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Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Norwegian King

NAY PYI TAW, 17 May — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty King Harald V of Norway, on the occasion of the National Day of Norway, which falls on 17 May 2008. — MNA

Prime Minister visits relief camps in Ayeyawady Division

NAY PYI TAW, 16 May — Chairman of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by members of NDPCC ministers, the Director-General of the Government Office and officials, arrived at Bogale, Ayeyawady Division by Tatmadaw helicopter this morning.

At the office of the Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Prime Minister heard a report presented by Chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council U Soe Thein on setting up of relief camps for storm victims from wards and villages of the township, arrival and distribution of relief items donated by local and international organizations.

Next, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on arrangements made for storm victims and reconstruction work being carried out in storm-hit regions.

After that, Commander of No 66 LID Brig-Gen Maung Maung Aye reported on opening of relief camps in storm-hit regions.

In response to the reports, Prime Minister General Thein Sein stressed the need to fulfill the requirements of storm victims to the most possible degree and gave instructions on steps to be taken for relief camps.

On arrival at the Township People’s Hospital, the Prime Minister greeted a team of doctors led by Deputy Director of Health Department Dr Than Win, a team of doctors and nurses led by Physician Dr Ko Ko, a team of doctors led by Township Medical Officer Dr Hla Hla Kyi and a team of technicians of UNICEF led by U Chit Ko Ko.

After that, the Prime Minister visited local people undergoing medical treatment at the Out-Patient Department and looked into arrangements for water supply to the hospital.

(See page 7)

Lt-Gen Myint Swe on inspection tour of relief camps in Dedaye, Kungyangon townships

YANGON, 16 May — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence consoled storm victims at relief camps in Kyondah Village of Dedaye Township in Ayeyawady Division and Lekkhokkon Model Village of Kungyangon Township Yangon, Division today.

Accompanied by Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Lt-Gen Myint Swe left here by helicopter with 2,100 kilos of relief supplies. On arrival at Ingapu Village of Kungyangon Township, they were welcomed by Min-

ister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi.

They proceeded to Dedaye. At the Township Peace and Development Council Office, Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thu reported on conditions of the relief camps and providing of relief aid to the victims.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected relief goods to be delivered to the victims.

(See page 9)

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 17 May, 2008

Participate in reconstruction of hospitals and schools

Rehabilitation tasks for storm-hit regions are being carried out phase by phase by the people, social organizations and government bodies with the contributions of internal and international organizations.

Rehabilitation of towns and villages in storm-hit regions needs to be carried out with added momentum as rainy season is going to set in. At the same time, rehabilitation of the economic and production sectors of storm-hit regions also needs to be carried out.

Local authorities, entrepreneurs and the people are to actively participate in the resettlement of storm victims and reconstruction of ravaged residential houses and departmental establishments.

In that regard, priority is being given to reconstruction of hospitals and dispensaries so that they can provide health care services to storm victims. Likewise, renovation of schools in storm-hit townships are to be carried out soonest with the assistance of donor companies to be able to open the schools in time.

Steps are to be taken for better transport and restoration of communications and power while striving for reconstruction of ravaged houses and structures.

We firmly believe that with the assistance of donor companies reconstruction of hospitals, dispensaries and schools will soon be completed in a short period of time.

Shwe Thanlwin aid for 20 villages

YANGON, 16 May — A total of 22 items of personal goods and foodstuff worth K 11,153,500 donated by Shwe Thanlwin Co for victims of 20 storm-hit villages in Labutta, Bogale and Mawlamyinegyun townships including Kansu Village of Labutta Township were transported via Bogale by Shwetagu ship-1 that left Bagaya jetty, here, yesterday.

The company has so far donated one water purifier, foodstuff and personal goods worth K 64200700 to the storm victims of those regions.

MNA

Hovercraft handed over

YANGON, 16 May — Credent Technology (Myanmar) and Roallife Company in Myanmar under the arrangements of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited with the help of Power Tech Co in Thailand sent a 5-capacity hovercraft to be used in Ayeyawady Division by C-130 flight. U Than Tun of UMEHL and U Zaw Naing of Credent Technology (Myanmar) and Roallife Company handed over documents related to the hovercraft to U Zaw Win, Director of Fire Services Department.

MNA
Barack Obama blasts President George Bush terror talk jibe

WASHINGTON, 16 May—Barack Obama hurled himself into an angry confrontation with the President yesterday after Mr Bush compared the Democratic candidate’s promise of talks with rogue states like Iran to the “false comfort of appeasement” towards the Nazis in the 1930s. “Some seem to believe that we should negotiate with the terrorists and radicals, as if some ingenious argument will persuade them they have been wrong all along,” Mr Bush told the Knesset in Israel. “We have heard this foolish delusion before. As Nazi tanks crossed into Poland in 1939, an American senator declared: ‘Lord, if I could only have talked to Hitler, all this might have been avoided.’”

Even though the White House insisted that Mr Bush was not talking specifically about Mr Obama, the Democrat Senator issued a statement denouncing what he called a “false political attack.” He said: “The President’s extraordinary politicisation of foreign policy and the politics of fear do nothing to secure the American people or our stalwart ally, Israel.”

The speed and force of his reaction reflects how he is increasingly focusing on a looming general election against the Republicans, having all but won his fight with Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination. But it was also a sign of some sensitivity in Mr Obama’s campaign to charges that he is inexperienced and naive on foreign policy, particularly among the influential Jewish and pro-Israel lobby.—Internet

Chavez: Interpol report ‘ridiculous’

CARACAS, 16 May — President Hugo Chavez on Thursday vehemently denounced Interpol’s conclusion that documents detailing links between Venezuela and Colombia’s leftist rebels came directly from rebel computers and weren’t tampered with by the Colombians.

“Do you think we should waste time here on something so ridiculous?” Chavez asked foreign journalists during a news conference. Chavez said a “clown show” surrounded the announcement by Interpol’s secretary general, Ronald Noble, that the agency found no evidence of tampering with the documents in computers that Colombia said it retrieved from a rebel camp in Ecuador. Noble also said Interpol is “absolutely certain that the computer exhibits that our experts examined came from a FARC terrorist camp.”

Chavez called Noble “a tremendous actor” and “an immoral police officer who applauds killers”—referring to Colombia’s March military attack on the Ecuadoran base that killed rebel leader Raul Reyes and 24 others. Ecuador is right,” Chavez said. “The Colombian government should be tried in an international tribunal.”

Chavez likened the accusations of Venezuelan support for the rebels to a plot from a James Bond movie, and his “strident condemnation of the Colombians” reflected how he is increasingly focused on a looming general election against the Republicans, having all but won his fight with Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination. But it was also a sign of some sensitivity in Mr Obama’s campaign to charges that he is inexperienced and naive on foreign policy, particularly among the influential Jewish and pro-Israel lobby.—Internet

100 dead in Nigeria oil pipeline fire

LAGOS, 16 May — At least 100 people have been killed and scores injured when fuel from a pipeline ruptured by a bulldozer caught fire and exploded in a village, the Red Cross said.

The fireball engulfed homes and schools at Iyegun village near Nigeria’s biggest city of Lagos. Many of the dead, who included schoolchildren, were killed in the ensuing stampede as people fled in panic from the flames. “About 100 people have so far been confirmed dead from the fire,” said a Red Cross official.

“We have so far rescued more than 20 people with injuries and taken them to hospital for treatment.”

The disaster was the latest in a series of pipeline explosions or blazes in the African country caused by damage or theft which have killed more than 1,200 people since 2000. Nigeria is the world’s eighth largest oil exporter and Africa’s top producer.

The pipeline rupture at Iyegun, a village about 30 miles from the sprawling coastal city of Lagos, occurred during road-building work.—Internet

Suicide bomber kills 15 in Afghanistan

KABUL, 15 May—A suicide bomber wearing a burqa killed 15 people and wounding 22 others when he blew himself up Thursday in a crowded market in western Afghanistan, a provincial official said.

Three policemen, including a district police chief, and 12 civilians were among the dead. The police tried to stop the bomber seconds before he exploded in the Dilarat district of Farah province, said the provincial official, Younus Rasoul.

Afghanistan, a provincial official said. himself up Thursday in a crowded market in western killed 15 people and wounding 22 others when he blew

As we celebrate World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, we

Our focus this year on meeting the ICT needs of persons with disabilities is aimed

During this year’s WTISD, ITU calls upon all stakeholders (policy makers and

This year, ITU has adopted the theme: “Connecting Persons with Disabilities: ICT

“We have so far rescued more than 20 people with injuries and taken them to hospital for treatment.”

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

17 May 2008

“Connecting Persons with Disabilities: ICT Opportunities for All”

Message from Hamadoun Toure Secretary-General

International Telecommunication Union

The key to the information society is universal access. Everyone must have equal opportunity to participate in the digital age. And no one should be denied the potential benefits of new information and communication technologies (ICT), not least because they are hampered by their disabilities. As ICT bring a range of innovations in the workplace, at home and in every facet of our lives, these benefits must also be harnessed for the benefit of persons with disabilities.

This year, ITU has adopted the theme: “Connecting Persons with Disabilities: ICT Opportunities for All” to mark World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. The World Summit on the Information Society urged Member States to address the special requirements of persons with disabilities along with other marginalized and vulnerable groups in their national e-strategies. A further call was made to encourage design and production of ICT equipment and services adhering to the Universal Design Principle and the use of assistive technologies for research and development to facilitate accessibility to ICT for all, including persons with disabilities.

The last World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-06) held in Doha, Qatar in 2006, created a new Special Initiative on “Access to telecommunication services for persons with disabilities”. The Doha Plan of Action endorsed the Tunis Commitment of building ICT capacity for all, including persons with disabilities, through the promotion of universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to ICT. It encouraged the adoption of universal design and assistive technologies to ensure that the benefits are evenly distributed within societies as well as to bridge the digital divide by creating digital opportunities to harness the full potential for development offered by state-of-the-art ICT.

During this year’s WTISD, ITU calls upon all stakeholders (policy makers and regulators as well as operators and industry) to raise awareness on the need to adopt policies and strategies that would meet the ICT needs of persons with disabilities by ensuring that both equipment and services are accessible. This would not only ensure an inclusive information society, but would also enable Member States to meet their obligations under Article 9 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2006.

Our focus this year on meeting the ICT needs of persons with disabilities is aimed at empowering every citizen with information and knowledge, improving the lines of communication to the remotest and most vulnerable groups, and building an inclusive information society geared towards the advancement of a better, more peaceful and productive world. It is clearly our duty today to provide the opportunities of ICT to all, especially to those of us with disabilities.

As we celebrate World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, we invites all stakeholders — manufacturers, service providers, international organizations, public and non-governmental organizations as well as policy makers — to join us in our endeavour to connect everyone, especially the 650 million or so people around the world who live with disabilities, to the remarkable digital opportunities offered by ICT.
Electric Power No 2 Minister inspects repair works

YANGON, 16 May — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected repair of 33 KV pylons of Hlinethaya-Nyaungdon power line and replacing of 16 pylons damaged by storm and progress of installation of power lines and arrangements being made for supply of power to Nyaungdon and Maubin Townships in Ayeyawady Division on 14 May. The minister and party also looked into reconstruction of pylons used for supply of power from Hlinethaya sub-power station to Shwelinban Industrial Zone and sub-power stations No 1 and 2, installation of power lines and repair works.—MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint visits sub-power station No 1 in Hlinethaya Township.—MNA

Volunteers clear debris in downtown Yangon

YANGON, 16 May — The volunteers have removed the debris along the streets in downtown Yangon. A total of 1,000 Tatmadawmen of Indaing Station cleared debris in the streets of Mingala Taungnyunt, Pazundaung, Kyauktada, Latha townships using machinery yesterday. Similarly, the volunteers including Tatmadawmen of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command and Yangon Station and members of Union of Solidarity and Development Association also cleared the debris along the streets and in the schools in downtown Yangon. The staff of Yangon City Development Committee removed the downed billboards at the corner of Shwedagon Pagoda and U Wisara roads with the use of machinery. Transportation services are smooth and buses are returning to normal in downtown Yangon as debris was cleared along the streets and pavements. MNA

Relief aid being sent to Kamakalu village in Bogale Township, Ayeyawady Division.—MNA

Entries invited to article and essay open contests to mark World Environment Day

YANGON, 16 May — The National Commission for Environmental Affairs will organize the article and essay open contests in commemoration of the World Environment Day 2008 in line with the motto “Kick the Habit: Towards a Low Carbon Economy”. The entries for the article and essay must be at least 10 pages of A4 sized paper. The works are to be written with Win — Inwa Font size 17 or Myanmar Unicode Myanmar 2 Font size 17 in line spacing 1.5. Handsome prizes will be presented to the winners at the ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw to mark the World Environment Day 2008. The entries are to be submitted to the NCEA of the Ministry of Forestry with the name of the contestants, the NRC number and address, not later than 23 May. MNA
**Storm victims furnished with supplies, accommodations**

**YANGON, 16 May**—A vessel of Inland Water Transport delivered relief supplies to the storm victims in Theipan and Betuk villages in Labutta Township, Ayeyawady Division on 14 May. Altogether seven members of WFP and 80 members of other organizations arrived at the storm-hit areas on 5 May and presented 150 tons of rice and 5 tons of energy biscuit to the people in relief camps up to 14 May and built 150 tents for 948 storm victims in relief camp opened at Yadanadipa sports ground in the township. —MNA

1,050 shelter boxes donated by Rotary Club arrive

**YANGON, 16 May**—A total of 1,050 shelter boxes donated by Rotary Club of England for storm-hit regions of Ayeyawady Division arrived at Yangon International Airport this morning. Officials handed over the shelter boxes to companies that will supply them to the storm-hit regions of Ayeyawady Division. Htoo Trading Co and Air Bagan Co Ltd will transport 300 shelter boxes to Bogale Township, Eya Township, and FMI Co, Shwe Thanlwin Co, Tetlan Co, AyonU Co, Townshp, and FMI Co, boxes to Labutta Shwewah Co 250 shelter boxes to Bogale Township, Eya Township, and Air Bagan Co Ltd will transport to the storm-hit regions of Ayeyawady Division. Htoo Trading Co and Air Bagan Co Ltd donated K 300 million for the victims along the road from Pyapon to Bogale. On 14 May, staff of Htoo Trading Co and Air Bagan Co Ltd donated K 300 million for the victims to Central Relief Committee. So far, Htoo Trading Co and Air Bagan Co Ltd have donated K 100 millions for the victims in Bogale Township on 8 May, K 100 million in Pyapon Township on 11 May and K 300 million to the Central Relief Committee. In addition, the companies donated rice, edible oil, medicines, purified drinking water, clothes, tents, generators, pumps and others to the victims of Bogale Township. The staff are also assisting the volunteers in Bogale. —MNA

**Debris cleared in Bahan, Tamway**

**YANGON, 16 May**—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected volunteers from YCDC clearing debris from Kaba Aye Pagoda Junction to New University Avenue in Bogale Township and from Kyaikkasan Road Junction to Banyadala Road in Tamway Township with the use of heavy machinery this morning. —MNA

**International relief supplies flowing by air to Myanmar**

**YANGON, 16 May**—The international community is providing relief supplies to the storm-hit areas from 6 up to 15 May. Ten donor countries have transported relief items by air 20 times to Myanmar. The following table shows donor countries, aircraft, relief supplies and weight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Donor Organization</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Aircraft</th>
<th>Goods</th>
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<tr>
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<td>IL-76</td>
<td>foodstuff, emergency supplies</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>10-5-08</td>
<td>AN-12</td>
<td>foodstaff</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10-5-08</td>
<td>DC-8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10-5-08</td>
<td>IL-76</td>
<td>personnel supplies, relief supplies</td>
<td>34.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11-5-08</td>
<td>IL-76</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12-5-08</td>
<td>AN-12</td>
<td>medicine</td>
<td>11.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14-5-08</td>
<td>DC-8</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>13-5-08</td>
<td>L-1011</td>
<td>kitchen utensil, tent parts, tarpaulin, medicine</td>
<td>18.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14-5-08</td>
<td>AN-12</td>
<td>medicine</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Belarus (medical team)</td>
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<td>IL-76</td>
<td>generator, electrical equipments, medicine</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>France (Doctors without borders)</td>
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<td>A 300-600</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>IL-76</td>
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<td>12-5-08</td>
<td>IL-76</td>
<td>medicine, corrugated iron sheet</td>
<td>34.55</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14-5-08</td>
<td>DC-8</td>
<td>water pipe supplies</td>
<td>34.7</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14-5-08</td>
<td>IL-76</td>
<td>water pipe supplies</td>
<td>31.79</td>
</tr>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>IL-76</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>DC-8</td>
<td>water pipe</td>
<td>31.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>13-5-08</td>
<td>IL-76</td>
<td>chemical supplies, personnel goods</td>
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<td>Thai Cultural Troope</td>
<td>15-5-08</td>
<td>FT-3770</td>
<td>clothes, blanket, steel supplies</td>
<td>1.2</td>
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Relief and rehabilitation tasks carried out in Bogale Township

YANGON, 16 May — Tatmadaw helicopters transported foodstuff and clothing to the storm victims in Htawpaing village and food, clothing and personal goods together with health staff of Health Department in Yangon General Hospital, township Health Officer Dr Daw Hla Hla Kyi and staff provided medical treatments to the storm victims and performed preventive measures for infectious diseases.

Brunei donates $100,000 to storm victims

YANGON, 16 May — The Ambassador of the Brunei Darussalam to Myanmar presented 100,000 US dollars to Chairman of the Funds Accepting and Distributing Committee Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe at the donation centre in the Central Bank of Myanmar here at 10 am today.

ECDHAO Commissioner and party visit relief camp in Hlinethaya Township

YANGON, 16 May — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe met with Commissioner Mr Louis Michel of European Commission Development and Humanitarian Aid Office and party at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here yesterday afternoon. Afterwards, the minister, the commissioner and party arrived at Atwin padan relief camp in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon North District. They were welcomed by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Hay Win and party. The commissioner and party briefed them on allocation of house holds, admin office, clinic, video features, supply of pure water, and accommodation of house holds and receiving of relief supplies.

Cash and kind for storm victims

NAY PYI TAW, 16 May — Department concerned, social organizations, families of Tatmadawmen and wellwishers continued to present cash and kind to the people in storm-stricken areas.

Families of Tatmadawmen from Shan State (South) and wellwishers donated K 2889100 and supplies worth K 55126000, families of Tatmadawmen and wellwishers from Mandalay Division, foodstuff, personal goods, medicines and clothes worth K 32088950, wellwishers from Magway Division, K 34066750 to storm victims.

Latest casualty figures

NAY PYI TAW, 16 May — Due to the storm that occurred on 2 and 3 May, there have been damage, casualties, those who went missing and injuries in some regions of Ayeyawady Division, Yangon Division, Bago Division, Mon State and Kayin State. As soon as the storm had occurred, the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee started carrying out search and rescue and relief work extensively. At the same time it collected the death toll, the number of injured people and the list of damaged property. However, due to difficulties that occurred after the storm, bad weather and extensive search in every storm-hit region, the lists could be confirmed on 15 May. According to the latest figures, 77,738 people including 159 service personnel died, 55,917 including 58 service personnel went missing and 19,359 including four service personnel were injured, it is learnt.
Prime Minister visits relief camps in Ayeyawady Division...

(From page 1)

Next, the Prime Minister and party asked after wounded patients and gave necessary instructions to officials. After viewing the operation theatre and laboratory, the Prime Minister inspected progress in reconstruction of the hospital.

Next, they proceeded to No 1 BEHS of Bagale where the relief camp is being opened and inspected arrangements made by Htoo Trading Co Ltd for supply of drinking water and the arrival of relief items.

Later, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party cordially greeted storm victims and looked into repair of No 1 BEHS.

At 11 pm, they arrived at the relief camp in Sethsan Village, Bogale Township and looked into medical treatment performed by doctors and nurses to storm victims.

Next, the Prime Minister asked about health, living condition and availability of relief items of families of storm victims being accommodated in tents.

The Prime Minister said that no one can prevent the risk of disaster; the government provided storm victims with foods, accommodation and health care to the most possible degree in the aftermath of the severe storm, and presented foodstuff to children.

At 11.30 am, the Prime Minister and party left the relief camp and inspected the opening of relief camp in Kyienchaung Village, setting up of tents donated by international organizations and transporting of relief supplies to the camp by vessel aboard the helicopter.

On arrival at Hlaingphone Village, Labutta Township, the Prime Minister and party heard reports on reconstruction tasks being carried out in Mawlamyineyung to turn into normalcy presented by the Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

They inspected repairing of houses and schools in the town by car.

At the township hospital, the Prime Minister comforted patients and inspected the opening of the public call booth of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications.

In Wakema, Chairman of the Township PDC U Hla Myint reported to the Prime Minister on opening of relief camps for the victims in Mawlamyineyung, Bogale and Labutta townships. The Prime Minister attended to the needs.

At BEPS in Mponjaung Ward, the Prime Minister and party consoled the storm victims. After that, they inspected the township hospital.

At Myanmarma Gunny Factory in Myanmarma, the Prime Minister met with the Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander and officials and heard reports on matters related to the relief camps and gave instructions.

While in Myanmarma, they viewed providing of health care services to the victims at the clinic of the relief camp No 4 opened at BEHS No 4. They also cordially greeted storm victims from Phongguy Village-tract of Pyinsa and presented relief goods to them.

In the evening, the Prime Minister and party left Myanmarma for Pathein by helicopter.

Ephones to officials to be used in communication services.

Film director Zinyaw Maung Maung and movie actor Yazar Nay Win who were taking part in relief task together with Shwe Thanlwin Co greeted the Prime Minister at the relief of Hlinephone Village.

At the local battalion in Mawlamyineyung, the Prime Minister and party heard reports on reconstruction tasks being carried out in Mawlamyineyung to turn into normalcy presented by the Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

They inspected repairing of houses and schools in the town by car.

At the township hospital, the Prime Minister comforted patients and inspected the opening of the public call booth of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications.

Relief aid for storm victims

YANGON, 16 May—Donors have provided relief supplies to storm victims. The relief items such as foodstuff and medicines worth K 19 million donated by Myanmar, CPAC SCT Co Ltd, purified water and biscuits worth K 40 million by Gold Uni Co Ltd and edible oil, milk, towel, lighter, corrugated iron sheets, nails, tinned fish and purified water worth over K 11.5 million donated by PTTEP Co Ltd were presented to officials of the Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township this morning.

Storm survivors being accommodated in tents at Kyondah village, Dedye Township, Ayeyawady Division.—MNA

Naval vessels participate in relief and rehabilitation tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 16 May—Two naval ships carrying the Minister for Sports and party and 45.85 tons of relief supplies left for three villages of Kawhmu Township yesterday.

Likewise, one naval vessel transported the Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and party to the relief and rehabilitation camps in villages of Mawlamyineyung Township. Another one naval vessel transported social organization members, health care teams, relief aid and medicines to four villages near Hmaukkyun of Dedye Township. The servicemen of naval vessels based in Hanigiyikyun, Pyapon, Labutta and Bogale are cooperating with officials of the relief camps in carrying out relief and rehabilitation tasks. —MNA
YANGON, 16 May—Officials presented rice, purified drinking water and foodstuff to 4,302 storm victims in 17 relief camps in Dedaye Relief supplies presented to storm victims yesterday. Altogether 4,400 gallons of petrol, 6,000 gallons of diesel, 1,000 gallons of kerosene, construction materials, 197 tons of timber and 500 sheets of plywood provided by the Ministry of Energy arrived at Dedaye.

MNA
Lt-Gen Myint Swe on inspection tour of relief camps in Dedaye, Kungyangon townships...

(from page 1)

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and the ministers met chairmen of Village PDCs and instructed them to give priority to providing relief aid to the villages that are poor in transport and to take relief goods along with them when the chairmen went back to their villages.

At the relief camp in Ward 2 of Dedaye, they viewed generators, dispensary, video house, water purifier, mess tent, kitchen, latrines and relief aid and comforted the victims. At the relief camp in Kyondah Village of Dedaye Township, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party inspected relief assistance for the victims and gave necessary instructions to officials. They also inspected the relief aid for the victims at the relief camp in Lekkhokkon Village in Kungyangon Township and cordially conversed with the victims. At the camps in Dedaye and Kungyangon townships, the victims are being accommodated at the tents donated from abroad and provided with meals.

After presenting relief goods to the victims, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and the ministers arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

Vessels carrying relief supplies leave for storm-hit areas in Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

Relief supplies promptly shipped to Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 16 May—Relief supplies were donated to storm victims in Ayeyawady Division by air, by car and by boat. Malikha ship loaded with 55 tons of rice, oil, foodstuff, purified water and construction materials left from Phonegyi street No-1 jetty in Seikkan Township for Labutta today. Pyawaaung ship left for Bogalay and Mawlamyaingyun loading with 120 tons of rice, oil, personnel supplies, construction materials and purified water at 2 pm. Likewise, Aung San Maw ship loaded with 95 tons of relief supplies left Wardan jetty for Pyapon, Kyakhtat and Dedaye. — MNA

MWAF, Yangon Division WAO donate meals, household goods to victims

YANGON, 16 May—Vice-Presidents Daw Khin Lay Myint and Daw Khin Thet Htay of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation together with CEC members, heads of department and leaders of working groups donated meals and purified drinking water to 1,091 members of 340 storm victim households at the relief camp of No 1 Basic Education High School in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township this morning. Likewise, Patron of Yangon Division Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai and party supplied bowls, spoons, soaps and bottles of soft drinks to the victims of the same camp. — MNA

More relief supplies from abroad arrive at Yangon International Airport

YANGON, 16 May—AN-12 flight carrying 18 tons of water purifying tablets and blankets donated by UNICEF, IL-76 flight carrying 17.98 tons of two Landcruisers, two tippers, one rubber boat and 23 related materials by Red Cross Society of Britain, IL-76 and AN-12 flights carrying over 50 tons of plastic sheets, office equipment, construction materials and related ones by WFP, FD-3770 flight carrying tarpaulin sheets and plastic buckets by Culture Group of Thailand, TG-303, A-300, IL-76 and DC-8 flights carrying 93.96 tons of 3,000 shelter kits, two 4WD Toyota cars, relief supplies, 1,000 items of kitchen utensils, 6,000 sheets of tarpaulin, 5,000 Jerycans and emergency aid by IFRC, MI-518 flight carrying 1.65 tons of 36 packages of curtain sheets by Red Cross Society of Singapore, Jet Star flight carrying 22 packages of medicines and medical equipment by Myanmar Embassy in Singapore, C-130 flight carrying 12 tons of 120 plastic sheets, 1,440 health equipment and 2,400 boxes of 10-litre water bottles by social organizations from the US, two C-130 flights carrying 25.8 tons of water purified water bottles, instant food, blankets, medicines, medical gloves and rice by Thailand and two C-130 flights carrying 24.8 tons of mosquito nets, instant food, emergency aid, plastic sheets and 10-litre water bottles by the US arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

The relief supplies donated by foreign countries have been sent to the storm hit regions by helicopter, by car and by vessel. — MNA

Health care services for storm victims in Labutta Township in progress.—MNA
US welcomes Arab League statement on Lebanon

WASHINGTON, 15 May — US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said on Monday the United States welcomes the statement by the Arab League foreign ministers on the Lebanon situation. “I think it was a good statement,” Rice said.

The statement showed the Arab League’s rejection of the use of armed violence to achieve political goals outside the framework of constitutional legitimacy, and the need for a withdrawal of all weapons from the streets, Rice said.

Arab League foreign ministers issued a statement after an emergency meeting in Cairo on Sunday and called on all Lebanese to cease fire and end acts of violence.

The Arab foreign ministers called on gunmen to withdraw from the streets to help Lebanese army maintain stability in the country, where sectarian fighting between anti and pro-government supporters recently left at least 24 people dead and dozens of others injured.

Deadly clashes in Lebanon erupted Wednesday after the Lebanese Cabinet decided Tuesday to cease the private communication network of the leading opposition group of Hizbollah and remove airport security chief General Wafik Shqairi for alleged links to Hizbollah.

Residences evacuated as wildfires engulf partial Florida

WASHINGTON, 15 May — Parts of Florida were declared in a state of emergency on Monday as wildfires torched the area and forced hundreds of residences to evacuate.

Firefighters were battling about a dozen separate brush fires in Brevard County, according to a report by the local 13 News Channel.

An area of approximately 1,214 hectares in Brevard county was burning in the fire, which also damaged at least two houses and threatened 60 others, the report said.

The local arson investigation authorities told reporters that they suspected one person should be held accountable for the blaze, who as eyewitness said has dropped something in an open field and started the fire afterwards.

Baghdad fighting kills six

BAGHDAD, 15 May — Clashes between security forces and Shi’ite gunmen killed six people and wounded 28 in Baghdad overnight, Iraqi police said on Wednesday.

The clashes put further strain on a weekend agreement to halt nearly two months of fighting in the capital.

Police said gunmen fought US and Iraqi forces in the east Baghdad stronghold of anti-American Shi’ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. Five people were killed and 22 wounded overnight, police said, without giving details on the casualties.

Fighting also erupted in western Baghdad’s Shula District, another bastion of Sadr’s Mehdi Army militia.

Over 50 tourists die in S-W China earthquake

CHENGDU, 16 May — More than 50 tourists were confirmed dead on Thursday in Jiuzhaigou, a tourist attraction in southwest China’s quake-hit Sichuan Province, local officials said. The victims included 35 people whose coach were buried by a landslide.

The two other people on the coach were badly injured, according to the emergency management office of Aba prefecture, Sichuan.

The office said as of 8 pm Wednesday more than 10,000 tourists were stranded in Aba, including about 2,900 in Jiuzhaigou and 7,058 in Songpan County.

Yang Changqing, secretary-general of Aba prefectural government, said 1,200 tourists were stranded in Maoxian County of Aba. There were no reports of deaths or injuries of foreign tourists.

The local government was evacuating the stranded tourists by road and air.

Putin says Russia needs new oil, gas shipping fleet

ST PETERSBURG (RUSSIA), 15 May — Prime Minister Vladimir Putin urged his government on Tuesday to give Russia a modern fleet of ships for its flourishing energy sector and named his close ally to manage the multi-billion-dollar project.

The principal direction is the creation of a complete line of ships and equipment to extract and transport oil and gas from offshore deposits,” Putin told a meeting of top officials in his home town of St Petersburg.

“This includes drilling platforms, ice-class gas carriers and icebreakers,” he added.

Putin quit as president last week after presiding over eight years of economic growth to head the government of his successor and ally Dmitry Medvedev. However, he is expected to maintain much of his real powers, including a grip on economic policy.

The St Petersburg meeting, called to discuss the revival of national shipbuilding, became the first major event attended by top ministers of Putin's new Cabinet formed on Monday.

“In the past 10 years only 6 per cent of ships ordered by Russian owners have been built at national docks,” Putin told the meeting.

A big tent in the shape of a soccer ball is installed on Red Square, with the Historical Museum in the background right, and the Kremlin, left, in Moscow, on 15 May, 2008. It’s a part of preparations for next week’s UEFA Champions League final between between English clubs Chelsea and Manchester United. —INTERNET

A man tapes a broken window of his house after clashes in the Shwayfat area in Mount Lebanon near Beirut on 12 May, 2008.—INTERNET

A big tent in the shape of a soccer ball is installed on Red Square, with the Historical Museum in the background right, and the Kremlin, left, in Moscow, on 15 May, 2008. It’s a part of preparations for next week’s UEFA Champions League final between between English clubs Chelsea and Manchester United. —INTERNET

Voice actor Jack Black poses near life-sized pandas during a beach photo call for the animated film ‘Kung Fu Panda’ as the 61st Cannes Film Festival starts 14 May, 2008. —INTERNET

Residences evacuated as wildfires engulf partial Florida

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MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua
Breast cancer patients undergo chemotherapy treatment. A Canadian study has shown that women deficient in vitamin D at the time of a breast cancer diagnosis are more likely to die or see the tumor spread. —INTERNET

A child reads on his 'XO' laptop in Arahuy, an Andean hilltop village in Peru. Microsoft and the One Laptop Per Child project on 15 May, 2008 announced that the nonprofit's green-and-white 'XO' computers now can run Windows in addition to their homegrown interface, which is built on the open Linux operating system. That had been anticipated for months, but it amounts to a major shift. —INTERNET

The numbers of rare Bengal tigers has plunged to 1,411 in 2008, drastically lower than the 3,700 believed to exist in 2003. The world’s wildlife populations have reduced by around a quarter since the 1970s, according to a major report by the WWF conservation organization. —INTERNET

A file photo shows South African amputee champion runner, Oscar Pistorius, sprints during a training session in Pretoria, South Africa. The Court of Arbitration for Sport said it will issue its ruling Friday on amputee sprinter Oscar Pistorius’ bid to race at the Beijing Olympics. —INTERNET

A screensgrab from Wii Fit. Nintendo gives a demonstration to introduce Wii Fit, its newest game aimed at getting people off the couch and on their feet to exercise. —INTERNET

A child reads on his ‘XO’ laptop in Arahuy, an Andean hilltop village in Peru. Microsoft and the One Laptop Per Child project on 15 May, 2008 announced that the nonprofit’s green-and-white ‘XO’ computers now can run Windows in addition to their homegrown interface, which is built on the open Linux operating system. That had been anticipated for months, but it amounts to a major shift. —INTERNET

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR   Saturday, 17 May, 2008

Russia to send humanitarian aid for quake-hit China

Moscow, 15 May—Russia will send a plane with rescuers and humanitarian aid to China where a devastating earthquake has claimed more than 10,000 lives in the southwest region, Russian media reported on Tuesday.

“The Russian Emergencies Ministry is preparing a plane with rescuers and humanitarian aid for China,” Interfax news agency quoted a spokesperson of the ministry as saying.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has sent a message of solace to Chinese President Hu Jintao over the disastrous earthquake and offered humanitarian aid.

The earthquake, with a magnitude of 7.8 on the Richter Scale, rocked southwest China Monday afternoon.

As of 2:00 pm on Tuesday (0900GMT), the death toll from the earthquake had climbed to 11,921, according to the ad hoc headquarters of the disaster relief. Of the dead, 11,608 were in Sichuan.

MNA/Xinhua

Czech Republic, US settle down jurisdiction issue

Prague, 15 May—The Czech Republic will have sovereignty over the radar base area and it will exercise an ownership right to the radar station, the Czech Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

The Czech Republic will provide the defined territory to the Americans for free, the Czech news agency CTK quoted the ministry as saying.

The buildings and movable objects the Americans build will become property of the Czech Republic. The Americans, on the other hand, will exercise ownership rights to movable objects, including the radar area. The treaty provides for a maximum of 250 US soldiers staying at the base during the supposed regular rotations. Other-wise, during a regular operation, the base will be manned by about 100 US soldiers and a couple of tens of US civilians.

The treaty which is subject of approval by Czech Parliament also deals with visits by state officials to the base, including foreign diplomats residing in the Czech Republic. If a person from a third country asks for approval of their visit to the base, such visit must first be approved by the Czech Republic. Visits by Czechs will be approved by the United States while Americans’ visits will have to be approved by Czechs.

The Czech Republic and the United States do not reconcile with observers from Russia or any other country permanently staying at the planned US radar base on Czech soil, Czech Deputy Defence Minister Martin Bartak said on Sunday.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in Bomb attack in Baghdad

Baghdad, 15 May—An American soldier was killed by a roadside bomb explosion in Baghdad, the US military said on Wednesday.

The soldier was killed on Tuesday evening when the bomb struck his vehicle in northwestern Baghdad, a military statement said, without specifying the exact location of the incident.

However, the area where the attack took place is a stronghold of Mahdi Army militia, loyal to Shi’ite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, whose aides struck a deal on Saturday with the Iraqi Government to end weeks of fighting in Baghdad between US-backed Iraqi security forces and Mahdi Army militia. The latest death brings the number of US troops killed in Iraq since the March 2003 invasion to more than 4,075, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

MNA/Xinhua

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 19th May (Monday) full Moon of Kason 2008, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

MNA/Xinhua

Claims Day Notice

MV Bang Pa Kaew VOY NO (158)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG PA KAEW VOY NO (158) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.5.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS WONG SAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO, LTD

Phone No: 256919/256916256912

MNA/Xinhua

Claims Day Notice

MV Lu Shan Voy NO (91)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV LU SHAN VOY NO (91) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19th May (Monday) full Moon of Kason 2008, being public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

MNA/Xinhua

Donate Blood

"The Zigungha Dam buildings are seen at left near a bridge where the middle section is fallen after Monday's earthquake near Dujuangang, southwestern China's Sichuan Province, on 15 May, 2008. China warned the death toll from this week's earthquake could soar to 50,000, while the government issued a rare public appeal Thursday for rescue equipment as it struggled to cope with the disaster."—INTERNET
**S Africa shines in 2008**

**World Travel Award winners**

DURBAN (South Africa), 15 May — The 2008 World Travel Awards winners for Africa were announced on early Tuesday morning in South Africa with South Africa as the brightest star of the event.

Held in Durban, the eastern coastal city of South Africa, the ceremony unveiled a number of Africa’s continental winners. Sixteen awards of the total 21 were presented to South African operators, with South Africa Airways being awarded as Africa’s leading airline and the country’s Tambo International Airport selected as leading airport in Africa.

International Convention Centre in Durban was awarded as Africa’s leading conference centre while Cape Town was regarded as Africa’s slandering destination. Of those non-South African operators, Egypt’s Conrad Cairo was awarded as Africa’s leading business hotel. And Morocco’s Sharmar Game Reserve was presented with Africa’s leading conservation company.

The winners of the awards in Africa have been judged on range of business dynamics, notably an understanding of visitors needs, outstanding business performance and product development. The World Travel Awards were launched in 1993 to acknowledge and recognize excellence in the world’s travel and tourism industry.

**US buyers drive Christie’s $350m modern art**

NEW YORK, 15 May — A Lucian Freud painting sold for 33.64 million US dollars at Christie’s art auction on Tuesday, shattering the record for a piece by a living artist. The British painter’s 1995 portrait of a nude woman sleeping on a sofa, “Benefits Supervisor Sleeping”, sold for just under its high presale estimate of 35 million US dollars.

The previous record of 23.6 million US dollars was set last November for a Jeff Koons sculpture, “Hanging Heart”. Contemporary art sold strongly, defying erratic financial markets at a 350-million-US-dollar auction marked by a surprising preponderance of American buying. Records fell for seven other artists as well. “It was stupendous,” said Christie’s contemporary and postwar art international co-head Amy Cappellazzo, noting it was Christie’s second-best contemporary result. The sale’s total was just above the midrange of its presale estimate.

**World tree planting drive sets goal of 7 billion**

OSLO, 15 May — A campaign to plant trees worldwide set a goal on Tuesday of seven billion by late 2009, just over one for each person on the planet, to help protect the environment and slow climate change.

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP), an organizer of the tree planting drive begun in late 2006 with an initial goal of a billion by the end of 2007, said governments, companies and individuals had already pushed the total above two billion.

It set a target on Tuesday of an extra five billion plantings by the time a UN climate conference in Denmark starts on November 30 next year that is meant to agree a new long-term treaty to combat climate change beyond the UN’s Kyoto Protocol.

Experts warn that the World Health Organization estimates the world over have their origins in India.

A study has already identified 61 popular drug brands from nine therapeutic categories that will be tested. They include anti-tuberculosis medications, anti-allergics, drugs to counter diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, anti-infective steroids, antimalarials, NSAIDs, anti-histaminic and multi-vitamin preparations.

However, the Indian Health Ministry’s estimates are more conservative. It said 5 per cent of drugs in India are counterfeit while 0.3 per cent are spurious.

Under Indian law, both counterfeit and fake drugs are described as spurious medicines.

Indian Health Secretary Naresh Dayal said, “The counterfeit drug market in India, which we believe is still not that large, has the potential to become extremely threatening. We need to know its actual size in order to combat it.”

**Beijing reports first child death of HFMD**

BEIJING, 15 May — Beijing’s health authority on Wednesday confirmed the first child death of hand-foot-mouth disease (HFMD) in the capital.

Deng Xiaohong, spokeswoman of the Beijing Health Bureau, said the child, a 13-month-old boy from northern Chaoyang District, had died on the way to a hospital last Sunday.

She said the child had tested positive for enterovirus 71 (EV71), a virus that causes the majority of HFMD deaths in China. The spokeswoman also confirmed that another child from north China’s Hebei Province had died of HFMD in a Beijing hospital, but she did not reveal when the child died.

“Under the disease counting regulations of the Ministry of Health, the child from Hebei was not counted in Beijing’s disease toll,” said Deng.

Hebei Province, which neighbours Beijing, had not previously reported any child death from HFMD.

Beijing counting of HFMD infection ran up to 3,606 as of May 12, up from 1,492 cases reported on May 4. The health bureau did not update the figure by Wednesday morning.

Deng said that Beijing’s Chaoyang District had so far the city’s largest number of infections, followed by southern Fengtai and northern Changping districts.

**Experts fear 20% of drugs sold in India are fake**

NEW DELHI, 15 May — Experts in the Indian pharmacy industry fear that one in five drugs sold in the country are fake, according to the Times of India Wednesday.

Experts estimate that the lethal market is growing at 25 percent annually. In fact, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s latest figures say 75 per cent of fake drugs supplied the world over have their origins in India.

A study has already identified 61 popular drug brands from nine therapeutic categories that will be tested. They include anti-tuberculosis medications, anti-allergics, drugs to counter diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, anti-infective steroids, antimalarials, NSAIDs, anti-histaminic and multi-vitamin preparations.

However, the Indian Health Ministry’s estimates are more conservative. It said 5 per cent of drugs in India are counterfeit while 0.3 per cent are spurious.

A counterfeit medicine is one that has no active ingredient or is an expired drug which has been re-labelled and sold. It’s slightly different from a fake drug, which may not resemble the original in any way.

Under Indian law, both counterfeit and fake drugs are described as spurious medicines.

Indian Health Secretary Naresh Dayal said, “The counterfeit drug market in India, which we believe is still not that large, has the potential to become extremely threatening. We need to know its actual size in order to combat it.”

**Workers operate on a tunnel drilling machine inside the Gotthard base tunnel in Erstfeld, central Switzerland on 15 May, 2008. The Gotthard base tunnel with a planned length of 57 km (35 miles) which is part of the pan European high speed rail lines, should become operational at the end of 2016 and will be the world’s longest railway tunnel.** — INTERNET

![Image](image_url)
US Serena Williams returns a backhand to Italian Sara Errani during their game at the WTA Tennis Open in Rome. Williams won 6-4, 6-3. — INTERNET

Sharapova to take over to ranking from retired Henin

LONDON, 16 May — Maria Sharapova will take over as world number one next week after Justine Henin asked to be removed from the rankings following her retirement, the governing body of women’s tennis (WTA) said on Thursday.

Henin stunned the sporting world when she announced her retirement with immediate effect on Wednesday, becoming the first woman to quit tennis while ranked number one.

The Belgian holds a commanding 1,709-point lead over Australian Open champion Sharapova in this week’s rankings.

Despite retiring, the 25-year-old would have held on to the top spot for several more weeks had she not wanted her name omitted from the list.

The WTA said Henin was currently in her 117th non-consecutive week in the top spot. — MNA/Reuters

Boca held at home, Adriano gives Sao Paulo narrow win

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 May — Defending champions Boca Juniors were held 2-2 at home by Atlas in their Libertadores Cup quarter-final first leg on Wednesday while Adriano gave Sao Paulo a 1-0 win over Fluminense.

Jorge Torres’s early header gave Mexico’s Atlas a surprise draw in Buenos Aires and Adriano, on loan from Inter Milan, notched his fifth goal of the competition in the all-Brazilian tie in Sao Paulo.

“It was unjust,” Boca playmaker Juan Roman Riquelme told reporters. “They’ll be happy because they scored two goals which they didn’t deserve. They didn’t offer anything during the whole game.”

Boca, staging the game at Velez Sarsfield because of a ban on their own Bombonera stadium following a surprise draw in Buenos Aires and Adriano, on loan from Inter Milan, notched his fifth goal of the competition in the all-Brazilian tie in Sao Paulo.

Hull book Wembley playoff date with Bristol City

LONDON, 15 May — Hull City routed Watford 4-1 in their Championship (second division) playoff on Wednesday to book a date in the Wembley final against Bristol City and the chance of playing in the Premier League next season.

Former England international Nick Barmby equalised for Hull, who won the first leg 2-0, just before halftime after they had gone behind to a Darius Henderson strike after 12 minutes.

Caleb Folan headed Hull in front in the 70th, Richard Garcia got their third in the 88th and Nathan Joulin’s deflected shot made it four in injury time, giving Hull a 6-1 aggregate win. — MNA/Reuters

Partizan closer to title, Dinamo win Croatian cup

BELGRADE, 15 May — Serbian championship leaders Partizan Belgrade moved closer to their 20th league title on Wednesday after a 3-1 win at city rivals OFK left them three points clear with two games left.

In Croatia, champions Dinamo Zagreb completed the domestic double with a 3-0 aggregate cup final win over traditional rivals Hajduk Split following a goalless second leg. Partizan were under pressure after titleholders and closest rivals Red Star Belgrade won 2-1 at Banat Zrenjanin in the day’s early kickoff thanks to a brace from Nenad Jestrovic.

The leaders had fallen behind to a second-minute opener from OFK defender Bojan Markoski but turned the match with first-half goals from Almani Moreira, Nenad Djordjevic and Lamine Diarra.

The result left OFK in a relegation playoff spot, but expected, good for one team,” Grant said. — MNA/Reuters

Dinamo Zagreb coach quits after winning double

SPLIT (Croatia), 15 May — Dinamo Zagreb coach Zvonimir Soldo stepped down immediately after the Croatian champions completed the domestic double with a 3-0 aggregate win over Hajduk Split in the cup final on Wednesday. “I told club director Zoran Mamic I could no longer carry on under the present circumstances,” Soldo told a news conference after Dinamo held Hajduk to a 0-0 draw in the second leg.

The local sportsnet website (www.sportnet.hr) cited strained relations between the pair as the main reason for Soldo’s resignation and tipped his predecessor Branko Ivanovic as the most likely candidate to take over. — MNA/Reuters
Friday, 16 May, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kayah and Kayin States, fairly widespread in Shan State and Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavy falls in Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Sagaing, Mandalay and Tanintharyi Divisions. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperatures in lower Sagaing, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below May average temperatures in Rakhine and Kayah States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Mandalay Divisions, (7°C) to (8°C) below May average temperatures in Kayin State, Magway and Bago Divisions and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nya-Pyi-Taw (0.20) inch, Gwa (6.61) inches, Kyaukphyu (6.33) inches, Kawthoung (5.04) inches, Thawdrwe (4.06) inches, Kalay (3.86) inches and Minkin (2.80) inches. Maximum temperature on 15-5-2008 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 16-5-2008 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 15-5-2008 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 15-5-2008 was (1.2) hours. Rainfall on 16-5-2008 was (0.04) inch at Mingalardon, (0.67) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.32) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (21.97) inches at Mingalardon, (25.63) inches at Kaba-Aye and (27.68) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (13:30) hours MST on 15-5-2008.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hours MST today, a low pressure area over East Central Bay and adjoining Rakhine State still persists. Monsoon is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 16-5-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Rakhine and Mon States, Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and scattered to fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Rakhine State, Sagaing and Tanintharyi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Frequent squalls with rough seas are likely off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (45) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of strong monsoon in the Andaman and South Bay.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-5-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-5-2008: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-5-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Weather outlook for third weekend of May 2008: During the coming weekend, likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.
13th Waxing of Kason 1370 ME  Saturday, 17 May, 2008

**Legal action for any relief aid embezzlement**

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee releases announcement

**NA**Y**P**I**TA**W, 16 May—The National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee released an announcement yesterday.

The Announcement is as follows:—

1. Some areas in Myanmar were hit severely by the Cyclone ‘Nargis’. Now the nation is accepting the relief supplies donated by internal and international donors with much gratitude.

2. The Emergency Supply Supervisory Committee consisting of departmental officials and non-governmental organizations is accepting and systematically keeping proper accounts the cash and relief aid donated by internal and international donors. Then, the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Subcommittee consisting of departmental officials and non-governmental organizations is immediately delivering the items to the victims in the storm-hit areas.

3. Hence, wellwishers at home and abroad may contact the nearest Myanmar embassies, offices of the Military Attaché, responsible persons of Natural Disaster Preparedness Subcommittees in the respective wards, townsships, districts, states and divisions, other service agencies and official organizations and donate humanitarian aid.

4. Anyone may inform if he witnesses or knows that the cash assistance and relief supplies donated to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular persons and organizations, or misappropriated for other purposes. We hereby announce that we have made all necessary arrangements to conduct investigation into the cases to expose the offenders and take punitive action against them in accordance with the law.

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee

**Diesel donated for relief and resettlement**

YANGON, 16 May—PTT Public Company Limited, that is carrying out joint venture tasks with the Ministry of Energy, presented 480,000 litres of diesel on board MT Pentrader at the Oil Refinery (Thanlyin) for the tasks of relief and resettlement in storm-hit areas this afternoon.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Thai Ambassador Mr Bansarn Bunnag view MT Pentrader carrying 480,000 litres of diesel to be used for relief and resettlement work in storm-hit areas.—MNA

YANGON, 16 May—Maj-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win, attended the ceremony to donate cash to storm victims of Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions at Mon State Hall in Mawlamyine yesterday.

Markets and restaurants of Mawlamyine donated K 13 million, bus lines, banks and pharmaceutical companies K 10.5 million, roads and bridges and fuel sale centres K 10 million, rice merchants, WVO, fishery entrepreneurs and free funeral services societies K 9.5 million, dams construction groups and industrialists K 7 million, Mawlamyine Township K 3.2 million, Chaungzon Township K 800,000, Kyaukmaraw Township K 400,000, Mudon Township K 11.1 million, Ye Township K 900,000, Mon State Forest Department K 5 million and U Than Shein-Daw San Win of Myat Thura Hospital, Maj-Gen Tha Aye met departmental personnel and local people at the hall of the township. Afterwards, he comforted patients at Chaungzon Township Hospital and presented cash assistance to them.

After inspecting the hospital, Maj-Gen Tha Aye attended to the needs of the officials. Later, he viewed development of the township.—MNA

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