. Sixty-five per cent of Obama supporters said they followed politics online, compared to 56 per cent of McCain supporters. The nonprofit group polled 2,251 adults in April and May. The study has a margin of error of 2 percentage points.

German fans celebrate before the Euro 2008 soccer match between Austria and Germany at Heldenplatz Square in front of Hofburg Palace in Vienna on 16 June , 2008.  

Cubans see hope for change in Obama. In conversations in the streets, business meetings and social gatherings, many Cubans ask about the US election, then most say they support the Democrats’ presumptive presidential nominee over Republican rival John McCain. 

Six injured after balcony collapses in Canada. Ottawa, 16 June — Six people were injured, two of them critically, when a balcony collapsed from an apartment building in Canada’s capital Ottawa, medical officials said Sunday. Paramedics, fire crews, and police were called to the three-story apartment complex in downtown Ottawa after a third-floor balcony tore off the side of the building late Saturday night.

They found four people with serious injuries and two with critical injuries, Darrell Drew, a team leader with the Ottawa Paramedic Service told Canadian Television on Sunday. 

互联网使用翻倍于白宫争夺

华盛顿, 16 June — The Internet now plays a central role in US politics, with nearly half of all Americans using the Web and other new media to follow the presidential campaign, says a study released on Sunday.

Some 17 percent of all adults said they daily scoured political websites, read campaign e-mails and text messages, or otherwise used the Internet to keep up with the election, the Pew Internet and American Life Project found. That’s more than double the 8 percent of adults who followed online on the Internet daily at the same point in the 2004 race. The figure is likely to grow even more by the November election, said Lee Rainie, the nonprofit group’s director.

“We’ve seen an evolution of the Internet and its role in politics that has been pretty striking,” Rainie said. Supporters of Democratic candidate Barack Obama and John McCain, his Republican rival, showed similar rates of Internet use, the study found. But the study pointed to a Democratic edge. Sixty-five per cent of Obama supporters said they followed politics online, compared to 56 per cent of McCain supporters. The nonprofit group polled 2,251 adults in April and May. The study has a margin of error of 2 percentage points.

BANDA ACEH (Indonesia), 16 June— President Hu Jintao hailed the country’s youth and pledged that Canberra, devastated Aceh Province Indonesia’s tsunami-devastated Aceh Province and pledged that Canberra would remain a long-term partner.

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The new light of myanmar Tuesday, 17 June, 2008

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Seven dead, one missing in N China mine flooding

TAIYUAN, 17 June—Seven miners were confirmed dead and one was missing in a flooded colliery in north China’s Shaxi Province, local authorities said on Sunday.

The flooding occurred in Yutian Coal Mining Co Ltd in Ningwu County at about 11 pm Friday when 14 miners were working underground, according to the provincial work safety watchdog.

Five managed to escape on their own. Another one was rescued and then sent to a local hospital, officials said.

NMA/Xinhua

Philippines offers power subsidy to poor people

MANILA, 17 June—The Philippine Government has given 40 million pesos (900,000 US dollars) in cash over the past week to thousands of poor people in Metro Manila to help them pay power bills, said a senior official here on Saturday.

At least 85,000 people have already availed of the one-time 500 peso (11 US dollars) power subsidy programme from the state-run Land Bank of the Philippines, said Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Esperanza Cabral on local radio.

About 26 per cent of 90 million Filipinos earn less than 67 pesos (1.5 US dollars) a day.

The Philippines has been hit hard by high fuel and food prices as the inflation rate neared 10 per cent in May.

NMA/Xinhua

UK Councils urged to help struggling homeowners

LONDON, 17 June—Local councils should offer financial help to homeowners threatened by the credit crunch, an independent think-tank said on Saturday.

The New Local Government Network (NLGN), which aims to transform public services, says local authorities should offer entire or part mortgages at below market rate to those struggling to meet mortgage repayments, facing repossession, or first-time buyers unable to get a foothold on the market.

Lenders have scrapped cheap deals, introduced higher-rate products, cut the maximum amount people can borrow in relation to the value of the property and tightened their criteria since the credit crunch took hold earlier this year. “Mortgage support plans”—common in the US and a key part of Democratic Presidential candidate Barack Obama’s strategy for reviving the flagging housing market on that side of the Atlantic—would help stabilise Britain’s housing market and prevent a rush of demand for social housing in councils’ areas, the NLGN said.

NMA/Reuters

India returns bodies of two Pakistani prisoners

ISLAMABAD, 17 June—Pakistan expressed “deep concern” over the treatment of Pakistani prisoners in Indian jails after the bodies of a young man and an old woman were handed over at the border on Friday.

“We have called upon the Indian authorities to thoroughly investigate the causes leading to the deaths of these unfortunate Pakistani prisoners,” a foreign office spokesman said in a statement.

NMA/Reuters

Two killed, 18 hurt in south Nepal explosion

KATHMANDU, 17 June—Two were killed and 18 injured when a bomb went off in a bus park in south Nepal’s Rautahat District on Saturday, local newspaper The Himalayan Times reported on Sunday.

The two succumbed to injuries in a nearby hospital, Rautahat District Police Office said.

The police said the incident occurred in Chandrangaphur, Rautahat, some 110 kilometres south of the Nepali capital Kathmandu at 19:00 local time (1315 GMT) on Saturday.

Eyewitnesses said the bomb was wrapped in a paddy sack in the bus park. Someone posing as bus passenger may have left the sack containing the bomb in the police said.

Police said a Terai Army squad had planted the bomb at the bus park. Terai Army is a little known armed group, which was relatively active in southern Nepal’s Terai region.
**G-8 science ministers meet on technological coop in Okinawa**

**NAGO (Japan), 16 June** — Science and technology ministers from the Group of Eight (G-8) gathered Sunday in Nago city of Okinawa Prefecture to confer on technological cooperation on measures against various global challenges, including climate change and infectious diseases. Never before has science and technology played such an important role in addressing such imperative issues as climate change, frequently-occurring disasters, biodiversity, sustainable water, food and energy supplies, said Fumio Kishida, Japan’s State Minister in charge of Science and technology policy, in a speech at the opening of the meeting.

Restricted by food and energy resources as well as the earth environment, “we could only look to science and technology to achieve sustainable development,” said Kishida, who takes the chair of the two-day event.

**Mild weather helps to contain down California wildfires**

**LOS ANGELES, 16 June** — Firefighters managed to contain a series of wildfires in Northern California on Sunday, thanks to improved weather, authorities said. As many of the 9,000 residents who fled the fires near the Butte County town of Paradise home Sunday to see the damage, firefighters said. The fires destroyed at least 74 homes and damaged 20 others in the Paradise area, about 90 miles (144 kilometres) north of Sacramento, the state’s capital.

One elderly woman died after suffering a heart attack while being evacuated. The blaze had charred about 36 square miles (about 58 square kilometres), said Scott Upton, a spokesman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. — MNA/Xinhua

**China to enhance coop with Japan on disaster prevention**

**BEIJING, 16 June** — China is willing to enhance coordination and cooperation with Japan on Asian affairs, including disaster prevention, said a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman here Saturday. “China is willing to enhance coordination and cooperation with Japan on Asian affairs, including disaster prevention, to benefit the two peoples and people of all Asian countries,” said Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu.

Jiang said it is in line with consensus reached by leaders of both countries to make concerted efforts for the development of the Asia-Pacific Region. She said China conveys heartfelt gratitude for the assistance and condoleince extended by the Japanese Government and people after the 12 May Wenchuan earthquake.

Chinese President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao also conveyed their condolences to Japan Saturday after the earthquake that jolted wide areas in northeastern Japan Saturday morning, said Jiang. The death toll in the magnitude-7.2 earthquake whose epicentre was about eight kilometres underground in southern Iwate Prefecture has risen to six as of Saturday evening, according to official statistics.

**Spain’s Expo 2008 on world water opens**

**ZARAGOZA (Spain), 16 June** — Expo 2008, themed on the world’s dwindling water resources, opened in the Spanish city of Zaragoza on Saturday, days after the riverside site narrowly escaped flooding.

King Juan Carlos officially opened the 25-hectare (62-acre) exhibition on Friday night. Organizers hope 6.5 million people will visit before it closes in mid-September, providing a major economic boost to the northern city, Spain’s fifth largest.

“I believe that the hope of a new vision for water, which is what the Zaragoza Expo is all about, is one of the world’s great needs,” Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero said at the opening ceremony.

Hundreds were already queuing when Expo opened its gates to the public and Mexican President Felipe Calderon was on hand to open his country’s stand during an official visit to Spain.

Ironically, the site was almost flooded last month during Spain’s wettest May in decades, provoking a frantic finish to construction that began three years ago.

Zaragoza beat Greek and Italian rivals for the right to host the event.

The first visitors on Saturday crossed from the city to the Expo site via a futuristic bridge, built by Baghdad-born architect Zaha Hadid, across the Ebro, Spain’s biggest river.

The Expo features Europe’s biggest freshwater aquarium, a 76-metre (250-feet) water tower and 140 pavilions, themed around different climate zones and representing 105 countries.

**A model presents a creation of the students of Beijing ESMOD Fashion and Art College, at the central hall of 798 art zone in Beijing, capital of China, on 15 June, 2008. — XINHUA**

**Groom Shi Xiangyu and bride Song Shi stand beside an environment-friendly bus in Rizhao City, east China’s Shandong Province, on 13 June, 2008. — XINHUA**
Turkey win thriller with three late goals

Grenada, June 16 — Turkey staged one of the greatest comebacks in a major tournament, scoring three times in the last 15 minutes to beat Czech Republic 3-2 on Sunday to reach the quarter-finals of Euro 2008.

Fatih Terim’s side looked down and out with 62 minutes gone as they trailed to goals from Jan Koller and Jaroslav Plasil. But two uncharacteristic errors from Petr Cech, one of the world’s top keepers, allowed the Turks to mount their comeback.

Arda Turan scored at Cech’s near post after 75 minutes before Turkey captain Nihat Kahveci equalised with three minutes to play after the keeper fumbled a routine cross. Nihat swept the ball into the empty net to equalise as several Czech players fell to the ground in despair.

Suddenly, with penalties looking a certainty, another mistake at the back allowed Nihat through and he lashed in the winner from 25 metres off the underside of the bar.—MNA/Reuters

Swiss sign off with 2-0 win over Portugal

Basel, June 16 — Switzerland notched their first win at a European Championships finals when it least mattered when they beat the second string of already-qualified Portugal 2-0 in their final Group A game on Sunday. Hakan Yakin scored both goals, firing home in the 71st minute when he was set up by fellow striker Eren Derdiyok and then converting an 83rd-minute penalty to give retiring coach Kebbi Kuhn something to smile about after a disappointing tournament for the co-hosts.

“I think we owed it to Kebbi Kuhn and the crowd to get a win and we showed today we could do it. I think it was a worthy send off for the coach,” said Yakin.

“We wanted to achieve something at this European Championship on home soil. We’re still very disappointed about the two defeats but this has helped us recover a little.” — MNA/Reuters

Garcia targets grandstand finish at Torrey Pines

San Diego, June 16 — Sergio Garcia set his sights on a strong finish at the US Open after climbing up the leaderboard with a one-under-par 70 in Saturday’s third round. Seven strokes off the pace at the start of an overcast day at Torrey Pines, the 28-year-old Spaniard closed to within six of the early lead by posting a three-over total of 216. While not quite matching his form of the previous round, Garcia was delighted with the way he had rebounded from an opening 76.

“When you’re comfortable with your game, when you have confidence in your game, you know you can come back,” the world number seven told reporters after regressing three birdies and two bogeys.

“Even though I didn’t make a lot of putts, I didn’t miss a lot of the short ones you can miss in these conditions and that’s nice. I felt like I played solid.” — MNA/Reuters

Federer sees off Kiefer to reach Halle final

Berlin, June 16 — World number one Roger Federer swept into the final of the Halle Open on Saturday with a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Nicolas Kiefer of Germany.

Federer, four times winner of the grass tournament in Halle which the Swiss uses as a warmup for Wimbledon starting on 23 June, extended his winning streak on the surface to 58 games.

The Swiss took full advantage of some inconsistent serving from Kiefer and will play Germany’s Philipp Kohlschreiber in Sunday’s final. “Overall, I played a really good game,” he told reporters. Kohlschreiber upset second seed James Blake of the United States in the second semi to win 6-3 7-5. — MNA/Reuters

Croatia’s World Cup bid ends in recriminations, tears

Tianjin (China), 16 June — Captain Zheng Zhi was reduced to tears and fans called for wholesale sackings after China’s campaign to qualify for the 2010 World Cup fizzled out with a 2-1 defeat to Iraq on Saturday.

After missing out on South Africa, China’s next World Cup opportunity in Brazil 2014 will probably be too late for players in their late 20s such as Zheng.

“We didn’t play well enough, I am very sad,” the Charlton midfielder told CCTV as he wiped away tears of disappointment. The moribund state of Chinese football was reflected in the half empty Olympic Stadium, which was built to host soccer matches for the Beijing Games this August and the venue for China’s final two home games in Asian qualifying Group One.

Lee Westwood of England hits a shot during the third round of the 108th US Open at the Torrey Pines Golf Course, on 14 June, in San Diego, California.—INTERNET

Switzerland 3-1 Austria

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“We wanted to achieve something at this European Championship on home soil. We’re still very disappointed about the two defeats but this has helped us recover a little.” — MNA/Reuters

Mexico’s Blanka Vlasic competes in the women’s high jump at the Znamensky Brothers Memorial EAA meet in Zhukovsky outside Moscow, on 15 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Mexico start qualifiers with convincing win over Belize

Houston, 16 June — Mexico began their World Cup qualifying campaign with an convincing 2-0 win over Belize on Sunday.

Belize’s amateurs, facing their neighbours for the first time, held out for over an hour before Carlos Vela and a Jared Borgetti penalty saved Mexico.

“We faced a team who were well organized at the back,” Borgetti, Mexico’s record scorer, told Mexico’s TV Azteca after notching his 44th international goal.

The match, a second preliminary round first leg tie, was played in Houston as Belize, technically the home side, do not have a stadium which meets FIFA requirements.—MNA/Reuters

Croatia’s Ivan Klasnic challenges Poland’s Jacek Krzynowek (R) during their Group B Euro 2008 soccer match at the Worcesterxer Stadium in Klagenfurt, on 16 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Poland 0 - 1 Croatia

Austria 0 - 1 Germany

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WEATHER

Monday, 16 June, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr MST:
During the past 24 hours, fair weather has prevailed in Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread thunderstorms have been scattered in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Taninthayi and Pyay Divisions, and widespread throughout the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were:

- Nay Pyi Taw (0.24) inch, Maungtaw (6.73) inches, Dawei (4.13) inches, Kyaukpyu (3.50) inches, Dawei (3.38) inches, Kyekkhame and Sittway (3.27) inches each, Hpa-an (2.83) inches, Coco Island (2.52) inches and Homa Bay (2.24) inches.

Maximum temperature on 15-6-2008 was 79°F. Minimum temperature on 16-6-2008 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30hr MST on 16-6-2008 was 78%. Total sunshine hours on 15-6-2008 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 16-6-2008 was (0.44) inch at Mingaladon, (0.55) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.48) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (35.83) inches at Mingaladon, (42.83) inches at Kaba-Aye and (55.16) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speeds at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (9:30) hours MST on 16-6-2008.

Bay influence: Monsun is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening 17-6-2008: Rain will be scattered in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of locally heavy falls in Rakhine State, isolated heavy falls in Mon State, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Frequent squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (45) to (50) mph.

Outlook for subsequent twoday: Strong monsoon. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-6-2008: One or two rains. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-6-2008: Some rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-6-2008: One or two rains. Degree of certainty is (80%).
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-centred persons and unscrupulous elements are now seeking their self-interests by sending to the foreign news agencies 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-centred 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