Local authorities to make field trips right down to storm-hit regions and inculcate local people with a sense of wishing to enjoy higher living status

Prime Minister attends ceremony to hand over fishing boats and fishing nets in Mawlamyinegyun, Bogale townships

Visa granted to 1,670 aid workers, 757 working in storm-hit areas

Storm News
Strive for running mills and factories at full capacity

For ensuring sound national economy steps are being taken for development of such economic sectors as agro-based industrial sector, livestock and fisheries sector and electric power sector.

Meanwhile, industrial zones are being set up for the industrial development while all-out efforts are being made for the emergence of national industrialists. The government has opened technological universities that produce intellectuals and technocrats. This has contributed a lot to the industrial development.

It is incumbent upon industrialists to produce much-needed items and more quality items that are in high demand through innovation.

Moreover, systematic measures are to be taken for transforming the industrial zones into the ones on whom the State can rely.

For development of the State's economy efforts are to be made to increase export and reduce import while running mills and factories at full capacity for boosting production.

At a time when a large number of industrial zones and industrial regions are being established throughout the nation efforts are to be made for running mills and factories at full capacity. Only then, will the nation develop and socio-economic status of the people improve.
Suicide bomber kills 40 in Afghan capital
KABUL, 7 July—In a massive explosion Monday that reverberated around the city, a suicide bomber killed at least 40 people and injured 140 at the gates of the Indian Embassy in the Afghan capital, the Interior Ministry said. In New Delhi, the Foreign Ministry said the military attache, who held the rank of brigadier, a senior diplomat and three other Indians were killed in the attack. The dead also included six Afghan policemen.

The bomber rammed a car into two Indian diplomatic vehicles as they entered the gates of the embassy, witnesses reported from the scene. They said the blast wrecked several other cars and spread human body parts and bloodstained scraps of clothing amid the debris.

The bombing followed an attack on police officers in Islamabad, the capital of neighboring Pakistan, on Sunday and an earlier assault on a diplomatic mission in which a suicide bomber attacked the Danish Embassy in Islamabad last month.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack. The Taliban has threatened to escalate a campaign of suicide bombings in an attempt to topple the government and challenge the presence of some 60,000 foreign troops in Afghanistan, including 34,000 Americans.

Gunmen kill UN official, wound another in Somalia
MOGADISHU (Somalia), 7 July—A senior UN official in Somalia was gunned down Sunday night as he exited a mosque after evening prayers, according to a journalist on the scene.

Osman Ali Ahmed, head of the UN development program in the war-torn capital of Mogadishu, was shot at about 7:50 p.m. and died from his wounds shortly after he was taken to a hospital near Mogadishu airport, said the Shabelle Media Network journalist, whose name was withheld for security reasons.

Ahmed apparently was the target of the attack, an official with the UN programme said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the situation. The journalist said he spoke with Ahmed’s mother-in-law, who lived with him in a house five blocks from the mosque. She confirmed that Ahmed had been Ambushed by gunmen outside the mosque and shot twice in the head.

Ahmed’s cousin was also wounded in the attack, the woman said. He was being treated for a gunshot wound in his leg at the same hospital.

Cholesterol drugs for kids
AUGUSTA (Georgia), 7 July—The nation’s pediatricians are recommending wider cholesterol screening for children and more aggressive use of cholesterol-lowering drugs starting as early as the age of 8 in hopes of preventing adult heart problems.

The new guidelines were to be issued by the American Academy of Pediatrics on Monday. The push to aggressively screen and medicate for high cholesterol in children is certain to create controversy amid a continuing debate about the use of prescription drugs in children as well as the best approaches to ward off heart disease in adults.

But proponents say there is growing evidence that the first signs of heart disease show up in childhood, and with 30 percent of the nation’s children overweight or obese, many doctors fear that a rash of early heart attacks and diabetes is on the horizon as these children grow up.

Previously, the academy had said cholesterol drugs should be considered in children older than 10 if they fail to lose weight after a 6 to 12-month effort. The academy estimated that under the current guidelines, 30 percent to 60 percent of children with high cholesterol were being missed. And for some children, cholesterol-lowering drugs, called statins, may be their best hope of lowering their risk of early heart attack, proponents said.

Plane crashes in Mexico, US pilot killed
MEXICO CITY, 7 July—A Mexican company’s plane carrying auto parts for a General Motors Corp plant crashed Sunday as it was trying to land in northern Mexico, killing the pilot and severely injuring the co-pilot.

The plane crashed before dawn Sunday half a mile from the runway in Ramos Arizpe, 200 miles south of the US-Mexico border, said Segismundo Doguin, the deputy civil defense chief for Coahuila state.

The co-pilot received second- and third-degree burns and was in critical condition at a hospital in nearby Saltillo, Doguin said.

The DC-9, 15 freighter was operated by USA Jet Airlines Inc, based at Michigan’s Willow Run Airport in Wayne County’s Van Buren Township, west of Detroit. Company spokesman Donald McNeill said the crew members were US citizens but declined to identify them. Mexican officials gave conflicting versions of the names.

The plane was carrying four tons of car parts it had picked up in Hamilton, Ontario, for a GM plant in Ramos Arizpe.

Apple’s iPhone could find Asia tough to crack
HONG KONG, 7 July—The iPhone 3G, which Apple is billing as twice as fast and half as expensive as the debut model, will roll out in cities from Tokyo to Sydney on Friday—but it could face challenges in Asia it will not have elsewhere.

The company is betting the new phone’s third generation (3G) capabilities, such as faster Internet access and file transfer, will make the phone a hit. Like the first version, the new model also has an iPod built in.

Many analysts are upbeat about its prospects, seeing Apple as a brand with a strong cachet in tech-savvy Asia.

Mancy Li wants to get her hands on Apple’s newest version of the iPhone, but she won’t bother to queue up in Hong Kong when it is released in Asia this week.

“I want to get one because it is trendy. It has a touch screen, it looks pretty and it’s made by Apple,” the 22-year-old visual arts student says.

But she’s prepared to wait and see what happens to the price of running the new version of the phone, which Apple hopes will become as big a global hit as its iconic iPod music player.

“It is going to do well,” Aloysius Cheong, of Singapore-based industry research group IDC, said.

Toyota to add solar panels to some Prius hybrids
TOKYO, 7 July—Toyota Motor Corp plans to install solar panels on some Prius hybrids in its next re-modeling, responding to growing demand for “green” cars amid record-high oil prices, a source briefed on the matter said on Monday.

The panels, supplied by Kyocera Corp would be able to power part of the air-conditioning on high-end versions of the gasoline-electric Prius, the source said. “It’s more of a symbolic gesture,” said the source, who asked not to be identified. “It’s very powerful to much more than that with solar energy.” Toyota is due to launch the third-generation Prius next year.

Big automakers are all racing to come up with alternative solutions to using fossil fuels to appear ecologically conscious and to lure consumers looking to save money at the pump.

A Prius with the new Hybrid engine is seen at the fair stand of Japanese car manufacturer Toyota at the International Car Show (IAA) in Frankfurt recently.—INTERNET

A police officer stands next to the wreckage of a DC-9 plane at the crash site on the outskirts of Saltillo, northern Mexican state of Coahuila on 6 July, 2008.—INTERNET

A Prius with the new Hybrid engine is seen at the fair stand of Japanese car manufacturer Toyota at the International Car Show (IAA) in Frankfurt recently.—INTERNET

A Prius with the new Hybrid engine is seen at the fair stand of Japanese car manufacturer Toyota at the International Car Show (IAA) in Frankfurt recently.—INTERNET
Iran says its nuclear stance unchanged

TEHERAN, 7 July — Iran said on Saturday its nuclear stance had not changed and it was ready to hold talks with world major powers over its disputed nuclear programme based on international regulations.

“Iran’s stance has not changed (on uranium enrichment) and we are ready to hold talks on the common points of the P5+1 incentives package and Iran’s package,” government spokesman Gholamhossein Elham told a weekly news conference.

Iran said on Friday it agreed to hold further discussions later this month about the incentives package offered by six world powers aimed at resolving a stand-off over its disputed nuclear ambitions, but has so far rejected their demand to suspend uranium enrichment.

There has been no word on the content of Iran’s reply, submitted to European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana, to the offer of talks on economic and other benefits if it in return halts nuclear work the West suspects is aimed at making bombs.

Iran’s chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili told Solana on Friday Teheran had prepared its response with a “constructive and creative outlook”.

Hamas TV slams US resolution

GAZA, 7 July — Al-Aqsa satellite channel affiliated with Gaza-ruler Hamas on Saturday denounced a draft resolution presented to the US Congress to classify it as terrorist organizations.

The draft resolution, presented on 26 June, was “politically motivated and aimed at silencing every free voice unveiling the rounds showing the Palestinian cause and covers the activities of resistance”, said Fathi Hamad, a Hamas lawmaker who heads the Gaza-based satellite channel. The draft resolution condemned the five Middle East televisions of broadcasting incitement to violence against the United States and sponsoring recruitment and funding of terrorism against Washington. Hamad said his channel “was mainly a resistance television (which) presents programmes showing the activities of resistance”.

Hamad praised “the prominent role these channels carry out” and called on them “to unify their efforts in facing the resolution and preventing it from taking effect”. Hamad said al-Aqsa channel “is going to take alternative steps to secure the continuation of its broadcast”.

Pakistan PM vows to meet people’s basic needs

ISLAMABAD, 7 July — Pakistani Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani Saturday said that price hikes and other crises were inherited, however, his government would provide relief to the masses.

He was speaking at a seminar organized on the performance of the new Pakistani Government during its first 100 days.

Gilani said that wheat, rice, sugar and other food commodities were not available in the market when he assumed the office. However, necessary measures have been taken to overcome the crisis since then, he said. Gilani further said that the government had taken all possible steps to regularize load-shedding schedule and fuel prices.

The Pakistan People’s Party, by which Gilani was appointed the Prime Minister, became the largest party following the February 18 general election in the south Asian country and is the major ruling party in the coalition.

5,000-year-old cemetery found in southern Egypt

CAIRO, 7 July — An Egyptian archaeological mission has unearthed a 5,000-year-old royal burial ground in southern Egypt, the official MENA news agency reported on Saturday.

The cemetery was discovered in Umm el-Ga’ab area, south of the historical city of Abydos in Sohag governorate, about 400 kilometres south of Cairo, said the report. The burial ground, which contains 13 tombs, is believed to be of senior royal employees or people who contributed to the construction of the cemetery.

In this photo released by Holland America Line, the new ms Eurodam departs Copenhagen, Denmark, on 5 July, 2008, on its maiden European voyage. — INTERNET

UAE Co gets $625m to buy share of Japan’s Cosmo Oil

ABU DHABI, 7 July — The International Petroleum Investment Company (IPIC) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced Saturday that it has sold a syndicated term loan facility of $625 million US dollars to finance its acquisition of 20 per cent share of Japan’s energy company Cosmo Oil, Emirates News Agency reported.

The loan facility was provided by the National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD) and the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ (BTMU), according to the report.

The Abu Dhabi-based IPIC signed a strategic partnership with Cosmo Oil last September to acquire the latter’s 176,000,000 shares (a 20-per-cent shareholding) in order to promote its energy business in the Asia Pacific Region and the US West Coast as well as to pursue joint project opportunities.

The investment by IPIC in Cosmo Oil represents one of the largest UAE investments in Japan, which accounts for some 40 per cent of the UAE oil exports. Cosmo Oil is one of Japan’s leading energy companies with activities across the value chain from exploration and production to refining and marketing to petrochemicals.
Mongolian President lifts state of emergency in capital

ULAN BATOR, 7 July — Mongolian President Nambaryn Enkhbayar declared late Saturday night that the four-day state of emergency in the country’s capital of Ulan Bator was lifted as of midnight Saturday local time (1600 GMT).

Enkhbayar said the state of emergency soon calmed down the Tuesday’s riots and kept the order of society. He hoped the parties of Mongolia to deal with the disputed issues of Parliament election with rule of laws.

The Armed Forces of Mongolia have pulled out of the main streets of the city. The measures including curfew, restriction of the traffic movement have been lifted.

Mongolia’s parliament elections were held last Sunday. The Mongolian People’s Revolutionary Party (MPRP) won the election. Supporters of the Democratic Party and other parties marched on Tuesday in protest against alleged voting fraud in the elections and the protests at last turned to riots.

Quake losses of China’s state firms top 80 billion yuan

BEIJING, 7 July — Aggregate quake losses in China’s centrally-administered state-owned enterprises (SOEs) have surpassed 80 billion yuan (11.4 billion US dollars), more than double the preliminary estimate of 30 billion yuan, a State Council official said on Friday.

The quake caused 41.4 billion yuan in direct economic losses to these SOEs, Liu Nanchang, official with the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC) told an online interview.

Electric and telecommunication companies took the brunt of the impact, with many of them also victims of the worst-in-50-year winter snowstorms, Liu said.

The State Grid Corp of China and four telecommunication firms combined reported a loss of more than 20 billion yuan, he said.

Many companies had to halt production and cut orders because of the damaged facilities, making them lose another 40.1 billion yuan. Nearly 3,600 employers of these centrally-administered SOEs had been killed or injured, according to Liu.

More cases of salmonella epidemic reported in US

LOS ANGELES, 7 July— A salmonella epidemic continues to spread across the United States, raising the number of infected cases to more than 900, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said on Saturday.

Among the 943 reported cases nationwide, at least 130 people have been hospitalized since mid-April when the first salmonella cases appeared, according to the FDA. Tainted tomatoes remain the leading suspect in the salmonella outbreak, although investigators are testing other types of fresh produce, the FDA said.

Investigators have begun looking at jalapeno peppers as a possible cause of the outbreak as well as other ingredients used to make salads such as cilantro and serrano peppers, FDA spokeswoman Stephanie Kwolek said. —Xinhua

Santiago, 7 July — The Environment Commission of the Latin American Parliament ended Friday its first work session in Santiago, approving the legal framework for the development and promotion of ecotourism in Latin America and the Caribbean region.

The Guatemalan deputy Mario Rivera described the approval of the Ley Marco (Framework Law) of Ecotourism as “the product of the effort and dedication of many senators and members of the parliament of Latin America”. The two-day meeting was attended by legislators from Antilles, Guatemala, Mexico, Uruguay, Panama and Venezuela.

The document seeks to consolidate the development and promotion of the ecotourism without diminishing the integrity and cultural wealth of the social groups involved by taking into account the respectful and sustainable use of the cultural, natural and historical heritage.

A displaced woman who lives in a dumpsite bakes traditional bread in southern Baghdad’s Abu Dsheer on 6 July, 2008. About 40 Shi’ite families, displaced by violence for the past two years from different parts of Iraq, are living in a dumpsite in southern Baghdad, residents said. —INTERNET

Canada forest fire forces nearly 3,000 out of home

OTTAWA, 7 July—About 2,800 people have been evacuated from their homes as forest fires continue to rage across the western Canadian province of Saskatchewan.

There were about 88 forest fires burning throughout the province on Saturday, with 36 new blazes started in just the past day by lightening strikes. The fires have destroyed nearly 3,000 square kilometres so far.

At least six communities have been affected by the fires. Since Monday, more than 1,000 people have fled their homes in the community of Deschambault Lake, one of the worst hit areas. Despite firefighters’ work for the past week, a huge fire is still only one kilometre away from the town.

On Friday, 250 people were forced out of Pelican Narrows.

Four hundred more people were set to leave from their hometown in the area of Sandy Bay Saturday to escape thick smoke brought about by nearby forest fires. —Xinhua

Death toll from C China building collapse rises to seven

WUHAN, 7 July— Rescuers have recovered seven bodies from debris as 10:50 pm on Saturday after an under-construction building collapsed on Saturday afternoon in central China’s Hubei Province.

In addition, 13 others were rescued and sent to local hospital. At least 20 construction workers were buried after the four-storey building toppled at around 5 pm at the Quzhiqou Village of suburb Wuhan City, the provincial capital, said Yan Yong, mayor assistant of the city. —Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency
EU, Russia launch talks on new cooperation deal

BRUSSELS, 7 July— The European Union (EU) and Russia launched here on Friday the first round of talks on a new cooperation agreement on political and economic relations.

“This is an important day for us,” External Relations Director General Eneko Landaburu told a joint news briefing after talks with Russian Ambassador to the EU Vladimir Chizhov.

Landaburu said that during the meeting with Russian chief negotiator Chizhov, they discussed the content of the future political agreement. “We agreed on the scope of this political agreement,” said Landaburu, adding that it covers the fields of politics, economy, security, energy, freedom, education and research.

Chizhov said he was optimistic about the negotiations, adding that the first round of the talks gave ground for optimism.

The negotiators also fixed the time agenda and structure of the negotiations, which it is widely believed would take longer than a year.

Cooperation in the energy sector is expected to dominate the negotiating process, according to the negotiators.

Obama “puzzled” by Iraq comment frenzy

ST LOUIS, 7 July — Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama said on Saturday his plan to end the Iraq war was unchanged and he was puzzled by the sharp reaction to his statement this week that he might “refine” his timetable for withdrawing US combat troops.

“For me to say that I’m going to refine my policies I don’t think in any way is inconsistent with prior statements and doesn’t change my strategic view that this war has to end and that I’m going to end it as president.” Obama told reporters on his campaign plane. Obama, who based his drive to capture the Democratic nomination on his early and ardent opposition to the war, said earlier this week he might alter his plan to bring combat troops home within 16 months of taking office if conditions on the ground changed.

The comment drew heavy coverage and sharp criticism from some on the left and the right, with Republicans saying it showed he was vacillating on Iraq.

“I was a little puzzled by the frenzy that I set off with what I thought was a pretty innocuous statement,” he said on a flight from Montana to St Louis. “I am absolutely committed to ending the war. I will call my joint chiefs of staff in and give them a new assignment and that is to end the war.”

MNA/Reuters

Bulgaria to buy 2 French corvettes, halving order

PARIS, 7 July — Bulgaria has provisionally agreed with France to buy two Gowind corvettes, halving an earlier commitment for four vessels that was hit by funding problems, an aide to French President Nicolas Sarkozy said on Friday.

Bulgaria and France set up a working group in October to try to reach a final deal by end-2007 for four of the advanced stealth vessels that would have been worth 950 million euros (1.49 billion US dollars).

There were reports soon afterwards that Bulgaria had decided on a cheaper solution due to budget difficulties.

The French aide said on Friday that Bulgarian Prime Minister Sergei Stanishev had confirmed a provisional order for two vessels, one of which would be built in Bulgaria at the Black Sea port of Varna.

The Gowind class of light, manoeuvrable corvettes is designed for anti-surface warfare and maritime security and built by French state shipyard DCNS, which is 25-per cent owned by defence electronics firm Thales.

MNA/Reuters

“Premature” to talk of direct Israel contact

PARIS, 7 July — Syria’s Foreign Minister said on Friday it was premature to talk of direct peace negotiations with Israel, a day after Israel had called for quickly starting face-to-face discussions.

A third round of talks between the long-time foes started in Istanbul on Tuesday and ended on Thursday with an agreement to hold a fourth round of indirect negotiations in Turkey in late July, a Turkish Government source told Reuters on Thursday.

“IT’s premature to answer this question,” said Walid al-Moualem when asked when direct talks could be held.

“The moment when we feel that we’ve got the agreed common ground between us and the Israelis, which covers all elements of a peace agreement, we will agree on the location of these direct talks,” he said in a question and answer session at the French Institute for International Relations (IFRI).

MNA/Xinhua

Afghan hospital workers carry a boy who was allegedly injured in US-led air strikes. An Afghan district governor has accused the US-led coalition of killing nearly two dozen civilians in an air strike on a wedding party. The coalition insisted it only killed militants.

INTERNET
**Work in storm-hit regions inspected**

**NAY PYI TAW, 7 July** — Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence on 5 July met local authorities, social organization members and residents in Maubin, Ayeyawady Division.

Maubin District Peace and Development Council Chairman U Htay Win reported on cultivation of monsoon paddy and crops, sufficiency of edible oil and rice in the region and measures being taken for education and health sectors.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko called for working hard to develop economic and social conditions in Maubin district.

In Kyaiklat, where he was welcomed by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing and departmental heads, he met with departmental staff and townselders.

U Kyaw Htin, Chairman of Kyaiklat Township PDC gave a presentation on economic and social work in the township.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko urged officials to participate in construction tasks being carried out in storm-hit areas. He inspected progress of rehabilitation tasks in the township.

So far, Kyaiklat Township has had 32,037 acres under monsoon paddy and the remaining acres will be under monsoon paddy.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko, the minister and party held a discussion with departmental staff and local people. He heard reports on rehabilitation tasks in the township by the chairman of Bogale Township PDC and later inspected the tasks in the township.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko, the minister and party held a discussion with departmental staff and local people. He also held a meeting with local residents in Pyapon.

Maj-Gen Ko Ko met departmental staff and local residents in Pyapon. Their discussion focused on monsoon paddy and crop cultivation and fishery sectors. Maj-Gen Ko Ko called for active participation of local residents in rehabilitation tasks.

Later, they inspected boat building and fishing gear at Boat Building Camp of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries in Ayeyawady Division.

**More relief supplies arrive at Yangon Int’l Airport**

**YANGON, 7 July** — The relief supplies, weighing 10,239 tons donated by Thailand-based World Food Programme (WFP), arrived at the Yangon International Airport today. — MNA

**Robes to be offered to Tooth Relic Pagoda on 17 July**

**YANGON, 7 July** — A ceremony to offer robe to Tooth Relic Pagoda will be held in conjunction with the 11th Dhamma Cekka Day at the pagoda in Mayangon Township on 17 July (Fullmoon Day of Waso).

Anyone may participate in the ceremony organized by Board of Trustees of the Pagoda.

**Dhamma Zedi Sayadaw donates cash to storm-hit monasteries in Ayeyawady Div**

**YANGON, 7 July** — A cash donation ceremony presented by Dhamma Zedi Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kosalla (Sasana University Maha Dhammacariya MA) for storm-hit monasteries of Ayeyawady Division was held at Sasana Beikman in Pathein yesterday.

The cash donation ceremony was organized by Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council.

At the cash donation, on behalf of Dhamma Zedi Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kosalla, Secretary of Ayeyawady Division PDC U Kyaw San and wife Daw Ye Ye Aung donated Waso robes and K 100,000 each to nine Presiding Sayadaws of Pathein.

Next, Ayeyawady Division Police Commander Police Col Thura Tin Hla and wife Daw Mya Mya Lwin presented K 10 million to storm-affected monasteries through Chairman Sayadaw of Division Sangha Nayaka Committee. — MNA

**Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe accepts K 3 million presented by Secretary of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha, Joint Secretary Dr Daw May Malar, Treasurer Daw Khin Than Win and executives.** — SWRR

**Photo shows fishing nets and fishing boat engines for storm victims in Mawlamyinegyun Township.** — MNA
USDA members participating in reconstruction and rehabilitation tasks with heart and soul

Article: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

We reporters have made trips to the interior parts of the storm-hit areas to cover news. So, we have learnt a lot about the conditions caused by the storm ‘Nargis’ and brilliant performances being carried out by the government, the people and the Tatmadaw.

We have also documented the active participation of members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association in the community welfare services.

While our team was in Dedaye Township, Ayeyawady Division, a member of Danubyu Township USDA said, “We members of the teams are all farmers. We are participating in the tasks for rehabilitation of the farmlands. We are now so busy with rehabilitation tasks for the victims that we cannot start ploughing our own fields yet.”

As the saying that goes “Blood is thicker than water”, USDA members from the four corners of the Union converged in the storm-hit areas of Ayeyawady Division.

Under the patronage of the USDA Youths’ Affairs Committee, a team made up of 264 young members from states and divisions on 10 June set out from Yangon for Hlinephone, Pyinsalu, Hsincheya and Saluseik villages in Labutta Township; Group (2) consisting of young members from Chin State and Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady divisions, in Pyinsalu, Labutta Township; Group (3) consisting of young members from Kachin State and Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady divisions, in Hsincheya village, Labutta Township; Group (4) consisting of young members from Mon and Shan (North) states and Bago (East) and Ayeyawady divisions, in Saluseik village, Labutta Township; Group (5) consisting of young members from Shan State (South), Taninthayi, Bago (West) and Ayeyawady divisions, in Kyeyinchaung village, Bogale Township; and Group (6) consisting of young members from Kayah State, and Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady divisions, in Setsan village in Bogale Township.

The USDA (HQ) provided funds for the plan, and they cover expenses on transportation of and meals for the USDA members participating in reconstruction and rehabilitation tasks in the storm-affected areas.

The performances include teaching students in Hlinephone village, donation of clothes for the victims of Bego village, removing the fallen trees, sanitation tasks in Phoneygion village, building of make-shift schools, providing health care, dredging of the lakes around the villages, carrying relief supplies, reconstruction of ravaged houses, and ploughing fields with the use of power-tillers.

The group-2 carried out sanitation work in the compound of hospital in Pyinsalu, cleared Pyinsalu-Wabogon Road, delivered clothing donated by Kachin State to Layyinkwin Village, provided health care services to the local people, cleared the lake in Pyinsalu, helped carry the ten power boats and fishing nets provided by ten fishery entrepreneurs.

(See page 9)
USDA members participating in reconstruction and rehabilitation tasks with heart and soul

Article: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

from the State-owned and national companies, built five-unit toilets at the relief camps and cleared the fallen trees in the wards.

The group-3 dug lakes in Hsinchayya Village, Kinkan Village in Thabyegon Village-tract, Danachaung Village, U-yin gon Village and On-ton gon Village for supply of drinking water, carried out sanitation works in and outside the villages, fumigated villages, cleared the fallen trees and helped in daily provision of health care services to injured persons, and other patients and children under five.

The group-4 built a bridge in the lake for drinking water, cleared the fallen trees and rubbish near the lake, carried out sanitation work in the village, repaired the desks at the village middle school, sprayed lime and carried out fumigation, painted the wall of the monastery and helped the ploughing of farmland.

The group-5 laid bricks on the village road in Kyeingyaung Village, carried out sanitation work in the village, delivered relief items for the victims, removed the fallen trees, helped in renovation of Lawkamarazein Pagoda, offered robes to the members of the Sangha, repaired the houses in Kyeingyaung and Armagan Villages, donated clothing and provided health care services.

The group-6 participated in the efforts for inauguration of the public telephone booth in Sethsan Village, carried out sanitation work in the compounds of the monastery and Dhammayon, dug the lake in the monastery compound, removed the fallen trees and took care of damaged high school, carried out fumigation and delivered the relief supplies to the victims.

Altogether 100 members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association from 14 townships in Bago Division (East), 60 USDA members from Myitkyina, Mohnyin and Bhamo Districts in Kachin State and 30 USDA members from Nyangdon, Pantanaw and Danubyu Townships in Ayeyawady Division participated in the rehabilitation tasks.

These are the community welfare services undertaken by the USDA youth members. The youths have been participating in the rehabilitation tasks in the storm-hit areas for nearly a month. Everyone can see how they carried out successfully the rehabilitation tasks in a month.

According to the records, members of the USDA in Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions together with the people and members of social organizations carried out relief and reconstruction tasks in the respective division, districts, townships, wards and villages after the storm.

The USDA was formed on 15 September 1993. During the period of nearly 15 years, the USDA members hand in hand with the government, the people and the Tatmadaw have been participating in the national development tasks. The volume of the community welfare services contributed by the USDA members is like the countless number of stars in the sky.

I honour the USDA members who are actively taking part in the rehabilitation tasks staying with the local people in the Ayeyawady Delta and creating better conditions for the victims after the storm and for the development of the region more than ever.

Translation: MS+NY

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Local authorities to make field trips …

(from page 1)

the living standard by saving money out of their in-

come.

He spoke of the need for local authorities to make field trips right down to storm-hit villages and inculeate local people with a sense of working hard and of enjoying higher liv-

ing status.

Afterwards, Minister for Livestock and Fish-

eries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein handed over

150 fishing boats and 608 fishing nets for Mawlamyinegyun town-

ship to Minister Col Thein Nyunt.

Next, Vice-President of Myanmar Fisheries

Federation U Kyi Ngwe handed over 900 fishing

nets donated by the fed-

eration to Minister Col

Thein Nyunt, and the cer-

emony came to an end.

After the ceremony,

the Prime Minister cor-

dially greeted those

present on the occasion.

After that, the Prime

Minister and party left

Mawlamyinegyun by car

and arrived in Bogale at 9

am. They were welcomed

there by Minister for For-

estry Brig-Gen Thein Aung who is supervising

the rehabilitation of storm-

hit regions in Bogale town-

ship, Minister for Hotels

and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe

Naing who is supervising

the rehabilitation of storm-

hit regions in Pyapon

Township and Minister for

Construction Maj-Gen

Saw Tun.

At the control office in

Bogale, Minister Brig-

Gen Thein Aung, Minis-

ter Maj-Gen Soe Naing

and Minister Maj-Gen

Saw Tun reported to the

Prime Minister on road

network project in delta

region with the use of

charts.

Afterwards, they at-

tended the ceremony to hand over fishing boats

and fishing nets for Bogale
township held at the

Township Fisheries De-

partment in Bogale.

The Prime Minister

and party looked into fish-

ing boats, engines, fishing

nets and related accesso-

ries to be handed over,

construction of fishing

boats and test-running of

fishing boats, and they

were briefed by Minister

Brig-Gen Maung Maung

Thein and President of

MFF U Htay Myint.

Next, the Prime Min-

ister made a speech on the

occasion. He clarified

matters related to reha-

bilitation and reconstruc-

tion of storm-hit regions

with the participation of

well-wishers and national

entrepreneurs and with the

assistance of the govern-

ment and future tasks for

regional development, and

stressed the need for storm

victims to make relentless

efforts for improvement

of their socio-economic

status as they have already

been provided with ac-

commodation and basic

requirements for resum-

ing their livelihoods.

Next, Minister for Livestock and Fish-

eries Brig-Gen Maung Maung

Thein handed over fish-

ing boats and fishing nets

for Bogale township to

Minister for Forestry Brig-

Gen Thein Aung.

After that, President

of MFF U Htay Myint pre-

sented fishing nets to Min-

ister for Forestry Brig-

Gen Thein Aung.

Next, Managing Di-

rector of Dagon Timber

Co Ltd U Win Aung pre-

sented crop seeds for

storm victims to the Chair-

man of Bogale Township

PDC and the ceremony

ended.

After the ceremony,

the Prime Minister cor-

dially greeted those

present on the occasion.

Next, the Prime Min-

ister and party left Bogale

by helicopter and arrived

at Kyeinchaunggyi model

village at 10.30 am.

Enroute to the village, they

inspected the construction

of the Bogale-

Kyeinchaung road section

being constructed with the

use of heavy machinery.

Later, they inspected the resettlement of fami-

lies of storm victims in

166 houses built by Htoo

Trading Co Ltd in Kyin-

chaunggyi model village

and vegetable patches in the compound of the

houses.

Next, the Prime Min-

ister greeted USDA mem-

bers from Shan State

(South), Bago Division

(West), Taninthayi Divi-

sion, and Ayeyawady Di-

vision who are parting in

the reconstruction of storm-hit regions.

The Prime Minister

and party left there and

arrived at Kadonkani vil-

lage in Pyapon township

at 10.30 am.

Afterwards, the Prime

Minister and party greeted storm-survivors living in

houses constructed by Dagon International Con-

struction Co and funded

by President of CB Bank

U Khin Maung Aye, and

presented seeds and nuts

to the survivors.

(See page 11)
Local authorities to make field trips ...  
(from page 10)  
During the visit, the Prime Minister urged officials concerned to distribute relief aids to the victims systematically and inspected the library, clinic and shops at the village. 

The Prime Minister and party also inspected reinforcement of the embankment around Daukkyi Island and construction of houses for victims in Sethsan Village in Bogale Township. 

They arrived at Pyapon on 12.10 pm and heard reports on reconstruction and rehabilitation works presented by Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing who has been supervising the works in Pyapon Township and U Win Aung, Chairman of Dagon International Co Ltd. The Prime Minister and party arrived back at Yangon International Airport at 1.25 pm where they were welcomed by Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Mayor Brig-Gen Win Myint, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials concerned. 

They proceeded to Insein Township to inspect production of concrete structures at a factory of Myanma Ceramic Industries. At the factory, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung reported to the Prime Minister on production of concrete post shoes to be used in construction of houses for the storm victims. Concrete post shoes will be distributed to the storm-hit villages soon, the minister said in his report.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements. The Prime Minister said in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, measures for construction of houses for the storm survivors have been taken so that they can live with higher standard than the previous conditions. 

The Ministry of Industry-1 has produced concrete post shoes that are necessary for the construction of houses and those houses will be completed near future and homeless survivors can live in the houses. 

Ministry of Industry-1 has produced concrete post shoes since 30 June and can produce from 1000 to 1200 post shoes a day, and 900 concrete post shoes will be distributed to the storm-hit villages per day as from 8 July. 

The Prime Minister and party went to the factory of National Wood Industry Ltd in Dagon Myothit (East) where they were welcomed by Chairman U Sein Lwin and officials. 

Chairman U Sein Lwin reported on construction of houses and fishing boats for the storm victims and delivery of sawn timber for construction of houses.

The Prime Minister said the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee thanked the donors for supply of necessary wood for the victims in time and donation of houses and boats. 

The Prime Minister and party inspected arrangements for delivery of sawn timber to the respective regions and samples of fishing boats and houses.

The Prime Minister and party left the factory in the afternoon. — MNA
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MCP ROTTERDAM VOY NO (013)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP ROTTERDAM VOY NO (013) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 7.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T 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.
SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BUNGAS MAS-12 VOY NO (303N)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BUNGAS MAS-12 VOY NO (303N) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 7.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.L.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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MAXICON CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
Claims Day Notice
MV PHU MY VOYNO (802N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHU MY VOYNO (802N) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 6.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.Y.U.T. 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.

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: M/S Eagle Shipping Co., Ltd

Phone No: 256908/3762316/3766979

Claims Day Notice
MV Karana Sambilan VOYNO (EAL 13)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KARANA SAMBILAN VOYNO (EAL 13) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 7.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY 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.

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: Eastern Car Liner Ltd

Phone No: 256924/256914

Stranded whale carried by car, released off Auckland beach

Wellington, 7 July—An orca whale stranded west of Auckland was transported by road on Saturday and released off a city beach.

The 3.4-metre juvenile female, estimated to be three years old, was reported on Friday afternoon to have been beached at Huia, the New Zealand Press Association reported on Saturday.

-Russian Ambassador to China Gholam-Hossein Nozari said.

"As a great and powerful country will ever dare to carry out an act of aggression against the Islamic Republic, Iran’s satellite Press TV reported."

"Such a military conflict with Iran, it is not clear what would happen to oil prices," Nozari warned, adding that even empty anti-Iran rhetoric "pushes oil prices up by 10 to 15 dollars". The recent escalation of the war of words between Tehran and Tel Aviv has fueled worries about oil security.

"As a great and powerful country, Iran will help ensure the security of the waterway," he said.

He said Iran and regional countries bear the responsibility of ensuring the security of the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz oil route.

The Strait of Hormuz is a narrow waterway in the Persian Gulf, through which roughly 40 percent of the world oil is transported. —MNA/Xinhua

Psychological support urgent for young quake survivors

Beijing, 7 July—Psychological support is of the utmost importance for young survivors of the 12 May earthquake that struck southwest China, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) chief representative in the country said here on Thursday.

Dr Yin Yin Nwe, UNICEF’s chief representative in China, said the organization had provided relief efforts to children in quake-battered Sichuan Province almost immediately after the massive 8.0 earthquake struck.

"The most urgent need for children there is psychological support," said the Burmese, who previously headed up UNICEF’s tsunami support in New York, at a Press conference.

She said the support would last for at least six months.

UNICEF was the first organization of the United Nations to enter Sichuan following the quake, providing materials worth 9.03 million US dollars and setting up “child-friendly centres” to offer psychological help.

Also on Thursday, Chan Meiling, UNICEF’s Ambassador for Japan, announced that organization had donated one million US dollars for reconstruction in China’s quake-hit areas. She added another two million US dollars would be raised.

-MNA/Xinhua

Russia honours Chinese medical workers, officials

Beijing, 7 July—Russian Ambassador to China Sergey Razov on Friday honoured four Chinese medical workers and officials for their work in treating children traumatized in the Beslan school hostage crisis.

Many children were injured in the hostage crisis in 2004, and the Chinese Government and people offered medical care for two groups of badly hurt children.

Razov said Russia’s Ministry of Public Health and Social Development extended its heartfelt gratitude to the Chinese Government and people, he said.

-MNA/Reuters

Most Indonesians say country in recession

Jakarta, 7 July—A survey of Asia-Pacific countries carried out on the Internet revealed 77 percent of the respondents believe Indonesia is in a recession, despite first-quarter economic growth.

"The company that carried out the survey on Friday said rising fuel and food prices were the main cause for the gloomy outlooks," the Jakarta Post Daily on Saturday quoted executive director of PT AC Nielsen Indonesia Catherine Eddy as saying. “This is I think worse than what happened in 2005 when the government also increased the fuel prices. This time is like a double hit,” she said.

The survey was conducted between mid April and early May and surveyed 532 consumers in Indonesia who have internet access and monthly incomes of at least 3.5 million rupiah (about 380 US dollars).

-MNA/Xinhua

Four million Filipino children malnourished amid soaring inflation

Manila, 7 July—Officials of a Filipino Government research institute said Saturday four million Filipino children are malnourished and the number is expected to grow as inflation forces households to cut down on food, the Philippine Daily Inquirer said on its website.

The officials of the Food and Nutrition Research Institute were quoted by the newspaper report as saying that most of malnourished children live in the southern Mindanao region, the central region of southern Tagalog and Eastern Visayas, where up to one-third of children under the age of 10 are either underweight or short for their age.

In the capital region of Metro Manila, four out of every 100 children are also underweight due to malnutrition, said the report.

-MNA/Xinhua

Oil minister says no country dares to attack Iran

Teheran, 7 July—Iranian Oil Minister Gholam-Hossein Nozari said Saturday that no country will ever dare to carry out an act of aggression against the Islamic Republic, Iran’s satellite Press TV reported.

"If Israel dares to engage in a military conflict with Iran, it is not clear what would happen to oil prices,” Nozari warned, adding that even empty anti-Iran rhetoric “pushes oil prices up by 10 to 15 dollars”. The recent escalation of the war of words between Tehran and Tel Aviv has fueled worries about oil security.

"As a great and powerful country, Iran will help ensure the security of the waterway,” he said.

He said Iran and regional countries bear the responsibility of ensuring the security of the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz oil route.

The Strait of Hormuz is a narrow waterway in the Persian Gulf, through which roughly 40 percent of the world oil is transported. —MNA/Xinhua

A man jumps onto wild horses during the 400-year-old horse festival called ‘Rapa das Bestas’ or ‘Shearing of the Beasts’, in Sabucedo, Spain, on 6 July, 2008. —INTERNET

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The Strait of Hormuz is a narrow waterway in the Persian Gulf, through which roughly 40 percent of the world oil is transported. —MNA/Xinhua
Real president sees Ronaldo still at United next season

MADRID, 7 July — Real Madrid president Ramon Calderon said on Sunday he does not think Manchester United winger Cristiano Ronaldo will be playing at the Bernabeu next season.

The Spanish champions have made little secret of their admiration for the 23-year-old Portuguese international who, although United have said he is not for the sale, has said that he is considering his future.

"As things stand, Cristiano Ronaldo is more likely to be playing with United next year," Calderon was quoted as telling Spanish media at Wembley.

"In theory, there is time (for him to move) as there are two months to the end of August, if Manchester United get in contact with us and offer him. Even if they do say he is for sale we don’t know if we can complete the deal.

"The player has said he would like to, that it is a dream, and that he would love to play for Real Madrid, but that is only the player’s opinion or wish. He can’t complete it without the agreement of United."

Ronaldo, who signed a five-year-contract with United last year, won a Premier League and Champions League double last season, scoring 42 goals, and was named England’s Footballer of the Year for a second season in a row.

— MNA/Reuters

Laporta to continue at Barca despite vote defeat

MADRID, 7 July — Barcelona president Joan Laporta lost a confidence vote in his administration by club members on Sunday, but just avoided being forced to call a presidential election.

Club member Oriol Giralt’s motion criticising Laporta’s management won 23,870 votes, 60.60 per cent of the 37,294 cast. There were 14,871 votes, 37.75 per cent, in favour of the current administration.

Giralt fell just short of winning the 56 per cent of votes needed to force the board out.

"The board should examine this result closely because it sends a clear message. If I were president I would resign,” Giralt told a news conference.

Laporta said he would see out his term in office until 2010. — MNA/Reuters

Atletico confirm signing of France goalkeeper Coupet

MADRID, 7 July — Atletico Madrid have agreed to sign France goalkeeper Gregory Coupet from Olympique Lyon for the next two seasons, the Primera Liga club said on Sunday. The experienced 35-year-old, who represented France at Euro 2008 and has been capped 34 times, helped Lyon to win seven consecutive league titles between 2002 and 2008.

He will be presented on Tuesday, the club said on their website (www.atleticodemadrid.com).

— MNA/Reuters

Atletico land Brazilian Assuncao, seeking Maniche exit

MADRID, 7 July — Atletico Madrid have signed Brazilian midfielder Paulo Assuncao as a free agent and are negotiating the sale of Portuguese midfielder Maniche, the Primera Liga club said on Sunday.

Assuncao, 28, used FIFA’s Article 17 on transfer regulations to break out of his contract with Porto but Atletico are seeking to reach a “friendly agreement” with the Portuguese champions, they said on their Web site (www.atleticademadrid.com).

Only available to players who have already served three years of their contract, or two years in the case of players aged 28 or over, article 17 effectively allows players to “buy out” the remaining time on long-term contracts. Atletico said fellow midfielder Maniche would not be joining up with the rest of the squad on 7 July, as they continued negotiations with a number of clubs over a possible transfer.

Assuncao, who won three league titles in his three seasons with Porto, will join Czech Republic defender Tomas Ujfalu1, Netherlands defender John Heitinga, French striker Florent Sinama Pongolle and Brazilian midfielder Paulo Assuncao as new recruits at the Calderon. Atletico are in the third qualifying round of the Champions League after finishing fourth in the Primera Liga last season. — MNA/Reuters

— MNA/Reuters

Switzerland’s Roger Federer in action against Spain’s Rafael Nadal during the men’s singles final on the Centre Court at Wimbledon, on 6 July, 2008.—INTERNET

— MNA/Reuters

Margaret Hoelzer celebrates after winning the final of the 200 meter backstroke and setting a new world record of 2:06.09 during the US Swimming Olympic Trials, on 5 July, at the Qwest Center in Omaha, Nebraska.—INTERNET

— MNA/Reuters

Russia’s Nikolay Sazhin (L) and Germany’s Frank Stoldt box during the Chess-Boxing championships in BerlinRarely do brains and brawn come together in this way. A Russian was crowned world champion on Sunday in the novelty sport of chess boxing that requires equal skill at moving pawns and throwing punches.—INTERNET

— MNA/Reuters
Four new heritage sites added to UNESCO list

Quebec City (Canada), 7 July — UNESCO's World Heritage Committee Sunday added four new sites to its heritage list, including Tulou, the unique residential architecture of Fujian Province in south-eastern China.

The remaining three sites inscribed Sunday afternoon local time by the 21-member heritage committee which is currently meeting in Quebec City, are a former slave hideout in Mauritius, an archeological site in Saudi Arabia, and monasteries in Iran.

Fujian Tulou comprises 46 earthen houses constructed between the 12th and 20th centuries. East has several stories, built for entire clans and sheltering up to 800 people.

During the 18th and early 19th centuries, run-away slaves sought shelter on the mountain of Le Morné, which just out into the Indian Ocean in south-west Mauritius, where they formed small settlements.

The mountain became a symbol of the slaves' search for freedom, as well as their suffering and sacrifice.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran warns of closure of Hormuz Strait if threatened

TEHERAN, 7 July — Chief of Staff of Iran’s Armed Forces said on Saturday that Iran’s strategy is to keep the Strait of Hormuz in southern Iran open, the official IRNA news agency reported.

But if the country’s interests are jeopardized in the region, we will not let any ship pass through the Strait of Hormuz, Major General Hasan Firouzabadi was quoted as saying.

The Army chief underlined the role of the strait, a narrow waterway in the Gulf through which roughly 40 per cent of the world oil is transported, saying that the Hormuz Strait is a strategic canal with vital importance to Teheran.

MNA/Xinhua

Irish woman seeks “husband” for 120 litres of beer

SONKAEVY (Finland), 7 July — Julia Galvin came to Finland looking for a man that would carry her 120 kilos over a 253-metre track — the incentive being the chance to win the wife-carrying world title and beer worth her body weight.

In the end the Irish woman was carried by an Englishman through a pool and across hurdles. She did not make the gold, but said she would keep trying until the title and the beer was hers.

“I think I am worth carrying because I am a walking party,” she said.

Wife-carrying is one of a host of bizarre contests that Finns, who can tend to gloominess in the long winter dark, have devised for the scant months of summer when the sun hardly sets and people’s moods turn frolicsome.

MNA/Reuters

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 7-7-2008)

According to the (30.6) hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Kalewa is (1514) cm. It may reach above its danger level today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk (1076) cm is exceeded (6) cm above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (1360) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

According to the (30.6) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madanuk (1076) cm is exceeded (6) cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

MNA/Reuters

Flood Warning

(Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 7-7-2008)

According to the (30.6) hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Kalewa is (1514) cm. It may reach above its danger level (1550) cm during the next (24) hrs commencing noon today.

MNA/Reuters

WEATHER

Monday, 7 July, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State, lower Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing Division and isolated heavy falls in Yangon and Bago Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.12) inch, Mingin (11.26) inches, Kalay (8.38) inches, Maungtaw (7.16) inches, Thenzayar (6.18) inches, Kyaukpyu (5.98) inches, Kalewa (5.04) inches, Kyauktaw (4.91) inches, Bago (3.70) inches, Thalun (3.50) inches, Hnawby (3.43) inches, Mawlaik (3.38) inches and Thanlwe and Shwegyin (2.52) each.

Maximum temperature on 6-7-2008 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 7-7-2008 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 7-7-2008 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 6-7-2008 was (5.5) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 7-7-2008 was (1.26) inches at Mingaladon, (1-29) inches at Kabu-Aye and (1-66) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (43.78) inches at Mingaladon, (55.39) inches at Kabu-Aye and (67.95) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 6-7-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 8-7-2008: Rain will be scattered in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Chin States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 8-7-2008: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 8-7-2008: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 8-7-2008: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

MNA/Reuters

Children practice ballet at an activity centre in Hefei, Anhui Province on 6 July, 2008. About 200 students, mostly between the ages of 5 and 14, learn ballet at the school, local media reported.

INTERNET
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

USDA members participating in reconstruction and rehabilitation tasks with heart and soul

Article: MAUNG MAUNG HTE (MNA)