Vice-Senior General Maung Aye attends to needs of Kungyangon, Dedaye, comforts victims, greets volunteers

NAY PYI TAW, 5 June-Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye together with Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Vice-Chairman of the NDPCC Secretary-1 of SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, members of the SPDC Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing and Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, the NDPCC member ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the director-general of Government Office and departmental heads flew to Yangon from Pathein by helicopter yesterday morning.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party left for Kungyangon by car and they were welcomed by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and officials.

At the control office of Kungyangon relief camp, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, who is making close supervision in reconstruction tasks of Kungyangon Township, reported on losses and damage in the township caused by the storm, relief works, donations of companies at home and abroad and wellwishers, implementation of works in accord with the guidance given by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe during his visit to Kungyangon Township, supply of drinking water, participation of Asia World Co in rehabilitation tasks of Kungyangon Township and requirements to Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party.

After hearing the reports, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave necessary instructions and greeted departmental officials and those who are taking part in reconstruction tasks.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party viewed Kungyangon Township in a motorcade.

Afterwards, they went to Dedaye Township in Ayeyawady Division. At the office of Dedaye Township PDC, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye heard reports on losses and damage in Dedaye Township, implementation of reconstruction tasks in the township, cash and kind donations of wellwishers to the storm victims, participations of Aden Group Co in rehabilitation tasks of the township and requirements presented by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min who is making close super-visions in reconstruction tasks and gave necessary instructions.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party oversaw the Township in a motorcade.

At the township People's Hospital, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye consoled the patients and greeted specialists, doctors and nurses.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party arrived in Yangon from Dedaye by car yesterday afternoon.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party left Yangon for Nay Pyi Taw by air this morning.

Self-seekers, unscrupulous elements selling video tapes featuring invented stories to foreign news agencies
People find acts of self-seekers exploiting storm victims abominable

NAY PYI TAW, 5 June-Some self-seekers and unscrupulous elements in collusion with internal and external elements are shooting video films featuring made-up stories in the storm-affected areas in Ayeyawady Division such as Labutta and Bogale, and sending the video tapes to foreign news agencies. It is learnt that in the process, they are luring naïve storm victims, asking their hard-cores planted in advance leading questions, and exaggerating the news stories on living conditions of the victims, sanitation and meals in negative views. They are sending the created and exaggerated stories to foreign news agencies for their self-interests. Those foreign news agencies are issuing such groundless news stories with the intention of tarnishing the image of Myanmar and misleading the international community into misunderstanding that the storm victims are helpless.

The people who are in touch with the situations feel that the despicable and inhuman acts of local and foreign anti-government groups and self-centered persons and their exploiting of the storm victims are absolutely obnoxious to them. Similarly, those who are contributing their voluntary services to humanitarian tasks feel that the acts of the self-seekers and unscrupulous persons insult their goodwill and services.

Take preparedness and preventive measures against natural disasters by building combined offices, schools and government buildings with high level of foundations
Vice-Senior General Maung Aye makes arrangements for reconstruction of storm-hit regions in Ayeyawady, Yangon Divisions

NAY PYI TAW, 5 June -Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye held a meeting with officials including regional in-charge ministers and national entrepreneurs on reconstruction of storm-hit regions in Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions including Kungyangon and Dedaye townships, at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that he, accompanied by the Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee the Prime Minister, the Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee the Secretary-1 and Central Committee member ministers, provided necessary assistance for storm-hit regions after inspecting

relief and rehabilitation tasks being carried out by regional in-charge ministers and national entrepreneurs. He said that they met storm victims at the villages of two townships a day out of Kungyangon Township of Yangon Division and seven townships of Ayeyawady Division. He continued to say that he fulfilled the requirements of the storm-hit regions he had visited in the morning in meeting with the officials in Pathein in the afternoon.

He added that he was pleased with the utmost efforts of the ministers led by the Prime Minister in cooperation with the local people, national entrepreneurs and social organizations in undertaking relief and reconstruction tasks in respective storm-hit regions. He said that as soon as the storm hit, the entire people, in-dustrialists, merchants and social organizations from all States and Divisions provided foodstuffs, purified drinking water, vegetables, clothes and other personal goods to the storm-hit regions. The health care services being given by Red Cross members, specialists, doctors and nurses of States and Divisions to the victims at the grassroots-level reflected the spirit of unity of the country and the people, he said. Therefore, he said, the government put on record and honoured their concerted efforts in carrying out the relief and rehabilitation tasks in unison with the national spirit and Union Spirit.

He stressed the need to make arrangements for uplifting the standard of living and livelihood of the storm victims in the storm-hit regions more than that of the past in carrying out the reconstruction tasks.

In doing so, modern hospitals, better depart-mental offices and schools are to be reconstructed to enhance the health care standard, he said. He pointed out that it is required to take prepare-dness and preventive measures against the natural disasters by building the stronger combined offices, schools and government buildings with high level of foundations, by constr-ucting the roads leading to the coastal regions and by rebuilding the 25 feet to 30 feet high roads. In conclusion, he urged those present to make concerted efforts for focusing on more development of the storm-hit regions, uplift of the social economic status of the local people to shape the bright future of the State upholding the Myanmar saying, “To build the new structures replacing the earth bricks with the stone ones”.

After the briefing of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Chairman of NDPCC Prime Minister General Thein Sein and officials held separate discussions on re-construction of Ayeya-wady and Yangon Divisions and develop-ment tasks.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that the group led by Vice-Senior General Maung Aye toured respective regions from 1 to 4 June to fulfil the requirements of the storm-hit regions and the storm victims in Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions. He said that during the tour, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visited the relief camps and attended to the needs of storm victims meeting them individually and family-wise. He added that the responsible persons have carried out relief task which was the first priority. In addition, he continued to say that the arrangements have been made to provide temporary shelters for the storm victims and fulsfil the needs in the food, health and livelihoods of the

victims to some extent. Moreover, the Prime Minister said that plans are under way to carry out the uplift of social economic status of the local people in addition to the reconstruction and development tasks and disaster preparednees programmes.

Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo reported on reconstruction of the storm-hit regions and development tasks to be undertaken.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi also submitted a report on matters related to Kungyangon Township, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min on Dedaye Township, providing assistance for basic needs, farming and fisheries requirements of the storm victims and reconstruction of hospitals, dispensaries and schools. The ministers concerned explained the programmes of the respective ministries.

The ministers presented reports on requirements of Bogale, Kyaiklat, Pyapon, Ngapu-daw, Mawlamyinegyun and Labutta townships, and Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe gave a supplementary report. Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Comman-der of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win reported on requirements of storm victims in Yangon Division.

After hearing the reports, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo attended to the needs.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein felicitates Swedish counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June - General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Fredrik Reinfeldt, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Sweden, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Sweden which falls on 6 June 2008.

Air Force continues to participate in rehabilitation and reconstruction of storm-hit regions

NAY PYI TAW, 5 June-Servicemen of the Air Force continued to participate in the tasks of rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Tatmadaw helicopters transported relief supplies to storm-hit regions such as Ottwin, Hainggyikyun, Pyinsalu, Labutta, Mawlamyinegyun, Bogale, Pyapon, Yatgayan, Kanikyi, Kanaung, Phoenyo (East), Lagarat, Kazaungma, Phoepyaasu, Myaungmya and Kanbe on 3 June.

Tatmadaw helicopters have already transported 424.79 tons of relief supplies in total to storm-hit regions up to now.

Naval vessels take part in rehabilitation tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 5 June - Naval vessels headed on 3 June for the hardest-hit village-tracts in Dedaye, Pyapon, Bogale and Labutta townships and took part in rehabilitation tasks with locals and in security and transport tasks with responsible personnel.

On 1 June, Tatmadawmen from stations and naval vessels under the Ayeyawady Naval Region Command cleared debris and fallen trees at Yangon East Division Hospital and on 3 June at Tooth Relics Pagoda in Mayangon Township together with Yangon City Development Committee.

Robes and provisions donated to storm victim monks and nuns in Pyapon Township

YANGON, 5 June -A ceremony to donate cash and kind to storm victim monks and nuns in Pyapon Township of Ayeyawady Division was held at Htanbin Monastery in the township yesterday, attended by wellwishers Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Kyaik-htihsaung Sandawshin Monastery Abhidhaja Agga Maha Suddhama Jotika Bhaddanta Pyinna Dipa, Joint-Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Dvi Pitaka-dhara Dvipitaka-kovida Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Kammathanacariya Naga Cave Kalewa Tawya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jagarabhivamsa, Chairman Sayadaw of Mahachulalong Kornrajavidyalaya University Phallop Thaiarry, monks and nuns from Thailand, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Vichit Yathip (Retd), Commander of No 66 LID Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye, wellwisher Chairman of Zaykaba Co Ltd Dr Khin Shwe and departmental officials.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepted robes, rice and other provisions worth K 50 million donated by the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Kyaik-htihsaung Sandawshin Monastery, robes, rice, blankets, medicines and other provisions worth K 60 million by the Naga Cave Kalewa Tawya Sayadaw and laypersons and robes, water purifiers, medicines and other offertories worth seven million baht by Chairman Sayadaw and monks and nuns from Thailand and spoke words of thanks. The Ministry of Religious Affairs also donated robes and provisions worth K 47.3 million at the ceremony. Zaykaba Chairman Dr Khin Shwe provided expenses on holding the ceremony.

Foreign Minister felicitates Swedish counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June- U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Carl Bildt, Minister of Foreign Affaris of the Kingdom of Sweden, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Sweden which falls on 6 June 2008.

India to contribute US$ 200,000 for Shwedagon

YANGON, 5 June-India has decided to contribute US$ 200,000 to repairs and renovation work at Shwedagon Pagoda, here.

During the visit of Honorable Minister of State for Commerce and Power Shri Jairam Ramesh to Yangon on 24-25 May this year, he visited Shwedagon Pagoda and witnessed the damage to some of the structures at the pagoda hit by the storm.

Giving the close and friendly bilateral relations between the two countries, particularly India's ancient civilization and spiritual links with Myanmar and in keeping its commitment to assist Myanmar in the rehabilitation phase, India will contribute US$ 200,000 for renovation of the pagoda.

Medicines, equipment donated to MoH

YANGON, 5 June-Myanmar Medicine and Medical Equipment Dealers' Association donated medicine and medical equipment to Ministry of Health for the second time on 2 June to be used in providing medical care to storm survivors.

The ceremony to donate medicines and medical equipment worth K 23,319,470 was held at Yangon General Hospital. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo accepted the donation presented by Chairman of the association Dr Win Sithu.

Relief supplies from abroad arrive at Yangon International Airport

YANGON, 4 June - Two AN-12 and two IL-76 flights carrying 81.881 tons of mosquito nets donated by Thailand-based WFP, AN-12 flight carrying 11.6 tons of mosquito nets, two water purifiers and accessories donated by Malteser International, C-130 flight carrying 7.75 tons of clothes, plastics and household goods donated by the USA and four C-130 flights carrying 44.03 tons of foodstuff donated by FAO arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

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

MMCWA relief aids for storm victims

YANGON, 5 June - Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Asso- ciation on 3 June donated uniforms and stationery to students in storm-hit areas and relief aids to survivors in storm-hit townships in Yangon Division.

At the ceremony held at the Education College in Yankin Township, MMCWA donated K 2.5 million, medical equip-ment, 1,600 bars of soap, 300 mosquito nets, 500 bodices for women, 2,000 sets of uniforms for primary students and 500 dozens of exercise books and Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee K 200,000 to the storm-hit townships in Yangon Division.

Vice-President of MMCWA Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint handed over stationery and relief aids to Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township in Yangon East District; CEC Member of MMCWA Daw Htway Htway Nyunt relief aids to Kungyangon Township in Yangon

South District; Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWA Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai K 200,000 and relief aids to Kungyangon Township, Yangon East District and Yangon South District; CEC Member of MMCWA Dr Daw Khin Mya Win relief aids to Twantay Township and CEC Member of MMCWA Daw Tin Tin Mya relief aids to Dalla township.

New roads to be constructed in Ayeyawady Division

NAY PYI TAW, 5 June - Ministry of Construction held a meeting on drawing a plan for construction of roads linking the areas in the delta region and implementation of the project at the ministry here today.

At the meeting, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun said in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, new roads will be constructed to provide links between the delta regions and embankment of the roads would be from 20ft to 30ft high for emergency evacuation. New roads will be constructed and the old ones will be upgraded in the areas which were hit by the storm, he added. He also urged officials concerned of the road construction special groups to draw projects and to implement the projects as soon as possible and to coordinate with authorities concerned.

Afterwards, parti-cipants of the meeting reported on matters related to searching axis for roads, transportation of machinery and tasks for construction of roads, bridges and sites chosen to construct bridges.

Officials concerned also reported to the minister on plans for construction of Maubin-Yelelay-Shawtaungmaw-Kyaikpi-Mawlamyine-gyun Road, Labutta-Thingangyi-Pyinsalu Road and Bogale-Kyein-gyaung-Kadonkani Road. In his concluding remarks, the minister stressed the need for constant vigilance against natural disaster when the projects are being implemented in the delta region and to start the projects immediately.

World Environment Day 2008 observed in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 5 June- The World Environment Day 2008 organized by the National Committee for Environmental Affairs of the Ministry of Forestry was observed at the ministry, here, this morning. Chairman of NCWA Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung delivered an address.

On behalf of the UNDP Resident Coordinator, Deputy Resident Representative Mr Shahrokh Mohammadi of UNDP read the messages of UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and Executive Director Dr Achim Steiner of UN Environmental Conservation Programme.

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu presented first, second and third prizes to the winners in the open article contest, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe three consolation prizes to the respective winners. UNDP Deputy Resident Repre-

sentative Mr Shahrokh Mohammadi also presented first, second and third prizes to the winners in the open essay contest and Leader of the Working Group for Environmental Conser-vation Daw Nilar Thaw of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, three consolation prizes to the respective winners.

After the ceremony, they viewed the booths displayed in commemor-ation of the World Environment Day. The MWAF and the NCEA will organize the collective tree planting ceremony to mark the World Environment Day at Nay Pyi Taw BEHS No 5 tomorrow.

Water purifiers donated to storm victims

YANGON, 6 June -Sein Yan Sayadaw and Kawtont Sayadaw of Dharma Drum Mountain and donors donated five sets of water purifier and accessories for storm victims to Fire Services Department (Head Office) near Tooth Relic Pagoda in Mayangon Township. Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials concerned accepted the donation and spoke words of thanks.