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Relief and resettlement tasks to be carried out in accordance with requirements of the region concerned

Senior General Than Shwe inspects relief and rehabilitation tasks, comforts victims in storm-hit areas in Ayeyawady Division

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, SPDC Member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe, senior military officers from the Ministry of Defence, and officials of the SPDC Office, left Yangon by Tatmadaw special flight to inspect relief and rehabilitation works and console the victims in the storm-hit areas in Ayeyawady Division and arrived at Pathein in Ayeyawady Division at 12:35 pm yesterday. The Senior General and party were welcomed at Pathein Airport by senior military officers of South-West Command and Pathein Air Base Headquarters, division level departmental officials, the secretary and executives of Ayeyawady Division Union Solidarity and Development Association. The Senior General and party, together with Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, proceeded by Tatmadaw helicopter to Labutta in Myaungnya District. They were welcomed by Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut and Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun who are closely supervising rehabilitation tasks in Labutta, district and township level service personnel, and national entrepreneurs. Senior General Than Shwe cordially greeted and comforted the storm victims at Yadanadipa relief camp in Yadanadipa sports grounds. (See page 16)

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

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
2008. The plane is loaded with the third lot of companies and wellwishers joining hands with temporary clinics.

Regarding the health care services, the specialists necessary equipment will be provided for those production for their livelihoods. Moreover, also help rebuild business of the victims and will provide tractors for cultivation and it will wellwishers. tents provided by the State and local and foreign to the victims. Temporary shelters are being built made for providing shelter, food and other utensils their places. Systematic arrangements are also being made for the victims in the relief camps who want to go back to their places. Systematic arrangements are also made for providing shelter, food and other utensils to the victims. Temporary shelters are being built in their own villages with the use of tarpaulin and tents provided by the State and local and foreign wellwishers.

Agricultural Mechanization Department will provide tractors for cultivation and it will also help rebuild business of the victims and production for their livelihoods. Moreover, necessary equipment will be provided for those who earn their living by making salt and fishing. Regarding the health care services, the specialists are giving treatment to the victims after opening temporary clinics. Proper health care and food are being provided in the storm-affected areas and preventive measures against diseases are being taken. We believe that reconstruction works will be completed sooner with the entrepreneurs, companies and wellwishers joining hands with the government in the project.

Over 9200 storm victims resettled in native villages in Mawlamyinegyun Tsp

Yangon, 21 May — Minister of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt has closely supervised the relief efforts for storm victims in Mawlamyinegyun Township. On 17 May, the minister welcomed the 83 households including 233 storm victims who arrived back from relief camps in Wakema to Mawlamyinegyun by ship and presented relief aids to them. Those victims were conveyed to their villages in Ayeyawady Delta region.

A ship carrying over 100 tons of relief aids and specialists stopped at Ngwezinyaw Village and Ngatanyayar villages in Shaukhuang Village-tract on 18 May and officials concerned distributed relief aids to over 4000 storm victims and two 1000 KW generators to monasteries. Specialists provided treatment to over 100 patients on the ship.

Similarly, Shwemyineang Ship carrying over 100 tons of relief aids arrived at Myahta Ywama and Myathya Ywawa villages in the delta region. Officials distributed relief aids to over 5000 storm victims and specialists provided medical treatment to over 100 patients on the ship. They also donated one 1000 KW generator to the monastery in the village of Myathya Ywawa.

Over 9,200 storm victims from 54 villages in Mawlamyinegyun Township arrived back to their native villages and officials concerned have been distributing relief aids to them. — MNA

CPT Minister inspects post offices, auto-exchanges

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 May—Chairman of Emergency Communications Sub-committee of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected damaged post offices and auto-exchanges caused by the storm in Kawhmu and Mungyangon Townships on 18 May and gave instructions on speedy measures to be taken for repairing damaged buildings as scheduled and for enabling the people to communicate one another by dividing into groups.

Next, the minister met with officials concerned of Dedaye Township, engineers in-charge of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and service personnel and with respect to the reports, the minister attended to the needs and made arrangements to communicate between urban and rural areas. Afterwards, the minister oversaw machines at International Underground Cable Station in Pyapon Township and made arrangements for durability and better communication links.

Upon arrival at International Underground Cable Station in Kyaiikt Township and Auto-exchange in Maubin Township, the minister gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs. — MNA

China CAMCE Engineering Co Ltd (CAMCE) presents US$ 100,000 to Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe

China CAMCE Engineering Co Ltd presents US$ 100,000 to Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe at Central Bank of Myanmar this morning. — MNA

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs signs Book of Condolences for Chinese earthquake victims

Yangon, 21 May — Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu signed Book of Condolences at the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China, No 1 Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Dagon Township at 10.50 am today, opened for the victims of the recent earthquake in the People’s Republic of China. — MNA

Foreign Affairs
Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu signs Book of Condolences at the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China. — MNA
**Egyptian FM urges Israel to push forward peace process**

Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt), 21 May — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit on Monday called on Israel to make up its mind to reach peace with the Palestinians. During a plenary session of the World Economic Forum (WEF) on the Middle East at the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, Abul Gheit said “The decision is in Israel’s hand.”

The Egyptian foreign minister said the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is the most significant contributing factor of the instability in the region.

**China sends counselling books to child quake survivors**

Beijing, 21 May — The Education Ministry said that 800,000 counselling books were being sent to quake-affected children starting on Tuesday.

As of Tuesday noon, the first 50,000 books had been sent to students in hard-hit Mianyang City in southwest Sichuan Province, where classes have resumed in tents.

The ministry said other books were being printed and sent to students in other areas of Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi Provinces. The books were specially written by a dozen experts in child psychology after the quake on 12 May.

Meanwhile, the ministry has organized universities to launch counselling hotlines and websites for quake victims. As of Tuesday, nine universities including the Beijing Normal University and Sichuan Normal University have opened such hotlines and websites, the ministry said.

**UK’s Labour 14 points behind Conservatives**

London, 21 May — British Prime Minister Gordon Brown’s Labour Party is 14 points behind the opposition Conservatives, its worst showing for more than 20 years, an opinion poll in the Guardian newspaper showed on Tuesday.

The poll, published ahead of a parliamentary by-election on Thursday in north-west England, showed confidence in Labour’s ability to govern has dropped sharply and most Labour voters now think Tony Blair was a better prime minister than Brown.

Support for Labour stood at 27 per cent, down seven points from the previous month, and the lowest level recorded since the Guardian began its ICM polling series in 1984.

The Conservatives were on 41 per cent, up two points, and Britain’s third largest party, the Liberal Democrats, were up three points at 22 per cent. Brown has stumbled over a series of policy decisions, most damagingly a self-inflicted row over a tax change that hurt the poorest.

**Civilian nuclear facilities in Sichuan confirmed safe**

Chengdu, 21 May — Nuclear facilities and radioactive sources for civilian purposes in southwest China’s Sichuan Province have been confirmed safe and controllable after the 12 May quake, top environment official said here on Tuesday.

Zhou Shengxian, Minister of Environmental Protection, told Xinhua that altogether 32 radioactive sources had been buried under debris during the 8-magnitude earthquake on 12 May centred in Wenchuan County of Sichuan.

So far, 30 of the radioactive sources have been recovered by authorities, according to Zhou.

Authorities have already detected the locations of the other two radioactive sources, and have limited access of their nearby areas during their excavation, Zhou said. —MNA/Xinhua

**Residents are seen in a building destroyed during clashes for the past several days in Baghdad’s Sade City on 20 May, 2008. The Iraqi Army launched an operation on Tuesday to take control of Baghdad’s Sade City slum, political and military stronghold of anti-American Shi’ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. —INTERNET**

**Colombian FARC guerillas “crackling”**

Bogota, 21 May — Colombia’s FARC Marxist insurgent group is falling apart under pressure from military assaults and growing desertions, one of its most wanted female rebel commanders said after surrendering to authorities.

Nelly Avila Moreno, known as “Karina,” turned herself in to soldiers over the weekend in the latest blow to the group behind Latin America’s oldest insurgency, which has had several top commanders killed in military attacks over the last year.

“I don’t know how they are at the moment at the national level, the only thing I know is that they are cracking,” Moreno said in Medellin where the Army presented her to reporters. “I think the FARC are decimated.”

Authorities say Moreno was responsible for massacres, kidnappings and attacks in Antioquia province where she commanded part of the FARC’s 47th Front. She said she had no contact with rebel top commanders for the last two years.

Begun as a socialist-inspired peasant army in the 1960s, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, has taken over much of Colombia’s lucrative illegal drugs trade. —MNA/Reuters
Every five years to corporate farmers,” McCain said.

“States, in the billions of dollars in subsidies served up farmers is found in Washington. obstacles to opening up foreign markets to American form,” McCain said in remarks prepared for delivery special-interest favours and corporate welfare in any not based on clear need. I will veto any bill containing farm subsidies, tariffs and subsidies to the National Restaurant Association in Chicago. to the Pakistan side of a military control line that divides Kashmir between the two countries, the spokesman said. India said it was the third such incident in Kashmir this month. It comes two days ahead of Indian Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee’s visit to Pakistan for a review of a four-year-old peace process. The Indian Army said the firing was unprovoked and they would lodge a protest. “Our troops observed restraint and we are ascertaining whether it was firing by militants or Pakistani soldiers,” Lieutenant-Colonel SD Goswami said.

“We have sought a flag meeting with the local commander to lodge our strong protest over the incident.” Pakistan’s military spokesman said Pakistani troops had not fired across the frontier. “There was no firing from this side,” said Major-General Athar Abbas.

A visitor watches an aircraft model during the 8th Annual European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE) in Geneva, Switzerland, on 20 May, 2008. The 8th EBACE opened on Tuesday, which attracted nearly 440 exhibitors from around the world. — XINHUA

Millions mourn China earthquake dead

Beijing, 20 May — Millions of people in China and overseas observed three minutes silence at 2:28 pm Monday to mourn thousands of people killed in an earthquake which hit the nation’s southwest a week ago.

Chinese President Hu Jintao, top legislator Wu Bangguo, Premier Wen Jiabao, and other top leaders including Jia Qinglin, Li Changchun, Xi Jinping, He Guoqiang and Zhou Yongkang also stood in silence in the central government compound of Zhongnanhai in Beijing.

The leaders, dressed in dark suits and wearing white paper flowers on their chests, bowed their heads in solemn silence to a national flag flying at half mast.

Across the country, air raid sirens, cars, trains and ship horns waited in grief as the people fell silent.

Cars, motorcycles and bicycles in the capital Beijing and other cities stopped in the road and sounded their horns. Pedestrians stood with their heads bowed.

Chinese bourses and commodities exchanges also suspended trading for three minutes in remembrance of the earthquake dead.

In the Shenzhen bourse, stock traders stood near their office desks in remembrance. Some of the traders said people have volunteered to buy stocks of Sichuan-based listed companies to show their support.

MNA/Xinhua

German elected as EBRD new president

Kiev, 20 May — Thomas Mirow of Germany was elected the new president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Monday at its annual conference held in Kiev.

“The region where the Bank works still faces many challenges,” said the bank’s new head.

Mirow, 55, was the only candidate to replace outgoing Frenchman Jean Lemierre, who will step down in July after eight years in charge of the bank.

MNA/Xinhua

McCain vows to fight US farm subsidies, tariffs

Washington, 20 May — Republican presidential candidate John McCain on Monday vowed to aid small farmers by targeting agricultural tariffs and subsidies doled out to agribusiness.

“If I am elected president, I will seek an end to all agricultural tariffs, and to all farm subsidies that are not based on clear need. I will veto any bill containing special-interest favours and corporate welfare in any form,” McCain said in remarks prepared for delivery to the National Restaurant Association in Chicago.

McCain, an Arizona Senator, said one of the biggest obstacles to opening up foreign markets to American farmers is found in Washington.

“It’s right there in the Congress of the United States, in the billions of dollars in subsidies served up every five years to corporate farmers,” McCain said.

MNA/Reuters

India to protest to Pakistan over border shooting

Shenagar (India), 20 May — An Indian soldier was killed in cross-border fire in Kashmir on Monday, prompting India to lodge a protest with Islamabad, an Army spokesman said. The soldier died in shooting from the Pakistani side of a military control line that divides Kashmir between the two countries, the spokesman said.

India said it was the third such incident in Kashmir this month. It comes two days ahead of Indian Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee’s visit to Pakistan for a review of a four-year-old peace process. The Indian Army said the firing was unprovoked and they would lodge a protest. “Our troops observed restraint and we are ascertaining whether it was firing by militants or Pakistani soldiers,” Lieutenant-Colonel SD Goswami said.

“arrest people meeting with the local commander to lodge our strong protest over the incident.” Pakistan’s military spokesman said Pakistani troops had not fired across the frontier. “There was no firing from this side,” said Major-General Athar Abbas.

Firefighters try to extinguish the fire on the roof of Berliner Philharmonic concert hall in Berlin, Germany, on 19 May, 2008. The world-famous Berliner Philharmonic concert hall, home to the Berlin Philharmonic orchestra, caught fire Tuesday afternoon and the fire is now under control. — XINHUA

Rigid time frame may undermine M-E peace deal

Jerusalem, 20 May — Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni said Monday that a rigid timetable for Israel and the Palestinians to forge a peace agreement may lead to negative results.

“The timeframe for reaching the agreements is important, but the content is even more so. Rigid timeframes may lead to unreal expectations, disappointment and violence,” Livni told a US congressional delegation led by House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Both sides must be given room and time to broker a long-term agreement which truly represents their interests, Livni was quoted by local daily Yedioth Ahronoth as saying, warning that “vague agreements will only prolong the conflict.”

The Foreign Minister believed the current situation in the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip to be an impediment to the peace process, saying the coastal region “is on its way to becoming a regional problem, hindering any possibility of reaching a comprehensive agreement.”

Israelis and Palestinians resumed the long-stalled peace talks at a US-hosted international conference in Annapolis, Maryland last November, and pledged to strike a comprehensive peace agreement before US President George W Bush steps down in January.

MNA/Xinhua

INTERNET

Injured.— MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Xinhua

INTERNET

Injured.— MNA/Xinhua
S Korea to ban imports of US beef from old cattle

SEOUL, 20 May—South Korea said on Tuesday it will effectively ban imports of US beef from cattle older than 30 months as the two sides hold talks to ease public safety concerns about the US product.

South Korea reached a deal with the United States last month to open its market wider to American beef, but delayed last week resumption of quarantine inspections for an additional seven to 10 days in the face of public safety concerns.

“The revised agreement, which will be announced later today, will include measures to ease public concerns and will effectively ban imports of beef from cattle older than 30 months,” Lee Dong-kwan, South Korea’s presidential spokesman told reporters on Tuesday.

The United States said on Monday it was in talks with Seoul to calm safety concerns as South Koreans have reacted angrily to the agreement requiring them to accept certain beef cuts that other US trading partners such as Japan still will not import.

Prior to the agreement, South Korea, once the third-largest importer of American beef until a US outbreak of mad cow disease in 2003, only allowed in boneless beef from cattle under 30 months of age.

WTO says EU banana import regime breaks trade rules

GENEVA, 20 May—The European Union’s regime for importing bananas, which gives preferential treatment to fruit from former European colonies, continues to break international trade rules, the World Trade Organization (WTO) said on Monday.

A WTO compliance panel, handing down a judgment in the case brought by the United States, said the EU had failed to implement previous rulings in the case.

This had harmed US trade rights, the panel said, implying that Washington was entitled to demand sanctions from Brussels.

The ruling marked another defeat for the European Union over its banana imports, one of the longest running global trade disputes, and followed a similar ruling a month ago in a case brought by the world’s biggest banana exporter Ecuador.

India to import power from neighbouring countries

NEW DELHI, 20 May—India is framing a policy for importing power from neighbouring countries to overcome the peaking shortage, local newspaper the Hindu reported Monday.

India considers Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar as natural markets for hydroelectricity. According to the calculations, these three countries have a hydropower potential of about 140 thousand megawatts, of which just about less than 3,000 megawatts is now being exploited.

The overriding objective of the policy should be securing energy resources in these countries for our future in a framework based on sound commercial principles and which is beneficial to both parties in the long run”, the report quoted the highly placed sources as saying.

The policy for importing power from neighbours would cover long-term power purchase agreements, tariff mechanism, a nodal agency for import, penalty clauses and norms for power dispatch in compliance with the Indian grid, the report said.

Morocco, Libya to invest $1b in three phosphate plants

RABAT, 20 May—Morocco’s state-owned phosphate facility Office Cherifien des Phosphate (OCP) and Libya Africa Investment Portfolio (LAIP) signed on Sunday a one-billion-US-dollar memorandum to build three phosphate derivatives plants, the official MAP news agency reported.

The plants will respectively produce phosphoric acid, ammonium hydroxide and fertilizers, the report said.

A construction worker stacks steel forms for the Freedom Tower on 19 May, 2008 in New York. Inflation at the wholesale level slowed in April following a huge increase in March although prices for a number of items from prescription drugs to pasta shot upward.—INTERNET

Vietnamese firms exporting more steel billets

HANOI, 20 May—Steel billet producers in Vietnam are making efforts to export more products due to a sharp drop in domestic demand, local newspaper Vietnam News reported Monday.

However, the Vietnam Steel Association (VSA) has warned that such exports may soon result in a shortage of materials in the local market.—MNA/Xinhua

UAE gas giant to invest $500m in region

ABU DHABI, 20 May—Dana Gas of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced on Sunday that it will invest more than 500 million US dollars in 2008 in its projects in Iraq, Egypt and the UAE.

The Sharjah-based Dana Gas, the largest private natural gas company in the Middle East, will channel its 500 million-dollar investments into all sectors of the gas industry, a Press release by the company said. Dana Gas expects the investments to realize the value of its strategic positions in the gas sector in the Kurdish Region of Iraq, Egypt and the UAE, and further boost revenues at the next stage of its development.

“Our focus this year will be implementing the important projects in the UAE and the Kurdish Region of Iraq, while significantly expanding the drilling programme of new wells in Egypt,” the company’s executive director Ahmed Al Arbeed said.—MNA/Xinhua

A customer checks out Music Store (on a screen) with Apple iTunes at an Apple store in Tokyo in this 25 August, 2006 file photo.—INTERNET

Former Chairman and CEO of the Walt Disney Co, Michael Eisner speaks during the Microsoft advance08 Advertising Leadership Forum at the company’s campus in Redmond, Wash, on 20 May, 2008. Microsoft unveiled its new brand: Microsoft Advertising. Eisner spoke about profitable content distribution aside from networks.—INTERNET
Relief aids distributed to storm victims in Mingala Taungnyunt

YANGON, 21 May — Members of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi distributed relief aids to storm victims in Mingala Taungnyunt this morning. During the visit, the ministers comforted the storm victims from four wards in the township at a relief camp set up at No 23 Basic Education Primary School and distributed rice and relief aids to the victims.

Afterwards, Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and U Aung Kyi went to Kandawgalay Ward in the township and met with storm victims from three wards. At the meeting, the ministers comforted the storm victims and distributed rice and relief aids to the victims.

Similarly, the ministers went to Kandawgalay South Ward in Mingala Taungnyunt Township and distributed rice and relief aids to storm victims from four wards. At the meeting with the storm victims in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and U Aung Kyi briefed them on relief efforts and rehabilitation tasks being carried out by the Government, the tatmadawmen, police, members of social organizations and the people under the guidance of the Head of State. Moreover, relief aids contributed by donors at home and abroad are systematically and timely distributed to storm victims in the storm-hit areas.

Therefore, storm victims are not to trust the fabricated news made by destructive elements at home and abroad. — MNA

Lists of donations from abroad and at home, relief goods that have been supplied to storm-hit regions

YANGON, 21 May — The following are the lists of table on donations from abroad, the table on local donations and the table on relief goods that have been supplied to the storm-hit regions from 5 to 20 May.

The table on donations from abroad for storm victims (from 5-5-2008 to 20-5-2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Total (in ton)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Foodstuff</td>
<td>276.825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Consumer products</td>
<td>413.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>519.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2209.875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table on donations at home for storm victims (from 5-5-2008 to 20-5-2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. Region</th>
<th>Foodstuff</th>
<th>Consumer products</th>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>Total (in ton)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyawady Division</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyapon**</td>
<td>184.5</td>
<td>210.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>615.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainglanyeungyin**</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>369</td>
<td></td>
<td>804.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bogalay**</td>
<td>353.945</td>
<td>439.055</td>
<td></td>
<td>1390.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labutta**</td>
<td>495.5</td>
<td>269.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>1406.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dela**</td>
<td>111.79</td>
<td>137.13</td>
<td></td>
<td>390.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pathin</td>
<td>73.5</td>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
<td>248.55</td>
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<td>Kalah</td>
<td>1.35</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.35</td>
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<td>Ayea</td>
<td>1.61</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.61</td>
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<td>Kyuuklat</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>30.5</td>
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<td>3.7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15.7</td>
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<td>Myanmarya*</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>32.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wakesira*</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theikpiakongyi***</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pyinlahaingyang**</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neitkha***</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Kyunah</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hnanggykyun**</td>
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<td>Kyunakoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kadonkan***</td>
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<td>0.055</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ngatow</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1450.16</td>
<td>1577.98</td>
<td></td>
<td>5117.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table on relief aid that have been supplied to storm-hit regions (from 5-5-2008 to 20-5-2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Foodstuff</th>
<th>Consumer products</th>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>Total (in ton)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yangon Division</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twantay</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kungyangon</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>140.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>KayatThongwa</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>37.22</td>
<td>37.15</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>158.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remarks: * Rear camps. ** Middle camps. *** Forward camps.
YANGON, 21 May—A C-130 plane from Bangladesh carrying the medical team arrived at Yangon International Airport this afternoon.

A 33-member medical team led by Dr Md Anwarul Kabir was welcomed at the airport by the Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar and officials concerned. Relief supplies carried by the plane included varieties of medicines weighing 7.04 tons.

A 33-member medical team from Bangladesh arrives at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Diplomats sign the book of condolences for storm-victims

YANGON, 21 May—The storm Nargis hit Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions from 2 to 4 May. The storm hit Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions, claiming many lives and causing enormous destruction to houses, religious buildings, schools, hospitals, watercraft, animals, crop plantations, forests and food supplies and the three days from 20 May to 22 May 2008 inclusive were designated as the days of mourning for the loss of lives of the people.

Foreign Ambassadors to Myanmar, chargés d’affaires, resident representatives of UN agencies and officials concerned signed the book of condolences at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Visiting ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan also arrived and signed the book of condolences.

NPED Minister hosts dinner to ASEAN Secretary-General

YANGON, 21 May—Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha hosted a dinner to ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan and party at Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Road, here, yesterday evening.

It was attended by directors-general of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials. — MNA

Wellwishers continue to donate cash and kind to storm victims

NAY PYI TAW, 21 May—The Financial Subcommittee accepted cash and kind worth K 304,204,035 donated by wellwishers including K 2,167,400 and supply aid by people of Kayah State, K 32,364,835 by departments and people from Kayin and Mon states, home construction materials worth K 2.1 million by wellwishers from Taninthayi Division, 100 power-tillers, 522 bags of rice, clothes and foodstuff worth K 96,440,200 by families of servicemen and wellwishers from Mandalay Division, K 2.6 million and home construction materials and 22 draught cattle worth K 17,125,000 by people from Magway Division, and K 65.5 million for the third time by the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd today.

So far, the subcommittee has accepted cash and kind worth K 8,255,866,206. — MNA

Chinese Ambassador signs the book of condolences at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

French Ambassador signs the book of condolences at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—MNA

Indian Ambassador signs the book of condolences at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA
Necessary assistance will be rendered for regenerating...

(from page 16)

General Thura Shwe Mann said that the Senior General intended to make a trip to the storm-affected areas as soon as the disaster had abated, however he visited the areas only after the tasks are in full swing, taking the relief and rehabilitation works into consideration.

The Senior General has given guidance on compilation of a precise list of houses, religious buildings and government offices destroyed in the areas, and implementation of rehabilitation tasks and development undertaking according to the list, he said.

He said that now, there is no need to worry about food supplies such as edible oil, rice and salt for Labutta region; that regular supply routes will be set up; and necessary assistance will be rendered for regenerating the farmlands and construction of embankments.

On arrival at Yangon, the Senior General heard a report by the Prime Minister on progress of rehabilitation works, and the Senior General in response gave work guidelines, he said.

During the trip, the Senior General gave guidance on measures to upgrade Pyapon People’s Hospital to a 200-bed facility, and Bogale, Myawlamyingyun and Labutta people’s hospitals to 100-bed ones, he said.

Seeing orphans at relief camps, the Senior General gave guidance on establishment of training centres for the orphans in Pyapon and Labutta, and for the time being, a list is to be compiled as a separate programme to care for the orphans in Maubin and Myaungmya.

He said duties were assigned to units and regiments that are carrying out rehabilitation tasks. Arrangements are being made for reconstruction of basic education middle schools in some major village tracts, he said.

After the relief, rehabilitation and development tasks has been undertaken and disaster preparedness programmes carried out, the region will become the most developed one in economic, education, health and transport sectors.
Necessary assistance will be rendered for regenerating…

(from page 8)

He also said arrangements are being made for the service personnel who lost their lives in the storm to enjoy their rights.

The Senior General said, the government has to take care of the orphans who were affected physically and mentally so that they would become good and able citizens who serve the interest of the State.

He said education and health levels of the region have to be upgraded at a time when the rehabilitation tasks for storm-hit areas and the people are being undertaken. He spoke of the need to build roads to the areas around the sea and raise the level of the road which can prevent the flood.

After the relief, rehabilitation and development tasks had been undertaken and disaster preparedness programmes carried out, the region would become the most developed one in economic, education, health and transport sectors, he said. Achievements will be made with the cooperation of the three strengths—the government, the Tatmadaw and the people. Success has been achieved as all the people including national entrepreneurs are participating in relief and rehabilitation tasks in accord with the policy of the State.

Next, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun reported on arrangements for construction of roads to the areas around the sea with the aid of the charts in accord with the guidance of Senior General Than Shwe.

Senior General Than Shwe gave a green light to the project and gave guidance on choice of axis. Roads to be built with the approval of Senior General Than Shwe are Maubin-Yaileay-Shwetaungmaw-Kyaikpi-Mawlamyaingyun, Mawlamyaingyun-Hlaingbon-Thitpoke-Kwinpauk-Pyinsalu, Labutta-Thingangyi-Pyinsalu, Bogale-Kyeinchaung-Kadanikoni, and Labutta-Thongwa-Oktwin-Htakson.

Senior General Than Shwe and party went to Myaungmya from Labutta by car. They went to No. 4 Basic Education School and comforted the victims from Labutta.

Senior General Than Shwe inquired daily health care services for the victims at the camps. Senior General Than Shwe and party cordially met members of social organizations and local people. They arrived back to Pathein in the evening.

General Thura Shwe Mann together with Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, Vice Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Khin Maung Tun and officials met storm victims at the relief camps in Pathein today.

Next, they went to U Cho rice mill where rice miller U Myo Wai and Daw Aye Aye Lwin reported on milling of 30,000 bags of rice and delivery of bags of rice to Labutta, Myaungmya, Mawlamyaingyun, Hainggyi Island, Pyinkhayaing, Thingangon, Thetkal Thuong and Wakema. Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Rice Mills Association U Myo Wai reported on regular running of rice mills in Hinthada, Maubin, Mawlamyainggyun Districts and sale of rice to Ayeyawady Division and regions in other divisions.

Afterwards, General Thura Shwe Mann looked into milling of paddy and storage of bags of rice to be sent to the relief camps and gave necessary instructions.

Altogether 32 rice mills are in operation in Pathein and the bags of rice are transported to the relief camps.

At Pinlon hall of No 5 Basic Education High School in Pathein, he met with victims from Phonegyigon, Sarchet, Amatkalay, Tharkhayangon and Thabaygyaing villages in Labutta Township and comforted them.

He asked farmers and fishermen in relief camp about restart of their work and attended to the needs.

He also instructed officials to take care of the victims.—MNA
YANGON, 21 May—Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi received Vice-Chairman Mr Charles Mattenet of Asia and Far East Department of Total E & P Myanmar Co and Resident Representative Ms Martine Valeix at the hall of Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise this morning.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, the managing directors and officials. They held discussions on proposal of the company to contribute assistance to rehabilitation tasks in storm-hit regions.

MNA

Relief aids from abroad arrived

YANGON, 21 May—AN-12 flight carrying 17.12 tons of office equipment, generators, tarpaulin and racks donated by WFP, four C-130 flights carrying about 20 tons of plywood, water bottles, blankets, plastic, nylon ropes, hammers and nails donated by the United State of America, Y 7-100 flight carrying 3 tons of medicines for Laos medical team from Lao PDR, A-300 flight carrying over 22 tons of foods, cables, medicines and medical equipments donated by KOICA of the Republic of Korea, IL-76 carrying 35.75 tons of water purifiers and related equipment, medicines, tents, foods and plastic donated by Doctors without borders of Belgium and IL-76 flight carrying 59.64 tons of construction material and tarpaulin donated by IFRC arrived at the Yangon International Airport today.

Similarly, IL-76 flight carrying over 40 tons of 4000 packages of tarpaulin and 2000 packages of construction material donated by Red Cross Society of Finland also arrived at the airport yesterday.

The relief aid donated from foreign countries have been distributed to the storm-affected regions without delay.—MNA
Rehabilitation task goes on with greater momentum

Relief aids are distributed right to the hands of storm victims in Pyapon Township. — MNA

Public telephone booth being on good service in rural area. — MNA

Myomgyi Market in Bogale being crowded with people. — MNA

Specialists provide medical care to patients at People's Hospital in Bogale. — MNA

Electricians repair cables in Bogale. — MNA
THOMSON “Reuters” to cut 140 journalist jobs

New York, 20 May—Global information company Thomson Reuters Corp plans to cut 140 editorial jobs by the end of the year as its Reuters news service absorbs Thomson Financial News. More than half the cuts will be in Europe, while the rest will be scattered, Editor-in-Chief David Schlesinger wrote in a memo to employees on Monday. Reuters also plans to add about 50 new jobs in growth areas, Schlesinger said, adding that the news organization should have about 2,500 employees by year’s end. “When two similar and once competing organizations come together, there is natural overlap and duplication in coverage,” Schlesinger wrote. “Wherever possible, we have worked to minimize job losses and to avoid redundancies by moving people into new roles and cancelling open posts that don’t fit within the new organization,” he added. Britain’s National Union of Journalists said it had not ruled out a strike but would negotiate with the company first. “The NUJ has been pressing hard to have any job cuts carried out through voluntary redundancies and will continue to do so,” said NUJ representative Myra MacDonal.

UCRE: 00000

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (512)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MARINA STAR-2 VOY NO (512) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.5.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will be at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S MAXICON CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TITAN-7 VOY NO (-)

Consignee’s of cargo carried on MV TITAN-7 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 20.5.2008 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: M/S NOBLE PACIFIC WORLDWIDE LTD

Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (41)

Consignee’s of cargo carried on MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (41) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 21.5.2008 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: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO, LTD

Phone No: 256919/256916/256912

45 kilos of ecstasy seized in Western Australia

CANBERRA, 20 May—Police and Customs in Western Australia said on Tuesday they had seized 45 kilos of powdered ecstasy, the largest of its kind, from a house in Perth which investigators said would have made more than 150,000 tablets for supply across Australia. Authorities raided a house on Monday in east suburban Lockridge where an organized crime syndicate was setting up a 4.7 million dollars drug lab to process the powdered ecstasy into tablets.

Police will allege in court the syndicate would have manufactured and supplied more than 150,000 ecstasy tablets.

“Syndicate members were closely monitored and investigators believe the drug lab was being set up to distribute ecstasy tablets across Australia,” a joint police and Australian Customs Service statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

Uganda rebels abduct some 100 children

KAMPALA, 20 May—Uganda’s Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) rebels have abducted at least 100 children from neighbouring countries to use as sex slaves and porters, an international human rights group said on Monday. Peace talks between Uganda and rebels appeared to stall last month when LRA leader Joseph Kony, wanted for war crimes, failed to appear at a signing ceremony on the Sudan/Congo border.

“Kony and the LRA took advantage of the breathing room given to them and appear to be terrorizing civilians yet again,” said Richard Dicker, International Justice Director at Human Rights Watch (HRW). “Concerned governments and UN officials cannot sit by while the LRA goes on a criminal rampage, committing heinous abuses against children and other people,” he said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

In this photo released by the Florida Keys News Bureau, a tiny solid gold combination toothpick and earwax scoop is displayed inside a clam shell on 19 May, 2008, in Key West, Fla. A Blue Water Ventures salvage diver recovered the artifact on 18 May, about 45 miles west of Key West during a search for remains of the Spanish galleon Santa Margarita that shipwrecked in a 1622 hurricane. —INTERNET
Study says workplace programmes can improve health

GENEVA, 20 May — Workplace programmes targeting physical inactivity and unhealthy dietary habits are effective in mitigating the impact of obesity, diabetes and heart disease, according to a study published on Monday.

Deaths from non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes are forecast to rise 17 per cent in 2005-2015, said the joint study by business and the UN’s World Health Organization (WHO).

The impact of these deaths and health problems on the economies of different countries is dramatic, with China forecasting to lose $55.7 billion US dollars in the period, Russia 303.2 billion US dollars and India 236.6 billion US dollars, it said.

“Enhancing employee productivity, improving corporate image and moderating medical care costs are some of the arguments that might foster senior management to initiate and invest in WHP (workplace health promotion) programmes,” it said.

Unhealthy diets and excessive energy intake, physical inactivity and tobacco use are major risk factors for non-communicable diseases, it said. In 2005 about 35 million people died of non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes, accounting for 60 per cent of all deaths worldwide, it said. — MNA/Reuters

Vietnam’s H5N1 vaccine initially proves effective

HANOI, 20 May — A made-in-Vietnam H5N1 vaccine conducted on 30 volunteers on a trial basis has initially shown its effectiveness and safety, local newspaper Vietnam News reported Monday.

“The moment, we can say that the vaccine seems safe, because there is nobody who was in shock for 28 days following the first injection,” said Doan Huy Hau, head of the Military Epidemiology Institute.

The 30 volunteers, the institute’s students and staff, received the second injection of H5N1 vaccine on Saturday. Their blood will be tested three times to evaluate levels of antibodies and any side effects.

The vaccine developed from monkey kidney cells was produced by the Vaccine and Biotechnology Products Company No.1 under Vietnam’s National Hygiene and Epidemiology Institute.

The vaccine research and development started four years ago.

If the trial is successful, Vietnam will conduct the second test on 240 other students and staff of the institute within 90 days. If everything goes as scheduled, the H5N1 vaccine will be produced in Vietnam in 2009 at a price of two US dollars per dose. — MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan offers rewards for tips on wheat hoarding

ISLAMABAD, 20 May — Pakistani authorities are offering rewards for information about wheat hoarding, a Cabinet Minister said on Monday.

The government struggles to control prices and ensure supplies of the staple. Wheat flour prices have soared in recent weeks on falling supplies, and have fuelled inflation, which rose to 17.2 per cent year-on-year in April, the highest level in 30 years.

“We will offer rewards to informers who give us information about wheat stocks held by hoarders,” acting Food and Agriculture Minister Nazar Muhammad Gondal told a news conference. He did not say what rewards informers would get. — MNA/Reuters

Internet, parcels challenge EU counterfeit hunters

BRUSSELS, 20 May — Criminals increasingly use the Internet and parcel delivery services to import and distribute counterfeit goods, such as cigarettes and medicines, into Europe, an EU study showed on Monday. In its annual report on Customs operations, the executive European Commission said smugglers were opting to shift fake goods in smaller quantities instead of large dispatches in ship containers that were easier to intercept.

“The counterfeiters are taking fewer risks and sending smaller quantities per shipment, in particular via air/express courier and mail transport,” the Commission said. — MNA/Reuters
Champions Inter plan talks with coach Mancini

MILAN, 20 May — Serie A champions Inter Milan will hold talks with coach Roberto Mancini amid fresh speculation about his future, club president Massimo Moratti has said.

Inter retained their title on Sunday after a 2-0 win at Parma on the final day of the season, though Mancini refused to speak to the media.

The 43-year-old said he would quit at the end of the season after March's Champions League defeat by Liverpool but the next day Moratti said his coach would be staying.

Rumours former Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho has been lined up to replace Mancini have not gone away despite club denials.

"He and I will talk away from the cameras," Moratti told reporters after Inter shrugged off a run of bad form to finally wrap up the scudetto. "I have seen his happiness, together we have suffered for this joy but with great faith in each other." — MNA/Reuters

Roddick out of French Open with back injury

BERLIN, 20 May — World number six Andy Roddick has pulled out of next week's French Open because of a problem with his back and shoulder, his brother John Roddick said on Monday at the World Team Cup in Dusseldorf.

The American former world number one sustained the injury at this month's Rome Masters and had to pull out of their semi-final match against Stanislas Wawrinka trailing 3-0 in the first set.

"Andy recently played as well as never before on clay," his brother, who is the US team captain at the World Team Cup, said in a statement released by Dusseldorf organizers. — MNA/Reuters

Kobori stops Alfaro to win WBA lightweight crown

 TOKYO, 20 May — Japanese Yusuke Kobori picked himself off the canvas to stop champion Jose Alfaro of Nicaragua in the third round and win the WBA lightweight title on Monday.

Kobori backed up his pre-fight promise to end Alfaro's brief reign early, winning by technical knockout just over two minutes into round three of their scheduled 12-rounder in Tokyo.

The 24-year-old Alfaro won the belt from Thailand's Prayut Srungwanchai last December and was making his first defence against an opponent two years his senior.

Kobori was floored by a big combination from Alfaro in the second round but the WBA's seventh-ranked fighter responded with a devastating left hook to the Nicaraguan's jaw in the next. The challenger continued to pour on the pressure before Alfaro was spared further punishment by the referee.

"I'm delighted," Kobori told reporters. "We had been working on that left hook in training and it just connected perfectly. It was a tough fight and I was in trouble early on. I guess I just hate losing." — MNA/Reuters

Calderon confirms Garay signing

MADRID, 20 May — Real Madrid have signed Argentine centre-back Ezequiel Garay from Racing Santander, club president Ramon Calderon confirmed on Monday.

"We've signed Garay," Calderon told reporters during Real's celebrations of their 31st league title with city authorities in Madrid.

"I'm delighted," Kobori told reporters after Inter shrugged off a run of bad form to finally wrap up the scudetto. "I have seen his happiness, together we have suffered for this joy but with great faith in each other." — MNA/Reuters

Gattuso decides to stay at AC Milan

MILAN, 20 May — Gennaro Gattuso will stay at AC Milan following talks with chief executive Adriano Galliani, the Italy midfielder said on Monday.

The arrival of Arsenal midfielder Mathieu Flamini at Milan had also increased speculation that Gattuso was on his way.

However, he has decided to remain at the San Siro despite Milan finishing fifth in Serie A and missing out on the Champions League next term.

"I am not going away because all my doubts have been cleared up. I want to make clear I have never talked about money," he told a news conference. — MNA/Reuters

Manchester United win Champions League in penalty shootout

MOSCOW, 21 May — Manchester United won the Champions League here on Wednesday beating Premier League rivals Chelsea 6-5 in a penalty shootout after the match finished 1-1 after extra-time.

United claimed their second Champions League title under Sir Alex Ferguson when Edwin van der Sar saved from Chelsea’s Nicolas Anelka - Anelka’s club captain John Terry had missed with what was potentially the decisive penalty earlier.

United’s Portuguese star Cristiano Ronaldo - who was to miss a penalty in the penalty shootout - opened the scoring in the 26th minute but Chelsea midfielder Frank Lampard equalised on the stroke of half-time. The match ended 1-1 at the end of normal time.

Chelsea striker Didier Drogba, likely to have been making his last appearance for the side, was redcarded towards the end of the second-half of extra-time after he tapped Nemanja Vidic on the face during a fracas between the two sides. — Internet

Ajax fails to qualify for European Championships

BRUSSELS, 20 May — Dutch Premier League runner-up Ajax has failed to qualify for next season’s European Championships League after being held to a 0-0 draw at home in Amsterdam by FC Twente Sunday night in a return leg in the Dutch playoff for a berth in the preliminary round of Europe’s elite league.

Ajax was beaten by Twente in the first leg 1-2. The Amsterdam giant will now play in the UEFA Cup next season.

The smallest of victories (1-0) would have been enough for Ajax. Luis Suarez, Gabi, Kenneth Perez and Klaas Jan Huntelaar had good opportunities. But a lack of luck and a great Twente goalkeeper Sander Boschker kept Ajax from scoring. — MNA/Xinhua

Edwin Van der Sar of Manchester United is congratulated by teammates after saving the penalty attempt from Nicolas Anelka of Chelsea.
Wednesday, 21 May, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 9:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rains or thundershowers have been widespread in Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine State, scattered in Shan, Kayin and Mon States, Ayeyawady Division and isolated in the remaining areas with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine State and Mandalay Division. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below May average temperatures in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Magway, Bago and Yangon Divisions and about May average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (4.37) inches and Mandalay (2.32) inches.

Maximum temperature on 20-5-2008 was 81°F. Minimum temperature on 21-5-2008 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 21-5-2008 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 20-5-2008 was (Nil). Rainfall on 21-5-2008 was (0.32) inch at Mingaladon, (0.36) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.94) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (27.76) inches at Mingaladon, (31.93) inches at Kaba-Aye and (34.76) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (7) mph from Southwest at (17:30) hours MST on 20-5-2008.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 22-5-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Rakhine State, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Mon, Kayin States and Bago Division, scattered in Kahin State, upper Sagaing Division and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Deltaic, Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of moderate monsoon in the Andaman sea, South Bay and Central Bay of Bengal.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 22-5-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-5-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-5-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Next, he encouraged the physicians and health staff of the Directorate of Medical Services of the Ministry of Defence, doctors of the Ministry of Health and medical team of Thailand who are providing health care in the camp.

The Senior General and party inspected the rehabilitation undertakings by car in Labutta.

On arrival at Labutta People’s Hospital, the Senior General comforted the patients warded in the Outpatient Department and male ward.

At Bayintnaung Yekitha Hall in Labutta Township, Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut reported on measures for transporting as soon as possible the relief supplies donated by internal and external donors that came through Yangon, to the forward camps, distribution of the supplies, supply of clean water, works for fulfilling the basic needs of the victims, participation of Max (Myanmar) Co, Wah Wah Win Co, Zay Gabar Co and Ayeya Shwe Wah Co in reconstructing the township hospital, regeneration of farmlands including construction of embankments to prevent seawater from entering the lands, programmes to attend to the basic needs of those who are fit and want to resettle in their home towns of their own volition, and requirements for resettlement of the victims.

The Senior General gave guidance, saying that relief and resettlement tasks are to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the region concerned.

The central level body is now providing emergency supplies such as rice, foods, plastic sheets and medicines, he said, adding that arrangements have been made for delivering the supplies to the areas in time.

Weather Forecast for (22-5-2008)

Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area:
Isolated rain or thundershower. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Yangon and neighbouring area:
One or two rain or thundershower. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Mandalay and neighbouring area:
Isolated rain or thundershower. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Necessary assistance will be rendered for regenerating farmlands and construction of embankments.