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Four political objectives

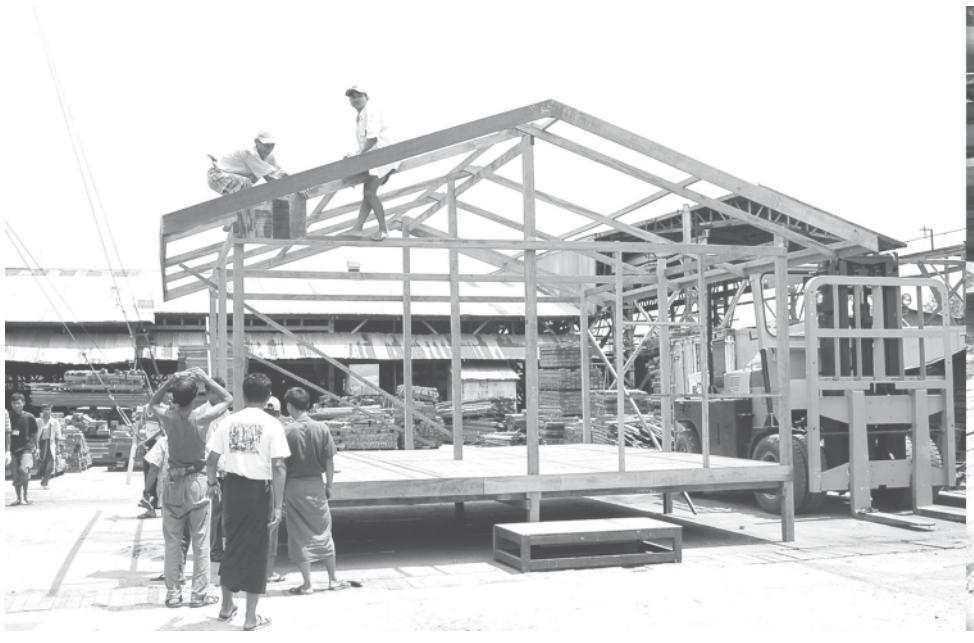
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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



Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects construction of houses for storm victims at Finished Wood Products and Furniture Factory of Royal Family Co in Shwepyitha Township.—MNA

Government permits companies wishing to invest in Myanmar in accord with prescribed rules and regulations

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects lens factory in Mingaladon Industrial Zone

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, ministers, the Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee the Mayor, deputy ministers, senior military officers, the director-general of the Government Office and officials, inspected the lens factory of Myanmar Asia Optical International Co Ltd at Mingaladon Industrial Zone, here, this morning.

Director-General U Aung Win of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development reported on the location and area of the industrial zone, matters related to the factories at the zone and investments and manufacturing of products.

In-charge of Mingaladon Industrial Zone Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw gave a supplementary report on factories at the zone.

Director Mr Wiseman Hsu of Myanmar Asia Optical International Co Ltd reported on establishment of the company, commencement of manufacturing various lens at the factory on 1-7-2004, production of lens, lens units, assembling, plastic lens and plastic parts, strength of employees, providing of training courses to the workers for uplift of their efficiency and arrangements for extension of the factory.

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INSIDE

It has come to their knowledge

Doctors and rescue workers from international community and diplomats have witnessed and accepted the prevailing situations, as the saying that goes, "Seeing is believing".

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HLAING AUNG

Weather Forecast for (23-6-2008)

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area:
Isolated rain or thundershowers.
Degree of certainty is (80%).
Yangon and neighbouring area:
One or two rain or thundershowers.
Degree of certainty is (80%).
Mandalay and neighbouring area:
Isolated rain or thundershowers.
Degree of certainty is (80%).

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 23 June, 2008

Provide requirements for progress of storm-hit areas

Rehabilitation and development tasks are being carried out in the storm-affected areas with the participation of the people, national entrepreneurs and social organizations under the leadership of the government.

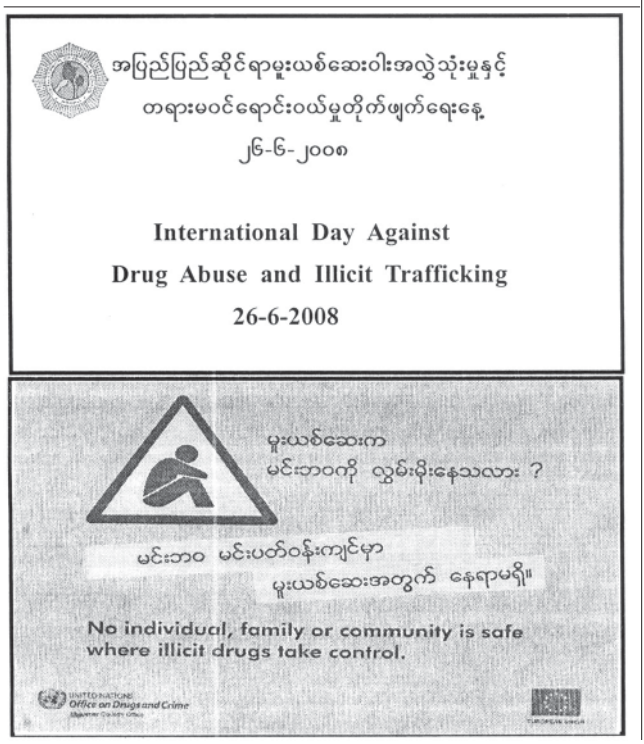
Monasteries, schools, hospitals and departmental offices have now been rebuilt or repaired in those areas. At the same time, the respective companies are building 16 feet x 20 feet houses for those who lost their homes in Kyeinchaunggyi and Sethsan Villages in Bogale Township in cooperation with the companies concerned and with the assistance and arrangement of the government.

Moreover, reconstruction works covering transport, health, communications and power lines are being undertaken with greater momentum with the assistance of companies.

With the speedy implementation of town and village reconstruction tasks, the government is providing equipment, technology and requirements for people's livelihood such as agriculture, rice milling, fishing and salt industry.

The government is making endeavours for improvement of livelihood and standard of living in implementing the rehabilitation tasks in the storm-hit areas. Local people on their part are to make continued efforts to restart agriculture, the major sector of the State's economy and for socio-economic progress of the people, and development of rice milling, salt industry and fishing.

Economic, education and social conditions are gradually improving as the entire people including national entrepreneurs are carrying out rehabilitation tasks in the storm-ravaged areas in accord with the requirements of the respective areas.



People's Desire

* **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**

Durable houses for storm survivors being constructed

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — With the assistance of the government, companies are engaged in the construction of houses for storm victims who lost their houses in the storm. The house under construction is of wooden type and 16 feet x 20 feet wide with CI sheet roofing.

Htoo Trading Company is constructing houses for storm victims in Kyeinchaunggyi Village, Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Division while Ngwe Hsin Company is building houses for storm victims in Sethsan Village, Bogale Township.—*MNA*

Sewing machines donated to storm victims

YANGON, 22 June— Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint accepted 140 sewing machines worth K 6,720,000 donated by Managing Director U Aung Moe Kyaw of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd and 10 sewing machines worth K 480,000 by Commander of Thanlyin Station Cmdr Moe Aung for storm victims at the Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township here this afternoon. The deputy minister presented certificate of honour to donors.—*MNA*

***Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint accepts sewing machines donated by MD U Aung Moe Kyaw of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd.*—SOCIAL WELFARE**

World Population Day Commemorative Essay Contests organized

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — Jointly organized by Ministry of Immigration and Population and the UNFPA, the essay contests at basic education middle and high school level and university and college level to mark the World Population Day 2008 were held at Ywadaw BEHS No. 3 in Nay Pyi Taw and the Assembly Hall of University of Agriculture in Yezin, here, today.

Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the World Population Day 2008 Director-General of Population Department U Maung Myint, Director-General of Immigration and National Registration Department U Maung Maung Than, committee members and officials viewed the essay contests.

A total of 52 university students and 121 high and 97 middle school students of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe and Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Townships totaling 270 took part in the contests.

Similar contests were held in States and Divisions today.

MNA

***Essay contest to mark the World Population Day being held at No. 3 BEHS (Ywadaw) in Nay Pyi Taw.*—MNA**

Tribesmen from Sentani district dance on a crocodile during Sentani Lake Festival in Asei village, Jayapura district, Papua Province on 21 June, 2008. The cultural festival is aimed at promoting tourism in the area.

INTERNET

700 missing after Philippine ferry sinks

MANILA, 22 June — A Philippine passenger ferry capsized during a typhoon with more than 700 people on board, triggering a frantic search on Sunday for survivors.

Most of the 626 passengers and 121 crew are missing and the vessel's owner, Sulpicio Lines, said it had lost contact with the ferry, which was en route to Cebu from Manila, at around 12.30 pm (5:30 am British time) on Saturday.

The coast guard finally reached the area where the MV Princess of Stars sank 3 km (two miles) from Sibuyan island in the centre of the archipelago. It had been forced to abort a previous rescue mission on Saturday because of high seas. Residents from a coastal village said only the ferry's bow was visible above the waves.

Local mayor Nanette Tansingco told radio that three survivors had been found in remote villages.

"We are sending people to get them but they have to walk to get there because the roads are impassable," she said. At least four others aboard are known to have died.

Internet

Fireman and members of a rescue group help an elderly woman out of the Jaro River near Iloilo city, central Philippines on 21 June, 2008. —INTERNET

El Baradei says Mideast could burn if Iran attacked

DUBAI, 22 June — The UN nuclear watchdog chief warned in comments aired Saturday that any military strike on Iran could turn the Mideast into a "ball of fire" and lead the country to a more aggressive stance on its controversial nuclear programme.

The comments by Mohamed El Baradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, came in an interview with an Arab television station aired a day after US officials said they believed recent large Israeli military exercises may have been meant to show Israel's ability to hit Iran's nuclear sites.

"In my opinion, a military strike will be the worst ... it will turn the Middle East to a ball of fire," El Baradei said on Al-Arabiya television. It also could prompt Iran to press even harder to seek a nuclear programme, and force him to resign, he said.

Iran on Saturday also criticized the Israeli exercises. The official *IRNA* news agency quoted a government spokesman as saying that the exercises demonstrate Israel "jeopardizes global peace and security."

Internet

Rare Monroe-Gable footage auctioned

LAS VEGAS (Nevada), 22 June — Candid footage of Marilyn Monroe on the set of her last completed film brought in $60,000 at an auction of movie memorabilia Saturday.

Actress Marilyn Monroe—INTERNET

The two reels of silent, 8-millimetre colour film shot on the set of "The Misfits" had been expected to draw starting bids of between $10,000 and $20,000. The auction also included the original disco ball from "Saturday Night Fever" and an original script of "The Godfather" signed by Marlon Brando. The sale was held by Julien's Auctions at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino.

The 47-minute film, "On the Set with 'The Misfits," was shot by film extra Stanley Floyd Kilarr. It features candid moments with Monroe and co-star Clark Gable as well as Montgomery Clift, Thelma Ritter and director John Huston.

The film shows actors preparing for scenes, chatting with crew members on the set and relaxing between takes.

Internet

Storms spark dozens of fires in California

SACRAMENTO (Calif) 22 June — Thunderstorms sparked as many as 75 wildfires in a wilderness area in far Northern California on Saturday as officials farther south got close to containing a blaze that destroyed several homes and forced thousands to evacuate.

Storms overnight Friday were responsible for the large number of fires in Shasta-Trinity National Forest, near Redding. Those fires range in size from less than an acre to more than 750 acres.

None immediately threatened homes, Forest Service spokesman Michael Odle said. Teams moved in Saturday on the two largest fires.

South of San Francisco, a fire that burned homes and closed a stretch of highway was 90 percent contained and could be surrounded by the end of the day, according to officials of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. It had charred 630 acres, or less than a square mile.

"We made some good progress over the evening and hope to have the same today," said department spokesman Paul Van Gerwen, a battalion chief.

However, evacuation orders remained in place Saturday for the roughly 2,000 people who fled their homes Friday. Some evacuees spent the night at an emergency shelter set up at a local school.—*Internet*

Cal Fire crews work on structure protection near Watsonville, California, on Friday.

INTERNET

10 troops killed in attacks in Afghanistan

KABUL (Afghanistan), 22 June —Five foreign troops and five Afghan soldiers were killed in roadside bombings on Saturday, military officials said.

In the deadliest incident, a coalition convoy was struck by a roadside bomb west of the main southern city of Kandahar, killing four troops and wounding two.

US coalition spokesman Lt Col Paul Fanning said gunmen opened fire on the damaged vehicles and three Afghans also were hurt. He declined to release the nationality of the troops, who were involved in training Afghans.

In a separate incident, attackers detonated bombs and opened fire on vehicles carrying Afghan troops in Zabol and Kunar provinces, killing five soldiers and wounding three.—*Internet*

Participants dressed as ancient Greek warriors leave the ancient Nemean stadium after competing in the revival of the Nemea Games, about 110 km (68 miles) southwest of Athens, on 21 June, 2008. Since 1996, a revival of the ancient games takes place every four years in the same ancient stadium where they first took place in 573 BC.—INTERNET

Singapore launches road safety campaign

SINGAPORE, 22 June— Singapore on Saturday launched this year's road safety campaign as part of its efforts to reduce traffic accidents, which have already killed 53 people in the first quarter of this year.

According to Channel NewsAsia reports, launching the campaign, which will focus on motorcyclists, elderly pedestrians and foreign cyclists as they made up over half the 214 people killed in road accidents last year, Singapore's Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs and Law Ho Peng Kee urged drivers to look out for the three vulnerable groups of road users, particularly elderly pedestrians.

Motorists must also remind themselves to always look for ways to improve their driving behaviour, the minister added.

Of those killed in the first quarter of this year, about half were motorcyclists and pillion riders.

To remind the public to look out and stay safe, there will be exhibitions on road safety, workshops and programmes during the campaign.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Gulf investors confident in Turkey's economy

ANKARA, 22 June — Investors from the Gulf region expressed great confidence in the dynamic of Turkish economy despite current political uncertainty, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported Friday.

"No matter who is in charge and which political party rules, the Turkish economy has benefited a great deal due to the policies of the past few years and continues to be a key market for Gulf investors," said the report, quoting Amjad Ahmad, chief executive of Kuwait's Nbk Capital Investment and Merchant Banking.

"Considering the given huge liquidity surplus in our region and the lack of investments opportunities within the region itself, Middle East investors have to look outside," Ahmad said at the Euromoney Turkey Finance and Investment Forum on Friday.

Speaking on the likely effects of the political uncertainty on foreign investors, Ahmad voiced his faith in Turkey.

"It is a strong economy and things are improving day by day... The Gulf's private equity funds consider Turkey as a safe haven to invest in the long-term," he said. With strong performance in Turkey's economic growth, foreign direct investments in the country witnessed a huge increase to 22 billion US dollars in 2007.

MNA/Xinhua

Tiger kills three Bangladeshis in village attack

KHULNA(Bangladesh), 22 June — A tiger killed three people in Bangladesh before villagers trapped the animal and beat it to death on Saturday, police said.

The tiger stormed into the village late on Friday, killing the three people, then continued to roam the settlement until panicked villagers re-grouped and lured it into a trap.

The incident occurred at a remote village near Shamnagar Police Station, near the Sundarbans mangrove forests, 400 kilometres (250) miles southwest of the capital Dhaka. The Sundarban -is a UNESCO World Heritage site and home to the Royal Bengal tigers.

MNA/Reuters

Thai S insurgents attack passenger train

BANGKOK, 22 June — Thai southern insurgents on Saturday evening launched gun attack on a train bounding from southern Yala Province to Narathiwat Province, killing four railway workers, local Traffic Radio FM 100 reported.

According to the radio report, a total of six insurgents who were taking the train broke into the crew bogie of the train while it was passing Ragae district of Narathiwat.

The insurgents shot at the trainmen, killing four of them, including a railway policeman, a train mechanic, a train staff and a cleaner.

One train policeman was also severely injured in the attack.

Shortly after the attack, another group of insurgents hidden beside the railway launched heavy gun attack against the locomotive, forcing the train to make an emergency brake, the report said. All the attackers escaped from the scene before police rushed to the scene and launched a manhunt.

MNA/Xinhua

Bulgarian Karakachani girls perform with their traditional dress during a Karakachani's festival in the Bulgarian capital Sofia, on 21 June, 2008. The Karakachani is minority ethnic group who live mostly in Bulgaria and Greece and every year gather for a festival celebrating their tradition and culture.
INTERNET

A resident removes items from his flooded home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on 20 June, 2008.—INTERNET

China tornado wrecks 650 homes

BEIJING, 22 June — A tornado in China tore up 650 houses in just five minutes and damaged nearly 1,000, state media said on Sunday, but only one person died.

The tornado touched down in the eastern province of Anhui on Saturday, causing 18.5 million yuan (2.7 million US dollars) in losses.

Forty-five people, including eight seriously wounded, were taken to hospital after the tornado hit in Lingbi county, *Xinhua* news agency said.

One 76-year-old villager died on the way to hospital.

More than 20,000 people were "affected" by the tornado and 950 were relocated, *Xinhua* said.

MNA/Reuters

Brazil to invest oil revenues in education

RIO DE JANEIRO, 22 June — Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva will invest revenues from the recently discovered deep-water oil reserves off the country's southeastern coast in education, Brazil's Chief of Staff Dilma Rousseff said on Thursday.

Rousseff said Lula believed oil revenue must benefit the entire population of the country through massive investment in education, including research, innovation and technology, the local daily *O Globo* reported.

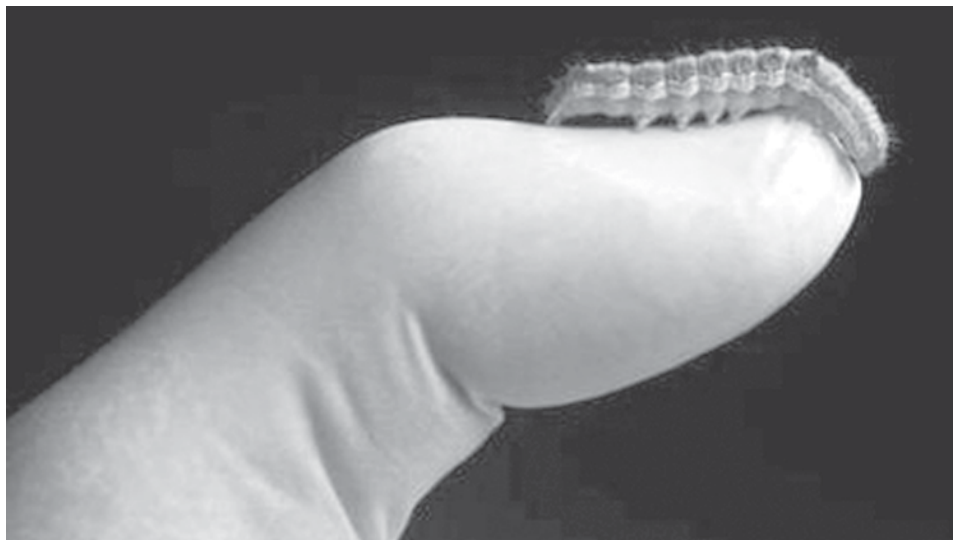
Rousseff added the way in which the investment will take place has yet to be decided and Lula has initiated an internal debate on the matter among his ministers.

Brazil's state-owned oil and gas giant Petrobras will participate in the discussion, and the government is considering hiring an international consulting firm, the minister added.

Rousseff said Petrobras has yet to quantify the revenues that could be generated from the new oil fields.

Petrobras has announced several discoveries of oil and gas deposits in deep waters off Brazil's southeastern coast in recent months. Since then, the company has been drilling to measure the size of the oil fields as well as their commercial potential.

Xinhua



The caterpillar of the cotton bollworm moth (helicoverpa armigera) sits on the thumb of a technician in a laboratory in Melbourne on 18 June, 2008. The genetic secrets of the world's worst agricultural pest, which is resistant to nearly every class of chemical pesticide, will be unlocked within months, with scientists saying it could lead to new ways of controlling the bollworm moth that causes $5 billion of damage to crops around the world. In a project funded by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and the University of Melbourne, researchers are now working to sequence its genome, with results expected in about four months.—INTERNET

All items From Xinhua News Agency

Jordan seeks full membership in EEC

AMMAM, 22 June — Jordan is determined to further strengthen its ties with the Energy Charter Secretariat to work closely towards full membership in the European Energy Charter (EEC), local daily *Jordan Times* reported Thursday.

Jordanian Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Suhair Al-Ali Wednesday received visiting Ambassador Andre Mernier, Secretary General of the EEC Secretariat and an accompanying delegation in Amman, the report said. Al-Ali stressed the importance Jordan attaches to strengthening relations with the EEC at the current stage, in the light of the challenges it faces in the energy sector.

Full membership will allow Jordan, currently an observer of the EEC, to develop its cooperation with member countries in numerous areas, such as promoting joint investments, developing energy resources including renewable and alternative energy sources, energy efficiency, technology transfer and encouraging innovation, according the minister.

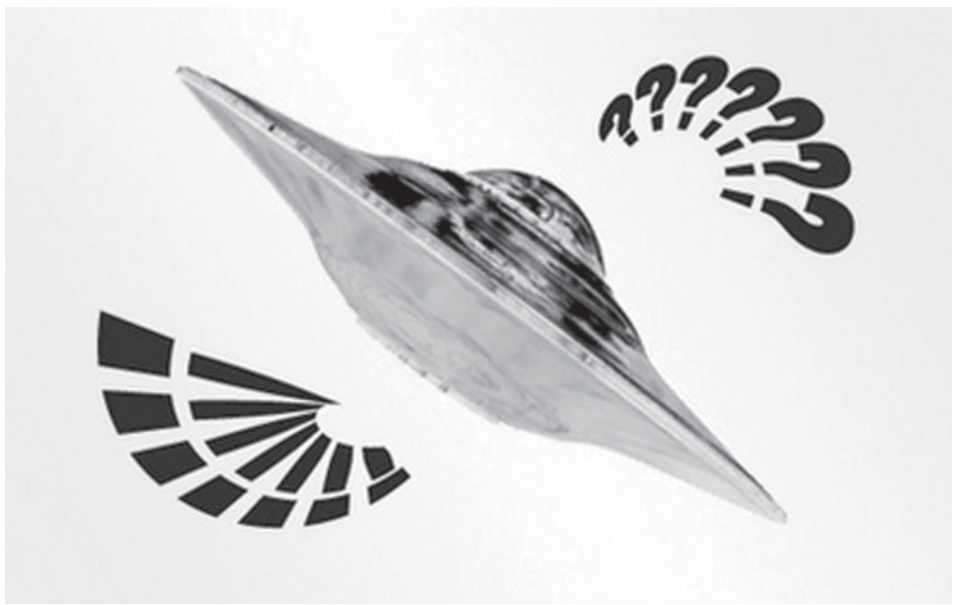
Mernier, for his part, expressed his full understanding of the challenges facing Jordan in the energy sector.

Xinhua

Lebanon rejects direct talks with Israel

BEIRUT, 22 June — The Lebanese Government rejected direct bilateral talks with Israel the Jewish state has called for to reach a peace deal between the two bordering countries, local *As-Safir* daily reported Thursday.

"Lebanon's position is clear to all, and there is no place for bilateral negotiations between Lebanon and Israel," Prime Minister Fouad Seniora's Press office said in a statement late Wednesday. The statement also said the Lebanese territories occupied by Israel are subjected to "UN Security Council resolutions that do not require any negotiations". "Israel is obliged to withdraw from Lebanese territories in line with UN Resolutions 425 and 1701," the statement added. —*Xinhua*



UFO enthusiasts got a boost Friday when Welsh police confirmed that one of their helicopter crews had spotted an "unusual aircraft" flying over Cardiff earlier this month.—INTERNET

China completes evacuating 110,000 from quake centre

WENCHUAN (Sichuan), 22 June — China has finished evacuating 111,476 people from an area near the epicentre of last month's earthquake in Sichuan Province to avoid secondary disasters triggered by heavy rains.

A total of 72,000 people in quake-hit Wenchuan County have been relocated hours before it started to rain on Wednesday night. The three-day mass relocation concluded at 8 pm, said the Aba prefectural work team of disaster prevention, just two hours before a heavy rain hit the county. Wu Zegang, deputy party secretary of Aba, said the risks of inundation and geological disasters such as landslide will rise in the looming main flood season.— *Xinhua*

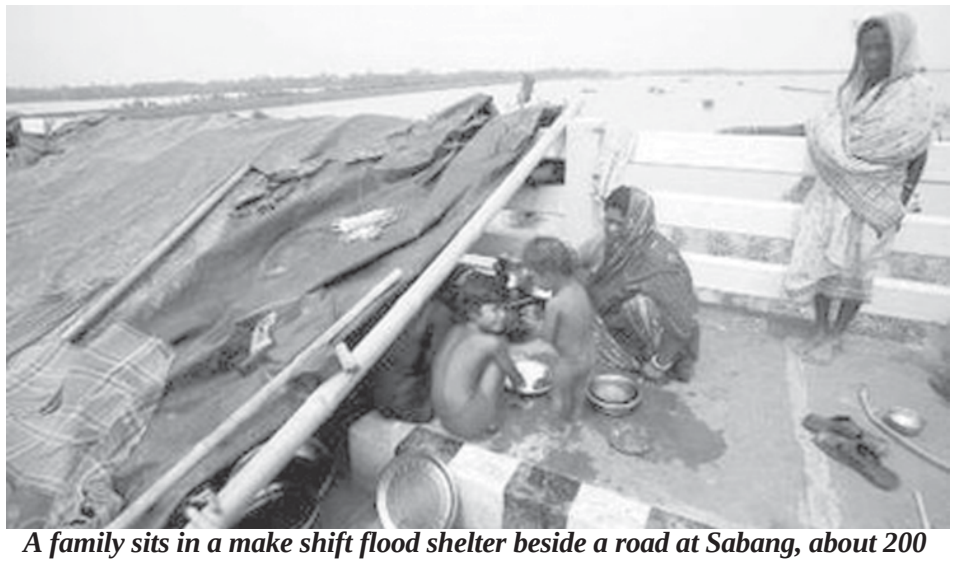
Indonesia to host Asian-African conference on Palestine

JAKARTA, 22 June — Indonesia and South Africa will co-chair an Asian-African Conference on Palestine in Jakarta on 14-15 July, 2008, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

"The foreign ministerial level conference is aimed at increasing Palestine's capacity," *Antara* news agency quoted Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Teuku Faizasyah as saying here on Friday. The conference differs from the donors' conference held in Paris several months ago because the Jakarta conference would put emphasis on building Palestine's capacity, he said. "It will focus on implementable projects," Faizasyah said.

He said the idea to hold the conference came up after seeing that 50 years after the Afro-Asian Conference in Bandung (Indonesia) in 1955, it had turned out that there was still a country which had not yet gained independence.

Xinhua



A family sits in a make shift flood shelter beside a road at Sabang, about 200 km (124 miles) west from the eastern Indian city of Kolkata, on 21 June , 2008. Flood victims in eastern India took refugee on treetops as monsoon rains swamped homes and continued to spread misery among millions.—INTERNET

It has come to their knowledge

Hlaing Aung

I happened to read an article "In Myanmar, surprising recovery" featured in 17-6-2008 issue of the International Herald Tribune Newspaper Website.

It said that about six weeks after the outbreak of the Cyclone Nargis the medical doctors and staff of INGOs, who had given health care in the storm-hit areas, on their return disclosed the situations in the areas were not as bad as expected.

Regarding the storm, the media of the West bloc made various accusations against Myanmar. So did high-ranking officials of certain western countries.

Of the two major accusations, the first said that tens of thousands of victims lost their lives due to the fact that in the aftermath of the natural disaster, foreign aid (foreign warships) were not allowed to enter the nation and rescue tasks could not be carried out in time.

The other was that millions of victims would die of hunger because the Myanmar government did not take care of the storm victims, nor did it provide food or health care. And tens of thousands of victims would die of dysentery and diarrhoea due to consumption of unsafe water.

When the government refuted the accusations, they accused the government of inventing news and imposing a news blackout.

However, in the article sent from Yangon, some foreigners who had made trips to the storm-affected areas said that the accusations were untrue.

Charge d' Affaires ai Ms Shari Villarosa of US Embassy to Myanmar said, "I'm not getting the sense that there have been a lot of deaths as a result of the delay".

The US defence secretary said that the Myanmar government delayed accepting international assistance at the cost of tens of thousands of lives. He accused the government of committing crimes of neglect. In fact, the accusations were based on news from unreliable sources.

In a news story, doctors, rescue workers and diplomats said that storm victims did not die of hunger before they met rescue workers because they were farmers and fishermen who were resistant enough to harsh weather. And they survived, eating coconut, fish and wet rice.

I have much knowledge about the Ayeyawady delta where the people can catch fish at home when female fishes migrate upstream for spawning in the beginning of the rainy season. So, in an article, I wrote that Ayeyawady dwellers could survive even if they did not have chocolates from international community, thereby attracting criticisms from West media groups, especially from Myanmar national staff of the media groups. I wonder what they will respond to the words of the foreign doctors and diplomats who said that storm victims continued to survive, consuming the fishes they caught.

I also learnt from that news that foreigners were surprised by Myanmar people's high resilience. Leader Frank Smithuis of Medecins Sans Frontieres for Myanmar said that hundreds of thousands of people were dead or missing during the storm, but the survivors were not injured or sick seriously. He said, "You were dead or you were in OK shape".

The survivors, who needed medical operations, had already received health care given by Myanmar doctors from the regional hospitals and dispensaries. Therefore, Merlin voluntary medical team from Britain cancelled the plan to call surgeons as they were not necessary.

As regards possible spread of infectious diseases, according to the record that said Medecins Sans Frontieres for Myanmar gave health care to some 30,000 patients in six weeks, the majority of the patients suffered from light injuries, cold, cough and respiratory diseases and diarrhoea. The patients suffering from cold, cough and diarrhoea were not in a serious condition, and the rate of outbreak of those diseases was normal. Myanmar doctor Myat Myat Win of Medecins Sans Frontieres for Myanmar said that during the period of 25 days, on average, she gave treatment to about 25 patients a day, and the spread of diarrhoea was not serious.

Here, I would like to rebut the accusations that the health conditions of the victims were shocking because the Myanmar government did nothing in that regard. If Myanmar doctors, medical staf and members of Defence Services medical units did not give treatment to the patients who went to see doctors soon after the catastrophe, I wondered if Merlin medical team needed to cancel the plan to call surgeons. And if Myanmar doctors and medical staff did not give diarrhoea vaccine or chlorinate the water in advance, it was food for thought that why didn't the victims suffering from diarrhoea go to see the doctors of Medecins Sans Frontieres for Myanmar en masse.

After reading the article, I noticed that the doctors, rescue workers and diplomats were surprised by the fact that unlike other fellow regional countries, Myanmar did not receive much international assistance, but Myanmar victims recovered from the disaster in a short time. So, the article was titled "In Myanmar, surprising recovery".

Indeed, it was no wonder that they were surprised. The reason why they were surprised was that developed countries especially western countries have a wrong belief that without their assistance, the peoples of developing countries do not know how and what to do in times of emergency.

In practice, the situations of Myanmar were not as bad as they thought. Some international aid organizations and Myanmar staff of those organizations had been stationed in the country before the storm Nargis. Medecins Sans Frontiere, for example, has been in Myanmar since 1993, and it has over 1000 Myanmar staff. Merlin medical team of Britain had trained 547 health staff two years before Nargis that hit the western part of the delta.

When the storm hit Myanmar, Medecins Sans Frontieres sent 48 Myanmar doctors and over 250 Myanmar rescue workers to the storm-hit areas. Moreover, half of the health staff trained by Merlin medical team contributed services to the health care services.

With respect to the medicines and medical equipment, UNICEF had stored water purifying tablets and other medical equipment in Yangon. So, it delivered tablets and medical equipment as soon as the natural disaster abated. World Food Programme (WFP) had been stationed in Myanmar. So, it purchased and distributed domestic rice as soon as possible. It distributed about 15,000 tons of food.

That was why international organizations that had been already stationed in Myanmar managed to carry out rescue tasks effectively with the use of competent Myanmar workers although it did not have many foreign staff.

Another root cause of Myanmar people's quick recovery was the internal strength. Concerning the internal strength, foreign diplomats praised the generous donations of individuals and organizations. Second Secretary Ms Ruth Bradley Jones of the Embassy of the United Kingdom said that the performances of local organizations, medical teams and some entrepreneurs were very encouraging. Really, they were heroes in the rescue tasks, she said.

However, under the undeclared rule of the western media, the article did not feature anything to praise the Myanmar government.

Anyhow, owing to the close supervision of the Prime Minister over the rescue works that were launched even on 3 May when the storm occurred, combined efforts made day in, day out by hundreds of thousands of servicemen, service personnel and members of social organizations headed by a minister in a storm-hit township, close supervision of the Head of State and the Deputy Head of State, rescue and rehabilitation tasks were materialized in a short time. That was a tangible proof.

Similarly, the government provided foodstuff, clothes, health care, transportation services, choppers, chopping hoes, blankets, mats, shelter boxes, paddy seeds for cultivation, fishing nets, fishing boats, fertilizers, power-tillers and draught cattle. Besides, it constructed embankments, sheltering hillocks, and emergency roads, spending billions of kyats. If one views that with positive attitude, one will see as they really are.

Doctors and rescue workers from international community and diplomats have witnessed and accepted the prevailing situations, as the saying that goes, "Seeing is believing".

As for some Myanmar staff from certain media who said that what was worse than the storm Nargis was the danger of blacking out the news, if they are still self-opinionated, they will not be in a position to realize the prevailing conditions of the nation because they are blackening the truth and misleading others into misunderstanding things, and they are still under delusion.

Translation: MS

The root cause of Myanmar people's quick recovery was the internal strength. Concerning the internal strength, foreign diplomats praised the generous donations of individuals and organizations.

Minister inspects production of high quality transformers

YANGON, 22 June—Minister for Electric Power No.2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected into Soe Electric and Machinery Co Ltd in Dagon (South) Industrial zone-1 today. At the factory, executive-director of the Co U Kyaw Min Tun explained production of different sizes of quality transformers, repair of Rotor of Thakayta Natural Gas plant to the minister and Chief Engineer of Gas turbine and Steamed turbine Department U Than Lwin made supplementary reports.

The Minister called for production of high quality electrical appliances and transformers, early completion of maintenance works.

Next, the minister and party inspected different kinds of manufactured transformers, maintenance of the machines, lathes for production of large-scale transformers and construction of new plant to manufacture transformers and attended to the requirements.—*MNA*

***Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects Soe Electric and Machinery Co Ltd in Dagon Myothit (South).*— No 2 EP**

Storm survivors receive health care in Bogale Township

YANGON, 22 June – Under the arrangement of the Ministry of Health, health care services is being provided to storm victims in Bogale Township. A mobile medical team led by Dr Tin Maung Swe of National TB Control Project and Advisor Dr Myint Thaung of WHO carried out health care services in remote areas in the township from 12 to 17 June.

The two 15-member groups including health staff of the township went to 35 villages in Alechaung and Pyinbolay village-tracts and provided medical treatments to patients with TB, leprosy and malaria and other patients and gave vaccines and tonic to the expectant women and children.

The teams also performed chlorination, distributed health education pamphlets and gave talks on infectious diseases.

MNA

***Mobile medical team giving medical treatment to patients in Thazin village, Bogale Township.*— HEALTH**

MWEA donates relief aids to storm survivors in Mawlamyinegyun Tsp

YANGON, 22 June—Daw Yi Yi Myint, founder of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association, Secretary Daw Hla Wadi, Executive Daw Khin Swe Myint and party, with the assistance of Mawlamyinegyun Township Relief, Resettlement and Rehabilitation Supervisory Committee, Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Mawlamyinegyun Township Association, is having the schools in Tiseitpayasu and Ngwezinyaw villages in Mawlamyinegyun Township repaired. They also donated cash to 20 primary students who cannot afford to go to school as the programme of Pyinya Mikhin and blankets, mosquito-nets, pillows, water purification tablets, buckets, clothing, foodstuff and medicines to the storm survivors.

Similarly, they donated 20 bags of rice, personal goods, water purification tablets, blankets, mosquito-nets, buckets and other relief supplies worth K 840,000 to storm victims in Tonehlechaung in Myoma-8 Ward on the other bank of Mawlamyinegyun.

MNA

Charity play 25-27 June

YANGON, 22 June — To raise the funds for storm victims, the theatrical drama, organized by Myanmar Thabin Asiayon (Central), will be staged at the National Theatre in Mandalay from 25 to 27 June. — *MNA*

Entries invited to take part in ASEAN Anthem Contest

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — An ASEAN Anthem Contest will be held before the 14th ASEAN Summit to be held in December 2008.

The anthem is to be composed in English. The work must be own creation. The text must reflect the prestige of ASEAN National Anthem, the solidarity and integration of ASEAN and the variety of culture and nationals of ASEAN. The contestant may create the anthem with the melody in Myanmar or international or the mixed melody of Myanmar and international. The duration of the anthem must be about one minute. The anthem must be submitted with a CD attached to the text and music notes. (The scrutinizing committee prefers the anthem to be created with music by piano.) The works are to be submitted not later than 31 July 2008.

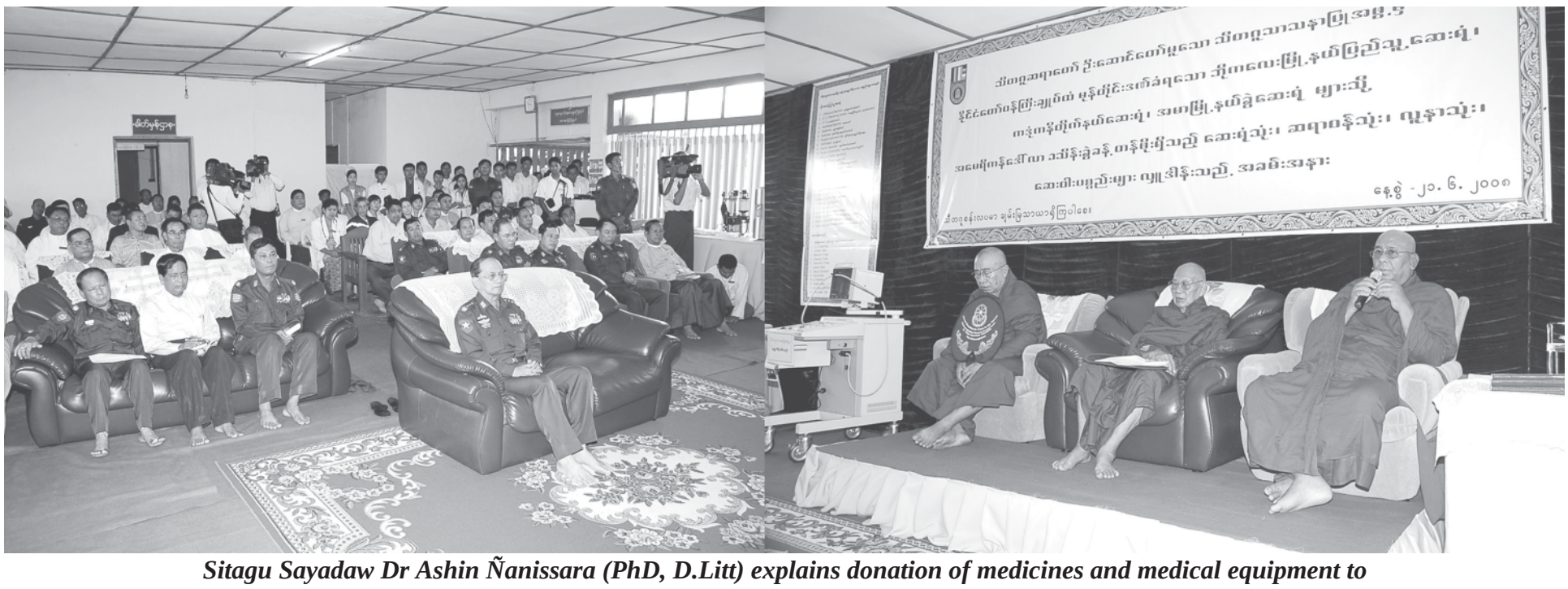
The ASEAN National Anthem Scrutinizing Committee of the Ministry of Information will scrutinize 20 entries tentatively and send them to Thailand. The ASEAN National Anthem Selection Committee formed with one renowned artiste each from ASEAN+3 will select the best one of the entries.

If necessary, the selected anthem will be edited. Afterwards, the best anthem will be designated as the copyright song. At the 14th ASEAN Summit, the best anthem will be played to the accompaniment of Orchestra Version of Thailand.

The committee will present US$ 20,000 to the winner. However, those who were just selected tentatively in the list of 20 will not win the rewards.

The entries must be sent to U Hla Swe, Director (Broadast), Myanma Radio, Pyay Road, Yangon. For further information, dial 067-79475 of U Hla Swe, Director (Broadcast).

MNA



Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Ñanissara (PhD, D.Litt) explains donation of medicines and medical equipment to hospitals in Bogale, Kadonkani of Pyapon Township and Ahmar Township.—MNA

Chairman of NDPCC Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends ceremony to present medicines, medical equipment worth US$ 150,000 for storm victims donated by Sitagu Missionary Group

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June—Chairman of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein yesterday morning attended the ceremony to present a variety of medicines and medical equipment worth US$ 150,000 for storm victims donated by Sitagu Missionary Group led by the Sitagu Sayadaw held at Bogale Township People's Hospital, Ayeyawady Division.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Ñanissara (PhD, D.Litt), members of the Sangha led by Chairman of Bogale Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Zeyamedani Monastery Bhaddanta Ñanavamsa, Secretary Presiding Sayadaw of Kyaikpi Monastery Bhaddanta Jatila and was also attended by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, members of NDPCC ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers, the Director-General of the Government Office, heads of departments, those from the Ministry of Health, physicians, specialists, doctors, nurses, well-wishers of Sitagu Missionary Group and local people.

The ceremony was opened with the recitation of *Namo Tassa* three times.

Next, Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Ñanissara (PhD, D.Litt) explained the purpose of the donation of medicines to Bogale Township People's Hospital, Kadonkani Station Hospital and Ahmar Hospital.

Afterwards, Kapiya Karaka Secretary of Sitagu Missionary Group U Han, on behalf of the Sitagu Sayadaw, presented medicines, medical equipment and related documents to Bogale Township People's Hospital through Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

Next, Kapiya Karaka member of Sitagu Missionary Group U Than Lwin handed medicines, medical equipment and related documents to Ahmar Hospital through Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung.

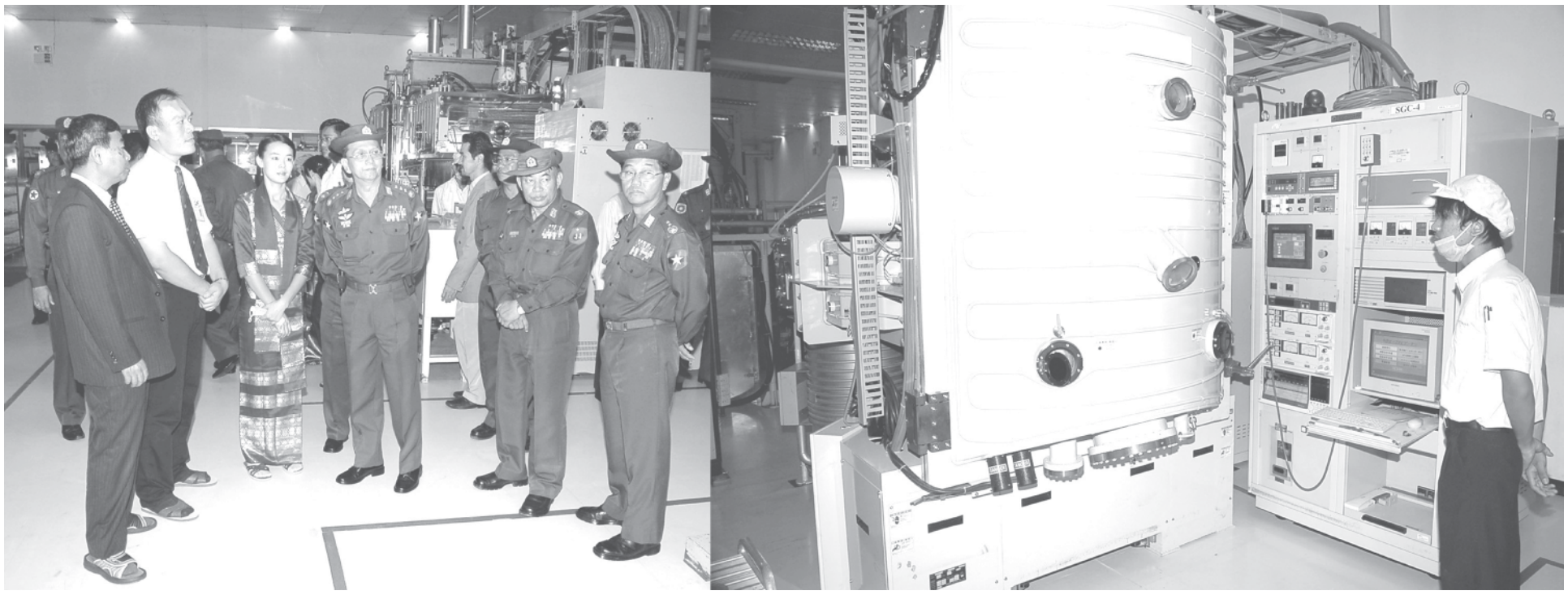
Kapiya Karaka member of Sitagu Missionary Group U Maung Maung Aye presented medical equipment and related documents to Kadonkani Station Hospital through Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo.

Later, Chairman of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein spoke words of thanks. He said that the donations made by Sitagu Missionary Group include medical equipment and generators for hospitals in addition to various kinds of medicines and they will contribute a lot to patients as medical equipment such as ECG, Ultrasound are indispensable for medical treatment. He was pleased to hear that well-wishers led by Sitagu Sayadaw donated over 130,000 CI sheets for renovation of monasteries that were damaged in the storm and cash in addition to foods, bags of rice, clothes and kitchen utensils, he added. The country was hit hard by the severe storm on 2 and 3 May and it was the first ever for the nation to experience the impact of such natural disaster which caused the loss of many lives and property, he said and thanked well-wishers led by Sitagu Sayadaw who contributed their share out of compassion in the rehabilitation of storm-hit regions and gave a helping hand to storm survivors.

Afterwards, the Chairman of NDPCC and members, well-wishers and those present on the occasion shared merits gained for the donations and the ceremony ended with the recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu* three times.

Later, the Chairman of NDPCC and members looked into medicines and medical equipment donated by Sitagu Missionary Group. — *MNA*

Prime Minister General Thein Sein views medical equipment donated by Sitagu Missionary Group led by Sitagu Sayadaw.—MNA



***Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects production process at Lens Factory of Myanmar Asia Optical International Co Ltd.*—MNA**

Government permits companies wishing to invest in Myanmar …

(from page 1)

Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein submitted the reports on assistance being provided to foreign companies for their convenience in making investment.

In his instructions, the Prime Minister said that they came to the factory to fulfil its requirements after looking into improvement of the factory. The government will make arrangements for supply of electricity to be generated from hydropower projects to factories at industrial zones, he said. He said that there prevails stability, security and peace in the nation. He continued to say that the investing companies gain profits through productions, and the people have job opportunities at the factories and workshops, he added. Therefore, he said, the government permits the companies wishing to invest in Myanmar in accord with the prescribed rules and regulations.

Managing Director Mr Chen Hsi Wang of the company thanked the Prime Minister for his encouragement.

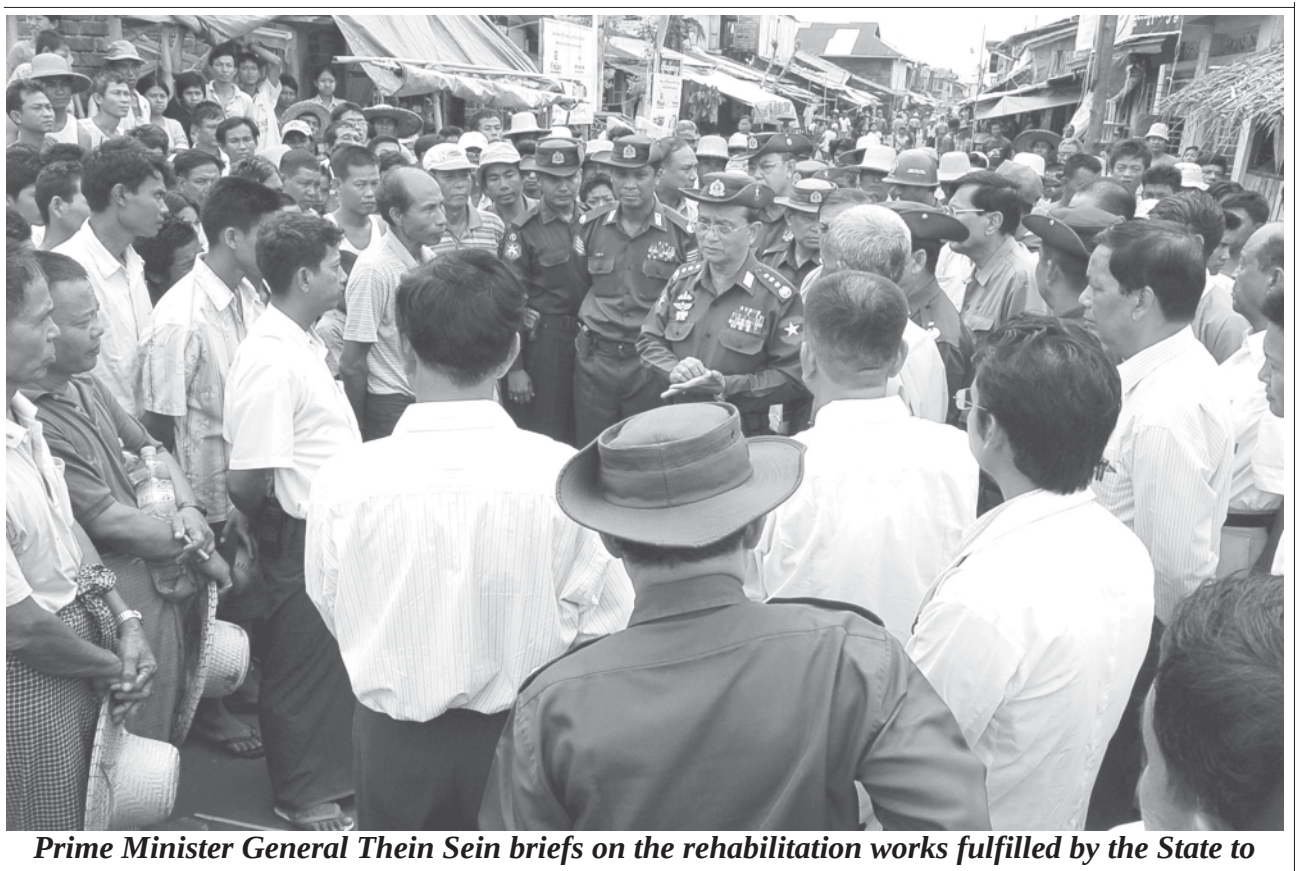
The Prime Minister and party posed for documentary photo together with responsible persons of the company.

Next, responsible persons explained production procedures of lens and sample lens. The Prime Minister viewed production process of lens.

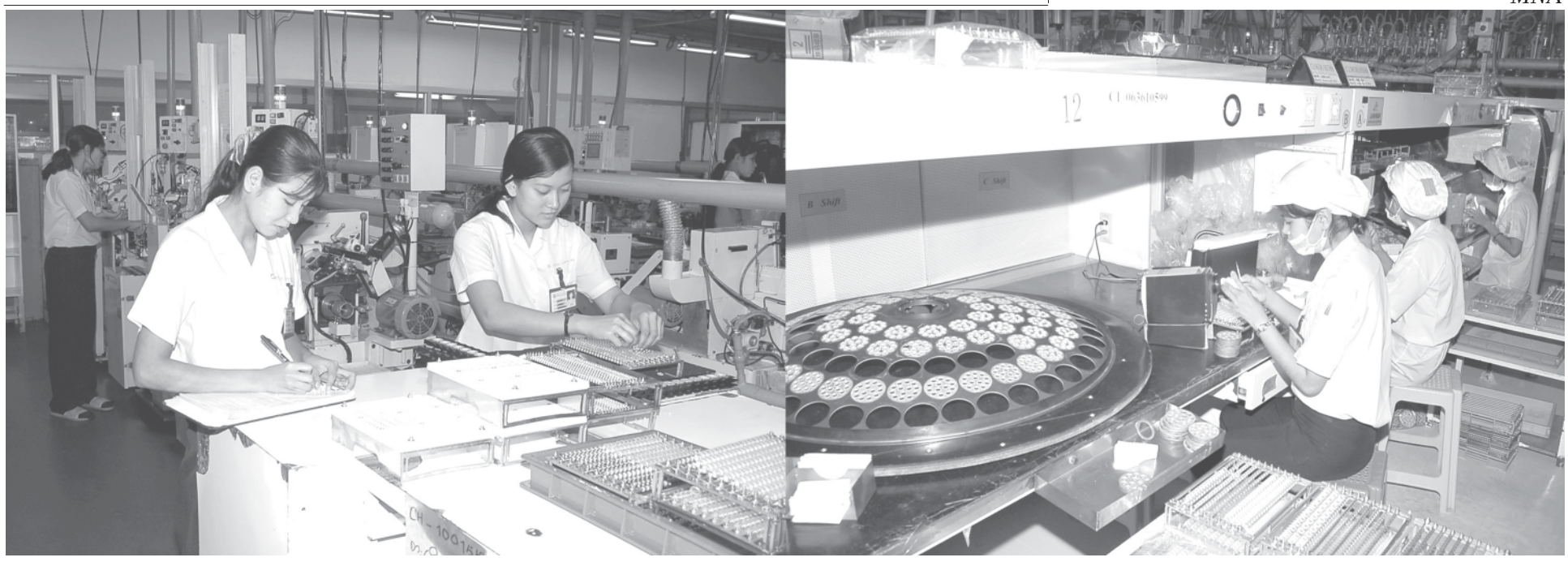
At Finished Wood Products and Furniture Factory of Royal Family Co at Wood Based Industrial Zone in Shwepyitha Township, responsible persons of Royal Family Co reported on construction of homes for storm victims. Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, Prime Minister General Thein Sein gave necessary instructions.

MNA



***Prime Minister General Thein Sein briefs on the rehabilitation works fulfilled by the State to residents in Labutta Township.* (News Reported)—MNA**



***Employees producing lens at a factory in Mingaladon Industrial Zone.*—MNA**

Not gullible are we

Zhu Kay Khaing

I am very fond of listening to the radio. In my spare time I tune in Myanmar and English programmes broadcast by various broadcasting stations worldwide. I listen to not only the broadcasts of England, the US, India, China and Thailand but also religious broadcasts. I do not listen to one particular broadcasting station. Listening to various broadcasts is like having a particular food cooked differently. The meat is the same but the taste is different. I noticed that the stations broadcast the same news story but listeners can make it out different in meaning. Here is an example.

A broadcasting station of the west broadcast something like Myanmar government staged the show of the destruction of narcotic drugs in connection with the news of destruction of narcotic drugs in the presence of the diplomats in Myanmar. Other news agencies broadcast the same news with correct goodwill. The broadcast violates the press ethics in a deceitful way regardless of the fact that the news and opinion must be reported separately. I noticed their ill will.

When I listen to the news broadcast by the news agencies, I vividly realize the attitudes of those broadcasting stations towards our country. If one sometimes eats bread with fungus, it cannot harm his life. However, if he always eats the unwholesome food, he may know only when the disease reaches level 2 or 3 and may die. Broadcasting is an electronic media and I also notice that there are few chances to think while listening to the radio but there is ample time to think while reading a newspaper (print media). Radio can widely influence the opinion of the people at low cost. Listening to the radio does not cost much. There are less restraints on time and place for the listeners in comparison with other media. Everybody can listen to a broadcast at ease.

No matter how much other media technology develops, the developed nations cannot relinquish radio broadcasting service. They have extended their services because it is a job that can gain many advantages at low cost. Radio Free Europe broadcast news to the East European nations for many years. RFE stopped its broadcasting service when the Soviet Union collapsed. They no longer spent money on the broadcasting as their objective of pulling down the countries had been accomplished.

The various broadcasting stations broadcast news with certain targets in order to serve their interest.

As a listener, I realize the targets of the various broadcasting stations of the west in comparison with others. In the event of important developments in Myanmar, the attitude to wield their influence on others has become obvious. The broadcasting stations continuously aired the news criticising the National Convention held to lay down the basic principles for drafting the constitution. They also opposed the process of approval of the constitution in various means. They reported various programmes in order to incite the people to vote against the constitution till the last minute.

Despite loud broadcasts to influence the opinions of the people, it has been proved that Myanmar people are not that gullible, with the approval of the constitution by 92.48 per cent at the national referendum. As their goals were not achieved their broadcasting time was extended. It is time they should know that Myanmar people would believe the broadcasts with reasoning power and are not that naive.

Translation: NY

***USDA members of Group-3 of Kachin State and Magway, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions giving treatment to a child in Hsincheya Village of Labutta Township.*— MNA**

More international relief supplies arrive at Yangon International Airport

YANGON, 22 June—The international community has been donating relief supplies to regions severely hit by the storm. Relief supplies weighing 31.96 tons donated by the USA and relief aids weighing 40.79 tons donated by French-based Doctors without Borders arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

MNA

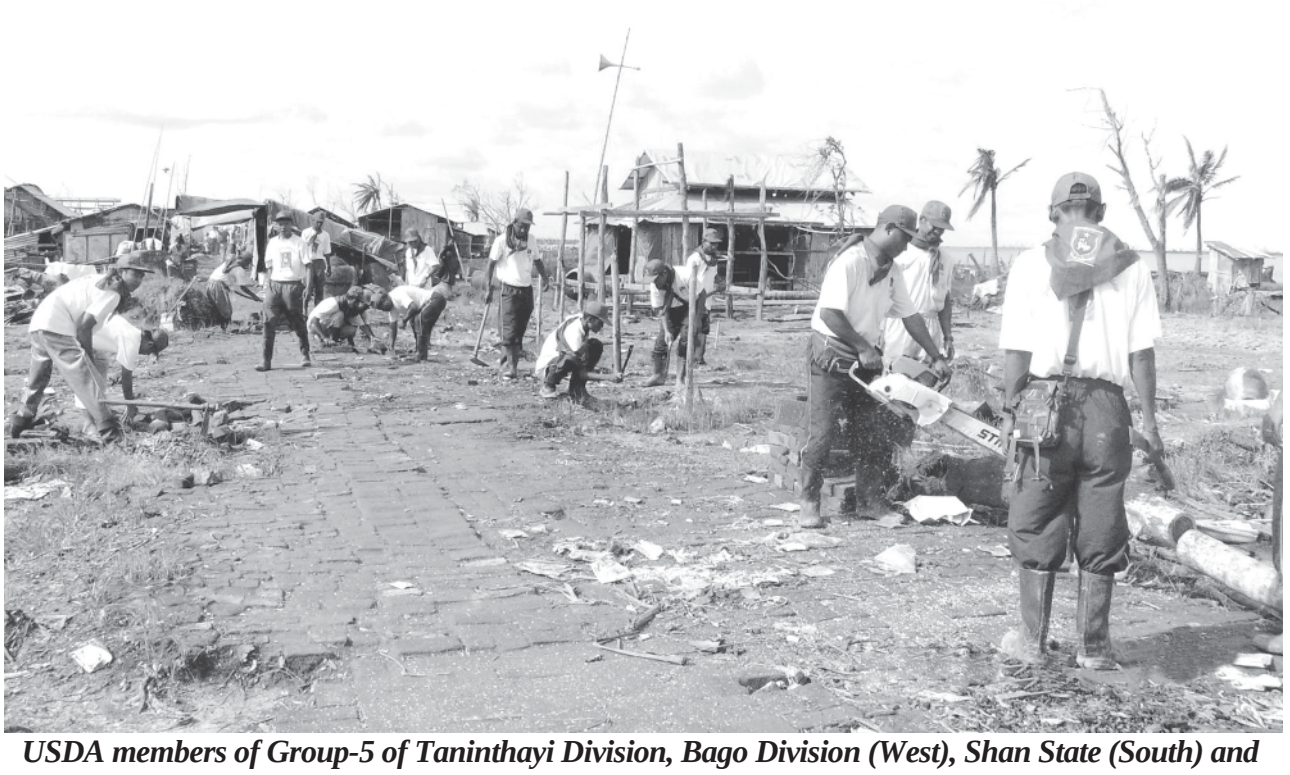
Wellwishers from states and divisions donate cash and kind to storm victims

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — Departments concerned, social organizations, wellwishers and Tatmadaw families from states and divisions are providing cash and kind to storm victims continuously. Financial Sub-committee accepted K 2,982,955 including K 100,000 by wellwishers from Kayin State, K 237,955 by wellwishers and Tatmadaw families from Mon state and K 2,645,000 by other wellwishers today. The financial sub-committee accepted K13,018,861,249 up to 22 June. — *MNA*

BEPSs opened in Labutta Township

YANGON, 22 June—Basic Education Primary School of Thinganlay village in Labutta Township and BEPSs of U-Yinkon and Sinchaeyar villages in the township have been opened on 12 and 15 June respectively.

MNA



***USDA members of Group-5 of Taninthayi Division, Bago Division (West), Shan State (South) and Ayeyawady Division clearing debris in Kyeinchang Village of Bogale Township.*—MNA**

Castro blasts EU condition on lifting sanctions

HAVANA, 22 June — Former Cuban president Fidel Castro, showing renewed vigor in recent days, lashed out on Friday at the European Union's decision to lift sanctions against Cuba while demanding the island nation improve its human rights record.

The ailing 81-year-old, in a brief but biting column released on the Internet, accused the 27-nation bloc of "enormous hypocrisy" and called its actions "disparaging".

"At my age and in my state of health, one never knows how much time they will live, but from now on I want to put in writing my contempt for the enormous hypocrisy that surrounds the decision," wrote Castro, who has been mostly on the sidelines since surgery almost two years ago.

While the EU nations say Cuba must improve its performance on human rights and release political prisoners, they mistreat illegal immigrants from Latin America by using "brutal methods" to expel them, wrote Castro, who remains head of the island nation's Communist Party.

"From Cuba, in the name of human rights, they demand impunity for those (dissidents) that try to deliver ... the homeland and the people to imperialism," he said, referring to the United States.

MNA/Reuters

Egyptian actress Nelly (L) winner of the Murex D'or Lifetime achievement for an Arabic actress and Syrian actress (R) Sulaf Fawakherji winner of the Best Arabic actress for her role in "Love and war letters" pose during the annual Murex d'or award ceremony held in Casino du Liban, north of Beirut on 20 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Contemporary Art specialist at Christie's, Pilak Ordovas, views 'Balloon Flower' by US artist Jeff Koons in central London on 19 June, 2008. The sculpture will be auctioned at the end of June and is estimated to sell for approximately 12 million pounds ($23 million).—INTERNET

Vietnam targets woodwork exports of $5b in 2010

HANOI, 22 June — Vietnam has eyed woodwork export turnovers of five billion US dollars in 2010, up from nearly 2.4 billion US dollars in 2007, according to a local industry association on Friday.

In the 2008-2010 period, annual local woodwork export to the United States is forecast to grow 27.7 per cent, Britain 27 per cent, the Netherlands 12 per cent, South Korea 10 per cent, and China 41 per cent, said the Vietnam Wood and Forest Products Processing Association.

MNA/Xinhua

China "a strong advocator" of Asia-Europe cooperation

BEIJING, 22 June — China is "a strong advocator and active participant" in the Asia-Europe cooperation, said Wu Bangguo, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) on Thursday.

"Both Asia and Europe are now at a crucial stage for development and deepening a new type of partnership that conforms to the common interests of the two sides," said Wu while meeting with heads of the delegations attending the fifth Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP).

He said China would like to further friendly relations with all nations in Asia and Europe based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.

He welcome the new members of ASEP including Romania, Bulgaria, India, Pakistan and Mongolia, and pledged to work with all ASEP members to strengthen dialogues and exchanges on the international and regional issues to facilitate the Asia-Europe meeting process.

Wu also met with parliamentary leaders from Indonesia and Finland on Thursday afternoon.

During a meeting with Agung Laksono, Indonesia House of Representatives speaker, Wu said China valued relations with Indonesia and would enhance the strategic partnership. He hoped the NPC and the Indonesian Parliament would maintain high-level contact, strengthen exchanges between the special committees, friendly working groups and other organs.

MNA/Xinhua

Obama campaign says it raised $21.9m in May

WASHINGTON, 22 June — Barack Obama raised 21.9 million US dollars in May, his campaign reported on Friday, a day after the Democratic candidate said he would reject public financing for his presidential bid. The Illinois senator's campaign said it had 43.1 million US dollars in the bank at the end of the month, with debts of about 304,000 US dollars.

The disclosure followed Obama's reversal on the question of whether he would take public financing, which drew sharp criticism from his Republican opponent, John McCain.

McCain's campaign said on Friday he raised almost as much in May — 21.5 million US dollars . He spent 11.6 million US dollars and ended the month owing 1.27 million US dollars , with 31.5 million US dollars in the bank, up 10 million US dollars from the end of April. During the primary season, he raised 96 million US dollars .

MNA/Reuters

Typhoon "Fengshen" kills at least 59 in Philippines

MANILA, 22 June — Typhoon "Fengshen" has killed at least 59 people as it has been rampaging through central Philippines since Friday night, said Philippine officials on Saturday.

The death toll from "Fengshen" in Mindanao, southern Philippines, has risen to 17 so far, said local officials of the southern Philippine regions.

Heavy floods and landslides forced thousands of residents on the islands of Samar, Panay, Negros and in northern Cebu in central Philippines to take to evacuation centres, while at least 30,000 were stranded by flood in the central city of Iloilo after a local dam overflowed, said local officials.

Strong winds also toppled trees and electric poles in several provinces in central Philippines, resulting in the death of at least three people and frequent power interruptions. Meanwhile, "Fengshen" was still intensifying and continuing its course in a northwest direction towards southern Luzon's Mindoro Province on Saturday afternoon, state weather forecasters said. The Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said the typhoon packed maximum sustained winds of 160 kilometres per hour (kph) near the centre and gustiness of up to 195 kph, and was moving northwest at 11 kph.

MNA/Xinhua

Residents wade in chest deep flood waters in Zamboanga City, southern Philippines, on 21 June, 2008 as Typhoon Fengshen passes across the country bringing torrential rains.
INTERNET

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(က) 150 KVA Generator (၂)လုံး

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China pledges parliamentary coop with Thailand, Malaysia

BEIJING, 22 June — China's top legislator Wu Bangguo met separately with his counterparts from Thailand and Malaysia on Friday, pledging to strengthen parliamentary exchange with the two countries.

Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), met with Thai Senate president Prasobsook Boondech and Abdul Hamid bin Pawanteh, the Malaysian Senate president. Both were in the capital for the fifth Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP).

"The relationship between legislatures is an important part of bilateral relations. The NPC, China's top legislature, will keep high-level exchange of visits with the Thai Parliament and strengthen exchanges among various committees and friendly groups," Wu said during his meeting with Prasobsook.

Prasobsook said the Thai Parliament sincerely hoped to have more exchanges and cooperation with the NPC, and learn from China's legislation experience in social and economic development, so as to contribute to the Sino-Thai relations.

MNA/Xinhua

EU leaders postpone decision on Lisbon Treaty

BRUSSELS, 22 June — European Union (EU) leaders decided on Friday to postpone a decision on the Lisbon Treaty following the Irish "no" vote and to recognize the difficulty faced by the Czech Republic in its ratification process.

At their two-day summit here, EU heads of state agreed that they will revisit this issue when they meet again in October.

"The European Council (of heads of state and government) agreed that more time was needed to analyze the situation," reads the final declaration of the summit.

They expressed hope that the Irish Government would be able to come up with suggestions regarding what to do next at the October summit.

"The European Council agreed to Ireland's suggestion to come back to this issue at its meeting of 15 October, 2008 in order to consider the way forward," the declaration says.

MNA/Xinhua

Po arrives at Dreamworks Animation's premiere of "Kung Fu Panda" held at Grauman's Chinese Theatre on 1 June, in Hollywood, California. The release of the US box office hit "Kung Fu Panda" has been postponed in southwest China due to the magnitude-8.0 quake that last month devastated much of the region, state Press has reported.—INTERNET

Fiat apologizes to China for TV ad for new car

MILAN, 221 June — Italian car maker Fiat has apologized to China over its new television commercial featuring US actor Richard Gere and a reference to Tibet after Chinese newspapers carried reports about it.

In a statement issued on Friday, Fiat said it did not endorse Gere's political views. The actor supports Tibet's autonomy from China.

"Fiat reiterates its neutrality in connection with any political matter, be it on a national or international basis," it said. "Fiat Group extends its apologies to the Government of the People's Republic of China and to the Chinese people." A spokesman said Fiat decided to issue the statement after reports about the commercial appeared in Chinese newspapers.

The commercial, which began airing in Italy this month, is for the Delta, a new car under Fiat's Lancia brand. It is featured on www.youtube.com. Its shows Gere driving the car from Hollywood to Tibet, whose autonomy from China he supports.

MNA/Reuters

Malaysia suspends seafood exports to EU

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 June — Malaysia has voluntarily suspended the exports of frozen seafood to the European Union, local Press reported on Friday.

An audit and re-inspection of the exporters could take three months before the exporters can resume business with the EU, the *New Straits Times* reported.

The audit on 46 seafood-process companies would take six weeks and be followed by a second round of inspection by the EU, the newspaper quoted Malaysian Health Minister Liow Tiong Lai as saying.

The European Commission held its first inspection on 8-18 April and randomly inspected nine seafood processing factories, the newspaper reported.

Six factories failed to meet EU health standards, prompting the proposed ban on Malaysia seafood imports by EU countries, it added. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Four policemen wounded in grenade attack in S Philippines

MANILA, 22 June — Four policemen were wounded in a grenade attack in a town in southern Philippine province of Zambonga Sibugay, said local television network GMA News on Saturday.

The attack, which occurred on Friday night, could be retaliation by local Muslim militants against the killing of one of their chiefs by government forces last week, said the report.

Akiddin Abdusalam, a leader of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), was killed on 14 June by government forces. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Thai Army helicopter crash kills 10 in south

BANGKOK, 22 June — A Thai Army helicopter crashed on Friday in a jungle in the country's rebellious Muslim south killing all 10 aboard, an Army spokesman said.

The Bell *UH-1H* — with six forensic experts, two pilots and two mechanics on board — suffered engine trouble in the southern province of Yala, Colonel Thanathip Sawangsang said. "The pilot was trying to make an emergency landing, but the helicopter hit the trees and crashed, killing all on board," he told *Reuters*.

The Vietnam War era aircraft was ferrying the forensic team to the site of a gun battle between Muslim rebels and security forces earlier on Friday in Yala, one of four southernmost provinces where 3,000 people have been killed since 2004. Levels of violence in the predominantly Muslim region, an independent sultanate until annexed by Buddhist-majority Thailand a century ago, appear to have fallen since more troops were deployed after a new Army chief took command in October.

MNA/Reuters

Susilo urges public to use bicycles to reduce air pollution

JAKARTA, 22 June — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has called on the public to use bicycles in their daily activities to help reduce air pollution.

Cycling had a lot of benefits, the head of state said at the presidential palace here on Friday morning before around 300 members of a "Bike to Work" community and other cycling groups.

"By using bicycles, we can preserve the environment as it can reduce the carbon dioxide rate," Yudhoyono was quoted by the national *Antara* news agency as saying. Cycling was not only good for the environment but also for human health, he said. "Besides, by using the bicycle we can save fuel and it's a far cheaper means of transportation," Yudhoyono said.

Cycling in groups also produced good feeling and was good for socialization with other people, the President said.

The President called for more frequent and regular group cycling exercises.

During their morning cycling trip, the President and Mrs. Ani Yudhoyono were accompanied among others by Minister/State Secretary Hatta Radjasa, Minister/Cabinet Secretary Sudi Silalahi, Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu, Environment Minister Rachmat Witoelar, Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Adhyaksa Dault, Transportation Minister Jusman Syafii Djamal, and Central Jakarta Mayor Sylviana Murni. Jakarta is considered to be one of the most polluted cities in the world.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Indeever the young Snowleopard cub, is seen in Zuerich Zoo, after his first vaccinations on 20 June, 2008. Indeever was born on 27 April, 2008.—INTERNET

Russian strategic bombers patrol Arctic, Atlantic Oceans

MOSCOW, 22 June — Four Russian strategic bombers are conducting an aerial patrol of the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported on Friday.

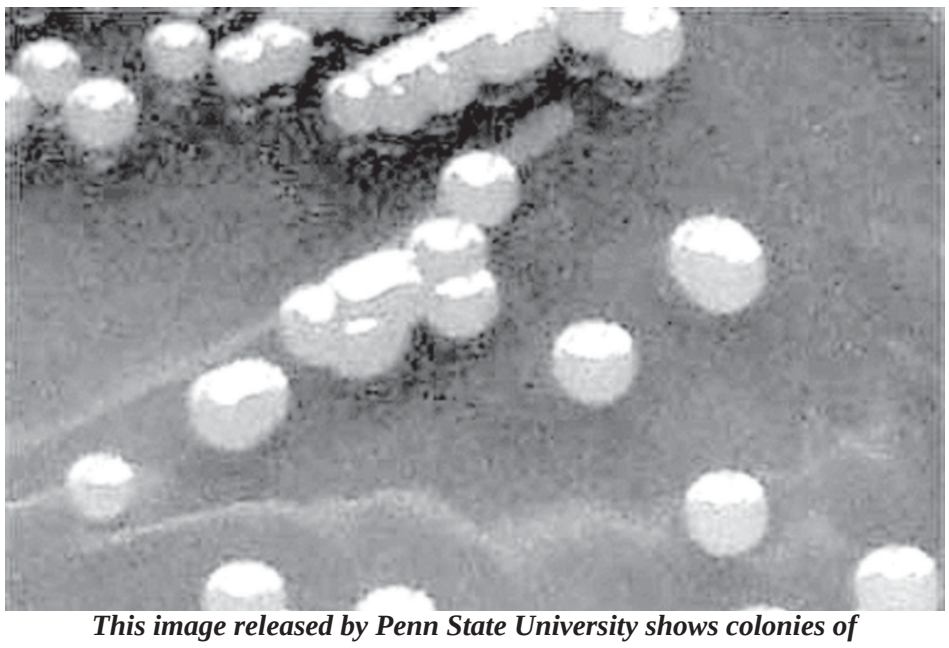
Two *Tu-95 MS* and two *Tu-22 M3* took off from the Engels airbase in the Saratov region, said Air Force spokesperson Vladimir Drik.

"Teamwork of crews and different elements of flight training are being drilled during the flights, including the most complex one—midair refueling from Il-78 tanker planes," he was quoted as saying.

Two tanker planes are taking part in the air patrol. Refuelling in the air allows long-range planes to fly at least 24 hours.

All flights are being carried out in accordance with international norms, without violating the borders of other countries, Drik said.

MNA/Xinhua



This image released by Penn State University shows colonies of Chryseobacterium greenlandensis, a form of extreme life, growing on an agar medium in a petri dish. A single colony contains millions of cells and is large enough to be seen with the naked eye. NASA's Phoenix lander is looking for conditions near Mars' north pole that could support primitive life similar to extreme life on Earth.—INTERNET

Indonesia introduces green building institution

JAKARTA, 22 June — Indonesia has established the first green building institution to certify and rate environmentally friendly housing and workplaces, local Press reported Friday.

The Green Building Council of Indonesia (GBCI) is currently making comparative studies on international best practices and plans to launch its first-ever rating system early next year. The GBCI currently has 64 members comprising academics, property industry players and professionals and is applying for membership in the World Green Building Council.

The concept of green buildings emphasizes increased efficiency in the use of electricity, water and building materials, from the design stage and construction through to maintenance, reported English-language daily The *Jakarta Post*.

The council would issue certificates with four levels certified, silver, gold and platinum — depending on how they met the required measures.

MNA/Xinhua

Joint NASA-French spacecraft successfully launched

LOS ANGELES, 22 June — The Ocean Surface Topography Mission(OSTM)/*Jason-2*, a joint NASA-French spacecraft, is speeding toward orbit atop a United Launch Alliance *Delta II* rocket after a successful launch Friday morning, *NASA* announced.

This morning's liftoff followed a remarkably smooth countdown, with tracking assets, weather, spacecraft and rocket remaining "go" throughout the final prelaunch hours, according to *NASA*.

MNA/Xinhua

Bird flu mistaken as dengue, typhoid in Indonesia

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 June — Some cases of human bird flu in Indonesia have been variously misdiagnosed as dengue fever and typhoid, resulting in the late administration of drugs, a leading doctor in the country said on Friday. Indonesia has had the highest number of human H5N1 cases in the world and while mortality rates are around 60 per cent in other places, the figure is highest, or at 81 per cent, in Indonesia.

Sardikin Giriputro, director of the Sulianti Saroso Infectious Disease Hospital in Indonesia, told an infectious disease conference in Kuala Lumpur that misdiagnoses and the late administration of drugs were partially responsible for the high mortality rates.

"It (H5N1) is misdiagnosed initially as dengue, bacterial pneumonia, typhoid and upper respiratory tract infection because of similar clinical features (symptoms)," Giriputro said.

MNA/Reuters

From top left, Mainland China's actress Yang Shan Shan, Taipei actress Kelly Lin, Hong Kong actress Pace Ng, bottom left, Hong Kong actor Mark Cheng and Malaysia actress Michelle Yeoh pose during a promotional event for their new established entertainment production company in Hong Kong, on 21 June, 2008.
INTERNET

SPORTS

Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska is seen with the trophy after beating Nadia Petrova of Russia to win the Singles Final of the International Women's Open 2008, in Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, England, on 21 June, 2008.—INTERNET

Jubilant Russia celebrates victory over Dutch

MOSCOW, 22 June — Russia celebrated well into the night after its team unexpectedly reached the Euro 2008 semifinals on Saturday with a thoroughly deserved 3-1 extra-time win over Netherlands.

Thousands of Muscovites poured onto the streets within minutes of the final whistle in Basel where Russia, coached by Dutchman Guus Hiddink, stunned their fancied opponents with a great display of attacking football.

"We finally did it. Congratulations to everyone," yelled a young fan, wrapped in the national flag as he walked along the Manezh Square.

Others praised Dutch master Hiddink. "Guus, Guus, Guus", the fans shouted into the warm night air.

Russia President Dmitry Medvedev also played his part by congratulating the team on their superb win.

"It was a great game and a great victory," the Kremlin Press office quoted him as saying.

MNA/Reuters

Russia's Hiddink salutes natural winner Arshavin

BASEL, 22 June — Russia coach Guus Hiddink heaped praise on man of the match Andrei Arshavin on Saturday after the forward helped engineer a 3-1 victory over Netherlands to secure a place in the Euro 2008 semifinals.

"He wasn't even really match fit but he has tremendous skill," Hiddink said of his talented playmaker.

"He knows how to dribble at defenders so that they can run with him but can't attack him. Nature gave him that gift."

Russia sorely missed Arshavin in their opening two Group D matches for which he was suspended after being sent off for kicking an opponent in a qualifier with Andorra last November. —*MNA/Reuters*

Gymnasts Shawn Johnson (L) and Nastia Liukin share a laugh during the introductions at the 2008 US Olympic gymnastics team trials in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 20 June, 2008.
INTERNET

Karlovic beats Verdasco to retain Nottingham title

LONDON, 22 June— Croatian Ivo Karlovic won the Nottingham Open for the second successive year on Saturday, beating Spain's Fernando Verdasco 7-5, 6-7, 7-6 in a closely-fought final.

The match was moved indoors after heavy rain made play impossible on the outdoor grass.

Serving dominated the final and in the first set the only break of serve came in the 12th game.

Third seed Verdasco had the upper hand in the second set, producing powerful and accurate serves to keep Karlovic at bay and winning the tiebreak 7-4.

MNA/Reuters

Russia relieved at Kolodin's red card escape

BASEL, 22 June — Denis Kolodin was a relieved man when the referee changed his mind after showing him a red card on Saturday, enabling Russia's 11 men to overpower Netherlands in their Euro 2008 quarterfinal.

Slovakian referee Lubos Michel rescinded a second booking for the defender in stoppage time of normal time after a linesman told the official the ball had gone out of play before Kolodin tangled with Wesley Sneijder. That meant Russia retained a full team for extra time and were able to score two goals to secure a 3-1 win. —*MNA/Reuters*

China's Zhang Ning plays against Indonesia's Maria Kristin during their women's singles match at the Djarum Indonesia Super Series 2008 badminton championships in Jakarta on 21 June, 2008.
INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1 C	A	2 N	T	3 E	R	■	■	4 B	E	5 R	R	6 Y
A	■	A	■	N	■	7 A	■	A	■	E	■	E
8 T	A	I	L	S	■	9 M	A	R	S	A	L	A
N	■	V	■	N	■	B	■	D	■	L	■	R
10 A	V	E	R	A	G	E	■	■	11 O	M	E	N
P	■	T	■	R	■	12 R	I	13 M	■	■	■	S
■	14 B	E	D	E	■	■	■	15 E	L	16 A	N	■
17 C	■	■	■	18 D	I	19 P	■	R	■	D	■	20 S
21 O	G	22 R	E	■	■	23 L	O	C	K	J	A	W
W	■	E	■	24 O	■	A	■	H	■	O	■	E
25 A	L	M	A	N	A	C	■	26 A	M	U	S	E
R	■	I	■	L	■	E	■	N	■	R	■	T
27 D	I	T	T	Y	■	■	28 A	T	O	N	E	S

(22 June 2008)

Quarterfinal

Italy 2 - 4 Spain

Italy's Gianluigi Buffon dives to catch a ball during the quarterfinal match between Spain and Italy in Vienna, Austria, on 22 June, 2008, at the Euro 2008 European Soccer Championships.
INTERNET

Spain's Fernando Torres (L) is challenged by Italy's Giorgio Chiellini during their Euro 2008 quarter-final soccer match at the Ernst Happel Stadium in Vienna, on 22 June, 2008.
INTERNET

Aquilani is ready to play, says coy Donadoni

VIENNA, 22 June — Italy midfielder Alberto Aquilani is pushing for a start in Sunday's Euro 2008 quarterfinal against Spain, coach Roberto Donadoni has said.

The 23-year-old, a late substitute in the last match against France, has just six caps but has come into contention with World Cup-winners Andrea Pirlo and Gennaro Gattuso suspended. Donadoni had been expected to bring in Massimo Ambrosini and Mauro Camoranesi for the pair. —*MNA/Reuters*

An Iraqi woman reacts as she views the scene of a female suicide bomber detonated her explosives, with a man on the street and fires burning in Baqouba, 60 kilometers (35 miles) northeast of Baghdad, Iraq, on 22 June, 2008.

INTERNET

Female suicide bomber kills 15 in Iraq

BAGHAD, 22 JuneA female suicide bomber struck near a government compound northeast of Baghdad on Sunday, killing at least 15 people and wounding 40, police said. At least 21 suicide attacks have been carried out this year by women.

The bomber detonated her explosives in front of a heavily guarded area that includes the courthouse, the post office and the governor's offices in the city of Baqouba, a police officer said.

The 15 killed included seven policemen, the officer said, giving the casualty toll on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to release the information.

The attack occurred about 1 pm, a time when large numbers of people were visiting the compound.

INTERNET

Three dead, 30 wounded in North Lebanon clashes

TRIPOLI,(Lebanon), 22 June—At least three people were killed and 30 wounded on Sunday in sectarian clashes in Lebanon's second largest city Tripoli, security sources said.

Explosions and machinegun fire rocked the city as Sunni Muslim supporters of the government and Alawite gunmen close to the Hezbollah-led opposition battled on the outskirts of the mainly Sunni Muslim port.

Lebanese army units deployed in the area and tried to end the fighting and local leaders held talks to contain the conflict. Dozens of families fled the scene of the clashes that tapered off after both sides agreed a ceasefire, the sources said.

Several homes, shops and cars were damaged in the clashes that left the streets of the city largely deserted.

INTERNET

သတိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

ယခုရာသီကာလသည် ဝမ်းပျက် ဝမ်းလျှောရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားတတ်သည့် အချိန်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ မသန့်ရှင်းသောရေ သောက်သုံးခြင်းနှင့် မသန့်ရှင်းသော အစားအသောက်များ စားသုံးခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် ဝမ်းလျှောဝမ်းပျက်ရောဂါများ ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်ပါသည်။

သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍–

* ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှောရောဂါကို ကာကွယ်နိုင်ရန်အတွက်

–ကလိရင်းဆေးခပ်ထားသောရေ (သို့) ကျိုချက်ထားသောရေကိုသာလျှင်သောက်သုံးကြရန်၊

–သန့်ရှင်းလတ်ဆတ်သော၊ပူနွေးသည့် အစာများကိုသာစားသုံးကြရန်၊

–ယင်နားစာမစားရန်နှင့် အစာများကို ယင်မနားအောင် ဖုံးအုပ်ထားကြရန်၊

–ကလေး၊ လူကြီးအားလုံး သန့်ရှင်းသော ယင်လုံအိမ်သာကိုသုံးစွဲကြရန်၊

–အစာမစားမီနှင့် အညစ်အကြေးကိုင်တွယ်ပြီးတိုင်း လက်ကိုစင်ကြယ်အောင်ဆေးကြောကြရန်၊

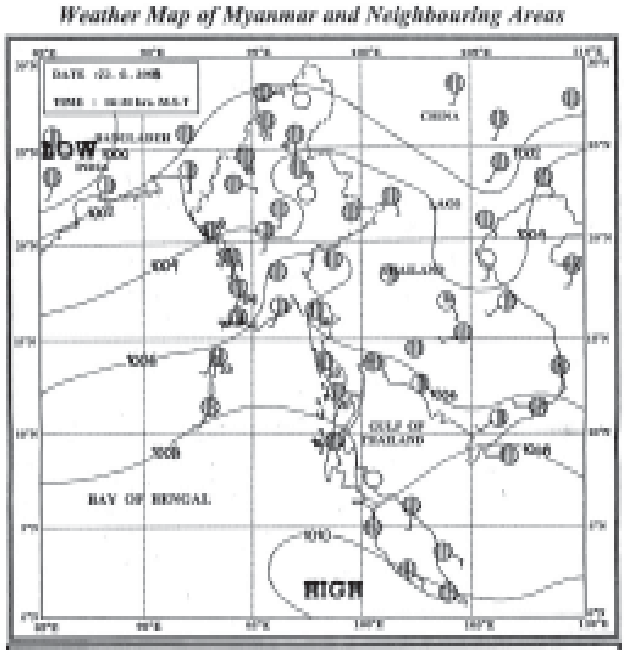
–အညစ်အကြေးများကို စနစ်တကျ စွန့်ပစ်ကြရန်၊

(ထုံးဖြူးခြင်း၊ မြေဖုံးခြင်း၊ မီးရှို့ခြင်းများကို ဆောင်ရွက်ရန်)

* ဝမ်းပျက်ဝမ်းလျှောရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားပါက အနီးဆုံး ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့အမြန်ဆုံးပြသရန်နှင့် လူနာများတွေ့ရှိက ကျန်းမာရေးဌာနသို့ အမြန်ဆုံးသတင်းပေးပို့ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 22 June, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan, Chin, Kayah States and Mandalay Division, scattered in Kayin State and lower Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfalls in Bago Division, isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mogkok (5.39) inches, Maungtaw (4.17) inches, Shwegyin (3.31) inches, Zaungtu (3.27) inches, Hkamti and Pathein (2.80) inches each, Minkin (2.76)inches, Gwa (2.72)inches, Thandwe (2.28)inches and Bhamo (1.77)inches.

Maximum temperature on 21-6-2008 was 90ºF. Minimum temperature on 22-6-2008 was 72ºF. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours M.S.T on 22-6-2008 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 21-6-2008 was (2.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 22-6-2008 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (37.95) inches at Mingaladon, (47.12) inches at Kaba-Aye and (57.64) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum windspeed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 21-6-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and generally moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23-6-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in ,Chin State, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 23-6-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-6-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast forMandalay and neighbouring area for 23-6-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

TV Myanmar

Monday, 23 June
View on today

7:00 am
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. "အလံလေးတော့ကိုင်ပြပါ" (ဇွန်နိုင်ဝင်း၊ ဇော၊ ပေါ်လေး၊ ချစ်စရာ၊ရတနာခင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–မင်းအုပ်စိုး)

8:00 am
5. Dance variety

8:15 pm
6. Song of national races

8:30 am
7. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးအလွဲသုံးမှုနှင့် တရားမဝင်ရောင်းဝယ်မှု တိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့တေးများ

8:50 am
8. International news

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:10 pm
2. မြန်မာအသံခေတ်ပေါ်တေးဂီတ အဖွဲ့ဖျော်ဖြေခန်း

4:25 pm
3. Cute little dancers

4:40 pm
4. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:50 pm
5. ဆိပ်ကျွန်းရေထိန်းတံတား

5:00 pm
6. ရုပ်မြင်ရသတေးစုကဏ္ဍ

5:15 pm
7. အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာမူးယစ်ဆေးဝါး အလွဲသုံးမှုနှင့် တရားမဝင်ရောင်းဝယ်မှု တိုက်ဖျက်ရေးနေ့တေးများ

5:30 pm
8. "ဇင်ဇင်နှင့်ခြင်ကျား" (ဇင်ဇင်ဇော်မြင့်၊ လင်းလင်းဇော်မြင့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ– စင်ရော်မောင်မောင်)

5:45 pm
9. Musical programme

6:00 pm
10. Evening news

6:30 pm
11. Weather report

6:35 pm
12. အလှရာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00 pm
13. မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအမျိုးသမီး ရဲတပ်ဖွဲ့ဝင်များ၏ စွမ်းရည်ပြပွဲ

7:10 pm
14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မာယာများနှင့်လှည့်ကွက်" (အပိုင်း–၅)

8:00 pm
15. News
16. International news
17. Weather report
18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စိတ်ကူးလေး ကောင်းရဲ့သားနဲ့" (အပိုင်း–၅)

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Make donations to the storm victims

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

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

- **Certain internal and external anti-government elements, self-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**