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Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence attends incineration of narcotic drugs to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

YANGON, 26 June—To mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, a ceremony to incinerate narcotic drugs was held at the parade ground of the local police battalion in Hlawga of Shwepyitha Township, Yangon North District, at 8 am today, attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence.

The Chairman of Yangon Division Committee for Drug Abuse Control Commander of Yangon Division Police Force reported on the seized narcotic drugs. The guests led by Lt-Gen Myint Swe inspected the narcotic drugs to be burnt.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint pressed the button to incinerate the seized narcotic drugs.—MNA

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new highly developed nation in accordance 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 and outside 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

Little oasis in NyaungU District

On a trip to Bagan-NyaungU this year, an opportunity touched me to drop in on a place covered with lush and green vegetables all year round. Lawka Nanda Sanctuary in Bagan-NyaungU is like an oasis in the arid zone.

U Shwe Htay Aung, head of the sanctuary, said that the sanctuary was lush and green all year round thanks to the constant supply of water from the river Ayeyawady; and that water was pumped from the river to fill the two lakes in the sanctuary. (See page 8)

Kyaungnatha Lake is thickly surrounded by lush and green vegetation in Lawka Nanda Sanctuary in NyaungU District.

A&I Minister attends Asia Pacific Agriculture Policy Forum in ROK

Byline: Myint Wai Hlaing
Photos: Ye Thura Aung
(NyaungUPIRD)

Uruguay beats South Korea 2-1 in round of 16

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Mass-production of import-substitute items for industrial development

The government is in the process of transforming the nation into an industrialized one by trying to develop agro-based industries, improve quantity and quality of industrial products and manufacture new items and industrial machinery.

The Ministry of Industry-2 is now in a position to produce motorcars and solar-powered equipment. The ministry displayed its products such as dry batteries, durable batteries, LED bulbs, controllers and inverters on 23 June.

Various kinds of vehicles assembled by Myanma Automobile and Diesel Engine Industries are manufactured for public use. These automobiles are being produced by No.1 Automobile Factory (Yangon) and No.2 Automobile Factory (Htonebo).

Solar energy systems were launched so that the people from various regions can use solar-powered accessories. By doing so, the regions that have not had access to electricity will get light through solar energy. In addition, those who have enjoyed electricity will be able to use solar energy as a supplement, and this will be cost-effective, causing no environmental pollution.

In accord with one of the economic objectives ‘the initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples’, industrialists, intellectuals and technocrats and national people are to work together for industrial development so as to build up a modern developed nation.

International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking marked

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 June—International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was observed at Myanmar Police Force Headquarters here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs U Maung Oo, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Hlay Oo, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Win Sein, Deputy Minister for Education U Aung Myo Min, MFP Chief Brig-Gen Khin Yi, officials of CCDAC, departmental heads, ambassadors, charge d'affaires, military attaché’s from foreign embassies in Yangon, representatives of UN and INGOs, officials of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Yangon-based US Drug Enforcement Administration, Australia Federal Police, members of social organizations and Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, reporters from local journals and donors.

First, Minister U Maung Oo delivered a speech. In his address the minister underscored this year's theme 'Think health not drugs'. He also elaborated government's efforts in fighting the menace of narcotic drugs and cooperation with neighbouring countries, UN agencies and NGOs.

In conclusion, the minister urged the entire people to take part in crushing the danger posed by narcotic drugs. Next, Acting UN Resident Representative Mr. Bhairaja Panday read out the message sent by the UN Secretary General.

Then, cash donations were made for International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking commemorative cartoon, painting, poster, computer painting, computer poster and photo contests (central level).  

Korea language Proficiency Test in Sept

Yangon, 26 June—Organized by the embassy of the Republic of Korea, Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK) will be held simultaneously in Yangon and Mandalay on 12 September (Sunday) from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm.

The exam is divided into three levels, basic (1 & 2), intermediate (3 & 4) and advance levels (5 & 6), each of which consists of vocabulary test, grammar & writing test and listening & reading test.

Candidates may take test registration forms at ROK Embassy at No. 97, University Avenue, Bahan Township, here and Mandalay University of Foreign Languages, and are to register by 14 June. For more information, contact ROK Embassy, Ph: 5271424, 5271423:5271424.

Chariot Micro Bus available at Automobile & Living Products Show

Visitors observe automobiles at Automobile & Living Products Show.

Yangon, 26 June—Chariot Micro Bus available at Automobile & Living Products Show.

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Venezuela urges Colombia to close US military bases

QUITO, 26 June—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Friday urged Colombian President-elect Juan Manuel Santos to close US military bases in the country to show a change of attitude toward the neighbouring countries.

At the closing session of the 10th Summit of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Americas (ALBA) in Otavalo, Ecuador, Chavez also asked Santos to recognize the raid by the Colombian Army in Ecuadorian territory was a “rude mistake.” Relations between Colombia and Ecuador have been strained since 2008 when Colombian forces launched a crossborder raid against a camp of the rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in Ecuadorian territory.

“We are evaluating to see whether the new Colombian government comes to retake the path of respecting South America,” Chavez said. “We are going to see what will happen with the Yankee bases in Colombia.”

The “Otavalo Declaration” issued at the end of the two-day ALBA summit called on member states to further consolidate a trade agreement among them and seek inclusion mechanisms for natives and Afro-descendants to apply intercultural and multi-nationality principles.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 25 June, 2010 shows the scene of a bridge machine topping accident on the Pingli Road in Dayun Town of Jiushan County, east China’s Zhejiang Province. The bridge machine topping accident happening on Friday has left 2 people dead and 5 others injured. —Xinhua

US drone strike kills 4 in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 June—At least four persons were killed in a suspected United States drone attack on early Saturday near Miranshah, the main city of North Waziristan tribal area, local TV channels reported.

The drone targeted a house in Mir Ali area, about 30 kilometres east of Miranshah, the private TV DAWN News reported.

According to eyewitnesses, the drone is still hovering over the area. The US drones regularly hit hideouts of the militants in the Pakistani tribal region, which Washington considers as the centre of Taleban and al-Qaeda remnants.

Pakistan has been opposing the US strikes inside the country’s tribal regions and seeks the drone technology, but refused by the United States.—Xinhua

Blast near Afghan Foreign Ministry was accident

KABUL, 26 June—A blast near Afghanistan’s foreign ministry on Saturday was caused by an anti-personnel mine accidentally discharging in an army vehicle, a spokesman for the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said.

“Our understanding is that an anti-personnel mine was detonated while it was being carried in an ANA vehicle (Afghan National Army), an ISAF spokesman said.

Police officials earlier said in the immediate aftermath of the blast that they suspected a suicide bomber could have been responsible.

There was no immediate word on casualties, but sirens could be heard heading to and from the scene.—Xinhua

Seen from the Hancock Tower, lighting strikes both the Willis Tower (L) and the Trump Tower in downtown Chicago as a severe storm rolls through the region on 23 June, 2010. —Xinhua

Afghan boy is helped in a hospital after being injured when a makeshift school collapsed during a storm near Jalalabad, east of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 23 June, 2010.—INTERNET

11 killed in night club fire in East Java, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 26 June—Eleven people were killed, including one Japanese and one Australian, and scores of others were injured after fire engulfed a night club in Surabaya, the capital of East Java Province of Indonesia earlier Friday, officials said.

Police officer at the scene named only Ngadiran told Xinhua over the phone that one of the killed was a pregnant woman.

The Redbox nightclub and cafe located at the first and the second floors of the Pakuwon Trade Centre building was on fire at 3:20 am local time, local police chief at Biyung District (where the club is located) Bambang Triparwanto told Xinhua over phone from the district.—Xinhua

Four jewelers killed during robbery in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 June—Iraqi officials say gunmen have attacked a jewellery shop in Fallujah, killing four people and fleeing with a large amount of gold.

Police and hospital officials say six attackers used handguns with silencers in the west Saturday morning in Fallujah, 40 miles (65 kilometers) west of Baghdad.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Crime street appears to be soaring in Iraq as sectarian fighting wanes.

An al-Qaeda front group claimed responsibility for last week’s strike on the Central Bank of Iraq, in which at least 26 died.

On 9 June, gunmen killed three jewelers before fleeing with gold in southern city of Basra. Two weeks earlier, a similar robbery in Baghdad left 15 dead.

Internet

Taleban commander killed in Afghanistan’s Logar Province

KABUL, 26 June—Afghan and NATO-led forces, during a search operation, killed a Taleban commander in Afghanistan’s Logar Province, 60 km south of Afghan capital Kabul, Friday night, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a Press release Saturday.

“Intelligence sources tracked Ghulam Sakhi to a compound near the village of Qul-e Saber, Pul-e Alam District, where the combined forces went and apprehended him,” the press release said.

The press release also said that Afghan women and children were evacuated from the compound after Afghan forces used a loudspeaker to ask civilians to vacate the compound but the Taleban commander, dressed in woman dress, used a pistol and a grenade to attack the forces.

Xinhua
German TanDEM-X satellite returns first images

The spacecraft was launched from Kazakhstan on Monday on a mission to make the most precise 3D map of the Earth’s surface. The pictures demonstrate the platform is in excellent health and ready to team up with the TerraSAR-X satellite launched in 2007. Together, the pair will trace the variation in height across the globe to a precision of better than two metres. This digital elevation model (DEM) will support a multitude of applications, such as the programming of navigation computers in military jets to enable them to fly ultra low. The data will also be given to relief workers to show them where an earthquake has wrought most damage in a city.

Infoterra GmbH, the company with exclusive rights to commercialize the TanDEM information, says the market for radar products is steadily growing.

Space shuttle missions likely to be postponed: NASA

WASHINGTON, 26 June—The two final US space shuttle missions before the shuttle programme is phased out will likely be postponed, a NASA spokesperson said AFP.

“It’s not official yet but it’s very likely,” said Allard Beutel, media services chief at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida.

“The decision will be officially announced on 1st July,” he said. The US space shuttles are being retired after President Barack Obama opted not to fund a successor programme, deciding instead to encourage private spacecraft development.

The final two shuttle missions are both to the orbiting International Space Station (ISS).

The shuttle Discovery’s flight to the ISS, scheduled for 16 September, will likely be moved to 29 October at 2144GMT, while the final flight of the shuttle Endeavour, currently scheduled for late November, will likely be postponed to 28 February, 2011, Beutel said.

The French Higher Education Minister Valerie Pecresse, who met NASA Administrator Charles Bolden on a visit to the United States this week, told AFP that she has been invited to the next shuttle launch on 29 October.

The Endeavour’s mission was already postponed from its original 29 July launch date to replace a part on the 1.5-billion-dollar Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer due for ISS delivery — the device will delve into the mysterious dark matter thought to permeate the universe.

The Discovery mission will deliver replacement parts for the Italian-made Pressurized Multipurpose Module (PMM) Leonardo, which will be permanently attached to the ISS.

The postponement of Discovery’s mission to 29 October put it too close to Endeavour’s first rescheduled launch date in November and the sun’s disadvantageous position in following weeks forced the mission to be pushed back to February, NASA said. —AFP

New Apple iPhone hard to find, but not impossible

SAN FRANCISCO, 26 June—Apple Inc’s newest iPhone flew off store shelves, but lucky shoppers still managed on Friday to get their hands on one at least a dozen stores across the United States.

The smartphone appeared to be sold out for walk-in purchases at the vast shelves, but lucky shoppers still managed on Friday to get their hands on one at least a dozen stores across the United States.

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Dengue fever kills 13 in Honduras so far this year

Dengue patients receive treatment at a hospital in Tegucigalpa, capital of Honduras, 25 June, 2010. The Honduran government declared on Tuesday an emergency state due to the increase of dengue cases. More than 10,000 cases of classic dengue and 400 of hemorrhagic have been reported, according to estimates from the Ministry of Health.—Xinhua

Tegucigalpa, 26 June—At least 13 people have died of dengue fever this year as 10,200 others were hit by the disease, the Honduran Health Ministry said on Friday. The ministry earlier in the week declared a state of emergency due to the increase of dengue cases.

Health Minister Arturo Bendana said that of the total reported dengue fever cases, 476 were of the hemorrhagic type. Honduran President Porfirio Lobo led a nation-wide campaign aimed at eradicating the breeders of mosquitoes, which are the carriers of the disease. All public offices are clearing areas of still water in their vicinity.

The president urged Hondurans to involve themselves in the campaign. —Xinhua

Study: Spending cuts can increase deaths

London, 26 June — Levels of social spending in Europe are strongly linked with risks of death from heart attacks and alcohol-induced illness, British researchers say.

David Stuckler of the University of Oxford and his colleagues say there is currently a major debate in European countries about the potential economic impacts of radical budget cuts. Stuckler and his team evaluated data on social welfare spending — support for people with disabilities, programmes supporting children, helping the unemployed find jobs — collected by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development from 15 European countries from 1980 to 2005.

The study, published in the British Medical Journal, found that when social spending was high, mortality rates fell, but when social spending was low, mortality rates rose substantially.

—Xinhua

Iron overload, eye disease may be linked

Augusta, 26 June—Hemochromatosis, which results in iron overload, may be linked to the wet form of macular degeneration, the leading cause of blindness, US researchers say.

Dr. Vadivel Ganapathy of the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta and colleagues said an earlier study in mice and human retinal pigmented epithelial cells linked the eye disease to impaired iron absorption from the blood in a back layer of the retina. In the current study, Ganapathy and colleagues continue to study iron overload — ways to genetically screen for it, how it affects eye function as well as why the disease sometimes progresses rapidly.

The researchers speculate that too much iron — known to wreak cumulative havoc on the body’s organs — hastens aging of the eyes. Dr. Julian Nussbaum says vascular endothelial growth factors — VEGF — encourage new blood vessel growth that can make the disease worse.

“I tell patients that caught early, they have a 92 percent chance of stabilizing their vision with anti-VEGF therapy but they only have about a 38 percent chance of improving their vision,” Nussbaum said in a statement. “It’s similar to cancer therapy. We can put them into remission but we don’t know if it will come back.” —Internet

Alcohol, some drugs bad for breastfeeding

Barcelona, 26 June—Doctors in Spain caution breast milk may transmit some drugs and medicines to infants.

Researchers from several Spanish hospitals set about reviewing the substances possibly found in breast milk and what the effects might be on babies.

The recommendations for mothers, published in the journal Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry, is to totally avoid drug abuse — such as cocaine and heroin — while breastfeeding, because these substances can pass directly through to the newborn and no amount of alcohol is safe.

Amphetamines are to be avoided and the doctors say smoking should be given up or at least limited. The time between the last cigarette and the baby’s feeding should be extended and nicotine patches employed.—Internet

Pesticide, prostate cancer link

Liege, 26 June—A team of researchers in Belgium, France and the French West Indies have linked a pesticide and increased prostate cancer risk. Researchers at the Centre for Analytical Research and Technology, University of Liege in Belgium, the University of Rennes in France, and the University Hospital Centre at the University of the French West Indies and Guiana, have associated increased blood levels of the pesticide chlordecone — also known as Kepone — to a significant increased risk of prostate cancer.

The case control study, published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology, also found men presenting genetic variations that reduce their ability to eliminate chlordecone have a higher risk of developing the disease.

The researchers compared the characteristics of 709 consecutive incident cases of prostate cancer in the French West Indies and 723 controls without prostate cancer.—Internet

Three employees of Zhangshu power supply company fix lighting system on the dike of Ganjiang River, a major branch of the Yangtze River, in Zhangshu City, east China’s Jiangxi Province, on 24 June, 2010. According to the flood control headquarters, Zhangshu power supply company built up 18 teams formed by more than 300 staff members to set up temporary lighting system and ensure the rescue running smoothly.—Xinhua

Health

Boys take bath in a lake to protect themselves from heat wave in northwest Pakistan’s Peshawar on 25 June, 2010. At least 9 people have died in a heat wave across the country since last week.—Xinhua

Levels of social spending in Europe are strongly linked with risks of death from heart attacks and alcohol-induced illness, British researchers say.

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European stocks slip, with all eyes on G20

London, 26 June—European shares fell on Friday, with debt crisis concerns resurfacing before a crucial G20 weekend gathering, while London was hit by fears over BP’s soaring costs from the US oil spill crisis.

London’s benchmark FTSE 100 index of top shares shed 0.36 percent to 5,081.76 points, Frankfurt’s DAX 30 lost 0.62 percent to 6,077.57 points and the Paris CAC 40 dipped 0.54 percent to 3,536.29.

Sentiment is hit this week after the US Federal Reserve suggested that the European debt crisis was taking a toll on recovery in the United States.

“Achievements in the aftermath of the Fed’s slightly downbeat assessment of the US economy continued to weigh on risk appetite, with the US dollar sliding back, and worries over Greece still hung over the eurozone as the cost of protecting Greek government debt against default hit a record high,” said CMC Markets analyst Michael Hewson.

Wall Street narrowly mixed, financials higher

New York, 26 June—Wall Street ended narrowly mixed on Friday, with the Dow Jones industrial average losing ground at final minutes of trading, while broader indexes gained modestly, helped by a rally in the financial sector.

The Dow Jones industrial index shed 8.99 points, or 0.09 percent, to 10,143.81. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index gained 3.07 points, or 0.29 percent, to 1,076.76 and the Nasdaq added 6.06 points, or 0.27 percent, to 2,223.48.

Financials took the lead as the US congress completed the biggest reform of financial regulations since the Great Depression after a long night of final negotiations. Although the legislation will impose new capital requirements on banks and for the first time extend comprehensive regulation to the over-the-counter derivatives market, banks will only be required to spin off their riskiest swap-trading operations.

The rally in financials helped offset the downbeat news that US economy was expanding at a lower pace in the first quarter.

Global financial regulations also fit China

Shanghai, 26 June—Most principles embodied in a new set of financial regulatory rules proposed by the United States and Europe also fit China, and embracing them early would help it strengthen financial stability, the country’s deputy central bank governor said on Saturday.

Embracing such principles would help also narrow the regulatory differences between China and western countries, Yi Gang told a financial and banking conference held in Lujiazui, the nerve center of the financial industry in Shanghai.

Separately, Yi also called for negotiations, not trade wars, to resolve disputes, including disputes over the value of China’s yuan currency.

“China should actively participate in designing global economic management and supervision rules,” Yi said.

“The new global regulatory framework ... is the result of a huge amount of manpower and human wisdom. Most of the principles and thinking embodied fit China.”

Group of 20 leaders meeting this weekend in Toronto want progress on a reform known as Basel III, that requires banks to set aside far more capital and hold a minimum level of liquid assets from the end of 2012.

International banks are lobbying hard to water down the draft rules, saying they would have to raise so much new capital that economic recovery and lending would be jeopardized.

China broadly supports reform of the international financial system but officials rarely comment specifically on the proposed reforms.

Russia, China to agree gas price by mid-2011

Moscow, 26 June—The price of Russian gas exported to China must be agreed by the middle of 2011, deputy head of Russian gas giant Gazprom Alexander Medvedev said on Friday.

Actual supplies of gas to China would start five years after the price was agreed with China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC), he said.

Gazprom and CNPC signed a framework agreement in October 2009. In December 2009, they signed another agreement on general conditions of gas shipments.

According to the deal, China will receive up to 70 billion cubic meters of gas from deposits in Russia’s regions of Siberia, Far East and Sakhalin through two pipelines, RBC news agency reported.

Economic growth trimmed on consumer spending

WASHINGTON, 26 June—Economic growth was slower than previously reported in the first quarter on lower consumer spending on services, raising concerns the recovery would be too sluggish to bring down unemployment.

Gross domestic product expanded at a 2.7 percent annual rate instead of the 3 percent pace reported last month, the Commerce Department said in its final estimate on Friday.

Although the pace was below market expectations of 3 percent it still marked three straight quarters of expansion as the economy digs out of its worst downturn since the 1930s.

While analysts see little threat of another recession they worry growth could prove too anemic to bring down a near 10 percent unemployment rate.

Data on spending for May has pointed to a slowdown in the pace of recovery.

“My concern is that the soft patch of data that we have seen through May looks like it will continue for at least another month and the economy takes half a step closer to stall speed, about two percent GDP growth,” said Robert Dye, a senior economist at PNC Financial Services in Pittsburgh.

Toyota suspends sales of 2010 Lexus HS 250h due to defect

Toyota Motor Corp has run into yet another problem as it stopped all sales of its 2010 Lexus HS 250h hybrid after tests had revealed the car could leak fuel in a rear-end collision, the Los Angeles Times reported on Friday.

The Japan carmaker had already been recalling roughly 13,000 Lexus HS sedans that had been sold and 4,000 that are still on dealership lots, the newspaper report added.

Toyota Motor Corp’s Lexus HS250h is displayed at the company’s museum in Toyota, central Japan on 9 February, 2010.
Record rain drenches China as rivers threaten to burst

BEIJING, 26 June—Relentless rains were swelling rivers to record levels in south and central China on Saturday as the nation braced for more flood-related disasters that have already taken the lives of 235 people.

Minister of Water Resources Chen Lei warned regional officials that their jobs were at stake if they failed to protect people from the effects of the deluge, his ministry said on its website. “We must fully bring into play our monitoring and alert system and immediately announce disaster forecasts and thoroughly implement contingency plans and measures to avert mass disaster,” Chen said in a Friday meeting.

Workers and soldiers in central China’s Hunan province meanwhile scrambled to shore up dykes as waters reached record levels along the Xiang river as it passed through Changsha city, where over six million people live.

After water levels on the Xiang surpassed danger marks by 2.5 metres (over eight feet) Friday — the highest in a decade — flood prevention experts were bracing for “historic highs” in the coming days, China National Radio reported.—Internet

5.1-magnitude quake hits Ryukyu Islands, Japan

HONG KONG, 26 June—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale jolted off the Japanese island of Ryukyu Islands at 0018 GMT on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with the depth of 45.2 km under the sea surface, was monitored at 26,232 degrees north latitude and 129,331 degrees east longitude.—Xinhua

Moderate quake strikes Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 26 June—An earthquake with magnitude of 5.0 jolted North Sumatra in western parts of Indonesia on Saturday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The quake struck at 08:18 am Jakarta Time (0118 GMT) with epicentre at 67 km northeast Tanahmasa of North Sumatra and with the depth at 16 km, the agency said.—Xinhua

5.1-magnitude quake hits Nicobar Islands, India region

HONG KONG, 26 June—A magnitude-5.1 earthquake hit Nicobar Islands, India region at around 0729 GMT on Friday, said the US Geological Survey (USGS).

The epicentre was monitored at 7,493 degrees north latitude and 91,848 degrees east longitude with the depth of 35 km.

An earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale just struck the area at around 1807 GMT on Thursday.—Xinhua

Magnitude-6.9 earthquake hits Solomon Islands

HONG KONG, 26 June—An earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale hit Solomon Islands at 1:40 pm HK Time (0540 GMT) on Saturday, said the Hong Kong Observatory.

The epicenter was initially determined to be near Solomon Islands, 10.6 degrees South latitude and 161.6 degrees East longitude, about 220 kilometers southeast of Honiara, Solomon Islands.—Xinhua

Teen shot by Border Patrol had smuggling arrests

EL PASO, 26 June—A 15-year-old Mexican boy shot and killed by a US Border Patrol agent was among El Paso’s most wanted juvenile immigrant smugglers, according to federal arrest records reviewed by The Associated Press.

The records show Sergio Adrian Hernandez Huereca had been arrested at least four times since 2008 and twice in the same week in February 2009 on suspicion of smuggling illegal immigrants across the US-Mexico border. Hernandez was repeatedly arrested along the US side of the border near downtown El Paso, not far from where he was killed, but was never charged with a crime by federal prosecutors.—Internet

Oil spill clean-up in Gulf of Mexico faces rough weather

NEW ORLEANS, 26 June—Oil recovery efforts in the Gulf of Mexico could soon face the first tropical storm of the season, with heavy seas and winds spreading a massive oil slick that has already shut down beaches in Florida.

“The vast slick has already soiled the coastlines of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, but could spell disaster for Florida, one of the world’s top tourist destinations with more than 80 million visitors a year.”

The National Hurricane Centre said the “first tropical depression of the Atlantic season forms in the Western Caribbean” and was expected to move into the Gulf later in the day with strengthening winds already clocked at 55 kilometers (35 miles) per hour.

Teen shot by Border Patrol had smuggling arrests

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Space station crew to re-position

Soyuz

WASHINGTON, 26 June—The crew of the International Space Station is preparing to move a docked Russian spacecraft to a different research module, a mission control official said.

The Soyuz TMA-19 will undock Monday from the Zvezda module and dock with the Russset research module in a 28-minute maneuver, RIA Novosti reported. “The crew, comprising Russian cosmonaut Fyodor Yurchikhin and US astronauts Douglas Wheelock and Shannon Walker, is carrying out a three-hour training session … in preparation for the maneuver,” the official said on Friday.—Internet
**Short course on electoral process opened for Sagaing Div Election Sub commission**

**YANGON, 26 June—** A short course on electoral process for Sagaing Division Election Sub-commission and township election subcommittees on 18 June at Sagaing People’s Hospital, with an address by Chairman of District Election Sub-commission U Kyi Tun.

Members of District Election Subcommission conducted Hluttaw election law and rules work.

**Election Subcommission U Kyi Tun.**

District Election Sub-commission and township election subcommissions from Sagaing, Myinmu and Myaung.—MNA

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**Lucky Bird Go Green 2010**

**YANGON, 26 June—** Lucky Bird grew trees under its Go Green 2010 programme in Myanmar Info-Tech Campus in Hline Township here today.

Managing Director U Him Aung Khine said the Lucky Bird Group of Companies vowed to plant a tree for every sold out Toshiba e-Studio Copier, aspiring to take part in environmental conservation.

The group is selling high quality Toshiba MFP Digital Copier (e-Studio) in this monsoon with special programmes at its showrooms at No. (355), Theinbyu Road, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, here, (Ph: 01-248167, 379875 and 3990111); No. (5), between 26th Street and 78th x 79th Street, Mandalay (Ph: 02-21527); and Nay Pyi Taw Thabyegon Market (Ph: 067-414113).

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**Little oasis in NyaungU...**

(from page 1)

In the east of the sanctuary is Nyaung-U Chauk Road; and in the west, the Ayeyawady River. And it is close to Thiri Possier Village and the Lawka Nanda Gardens.

Among the luxuriant trees are the permanent residence of Princess Shwe Eins of Bagan Period, and Bochomi Pagona, in which patriotic national leader Bo Cho took a stronghold to repulse the attacks of the colonialists. The site in which a number of historic events took place has become a sanctuary the people can visit for recreation and relaxation and for study.

Now, Lawka Nanda Sanctuary has been occupied by diverse species of trees such as catch, hta-naung, plum, tamarind, neem, banyan, letpan and eastern gooseberry, along side teak, ironwood, gum-kino, thityar, ingyin and many wilding plants and wildflowers. Bird species include barking superb, wildcats.

There, we found some 400 star tortoises, whose staple foods are tomato and gourd. He said, “We have kept star tortoises since 2001. That species of tortoise is rare, so we aim to protect them from extinction and to send and baby tortoises back to their natural habitat.”

We also found four heads of golden deer, which is peculiar to Myanmar. We learnt that they kept golden deer to propagate it and for public study.

While driving the car along the road in the sanctuary, a small animal suddenly too to the road in front of the car. So, we had to stop the car and looked it to know whether it was. It was a sarus crane. We learnt that seeing U Shwe Htay Aung, the animal rushed to the car out of joy. He embraced it and commanded it to dance. So, the well-tamed animal performed us with dances for a long time.

Green trees and flowering plants and wild-life really make the visitors feel relaxed. When we reached the rare part of the sanctuary, we saw two lakes and the river Ayeyawady in a distance. U Shwe Htay Aung said, “Our sanctuary is evergreen due to the water we pump from the river.”

I am confident as the long as the river Ayeyawady flows, Lawka Nanda Sanctuary will remain lush and green like an oasis in the arid zone. With a growing number of dams and river water pumping stations, the arid zone will get greener and greener and the number of similar oasis will emerge one after another in Myanmar.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 21-6-2010
Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing attends…

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and the commander planted gum-kino saplings and viewed participation of servicemen and family members in tree planting ceremony.

A similar ceremony took place at University of Computer Studies in Kengtung. They presented saplings to officials and grew Gangaw saplings (Mesua ferrea) to mark the tree planting ceremony.

They viewed participation of departmental personnel, local people, members of social organizations and students in tree planting ceremony.

At the briefing hall of runway extension project of Kengtung Airport, the project engineer reported on upgrading of the runway and future plans for extension of the runway.

Deputy Minister of Prime Minister’s Office Mr. Park, Young Jun and Governor of Sawon Rural Development Administration Mr. Kim Jae Soo separately. He visited Gene Bank and observed storage of genes, DNAs and seeds.

General Secretary of the Asia Pacific Agriculture Policy Forum Dr. Jikaun Huang of the People’s Republic of China and Chairman of the forum Dr. Sang Mu Lee of the ROK extended greetings at the forum held at Athens Ballroom of Olympic Parktel Hotel in Seoul on 21 June morning.

The minister addressed the forum, underlining the necessity of sustainable agricultural policy for food security.

The delegation met with chairman and officials of Nong Woo Bio Company Limited and held discussion on production of seeds in Myanmar.—MNA

A&I Minister attends Asia Pacific Agriculture Policy Forum in ROK

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Hay Oo making speech at 9th Asia Pacific Agriculture Policy Forum.—MNA

NAV Pyi Taw, 26 June

—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Hay Oo left for Seoul of the Republic of Korea to attend 9th Asia Pacific Agriculture Policy Forum on 19 June. On 20 June, the minister and party met rooms of Zulux and Auto Star and show rooms of True Value Home/Office Security System are also staged. There is no entrance fee to the exhibition which last till 28 June.—MNA

Booth of Shine Construction at Auto-mobile and Living Product Show.—MNA

Automobile & Living Product Show kicks off on 20 June, the minister and party met. Car audio show rooms of Zulux and Auto Star and show rooms of True Value Home/Office Security System are also staged. There is no entrance fee to the exhibition which last till 28 June.—MNA

Motor cars produced in Pakokku industrial zone…

(from page 16)

Motor cars produced in Pakokku industrial zone…

Motorbikes were produced in 2008-2009 and 4,000 in 2009-2010. (125)X model motorbike is now in increased demand. Motorbikes average prices are K 500,000, K 600,000 and over K 700,000, including licenses. There are 50 workers in the factory, including majority of local people. The factory produces 65 percent of motorbikes parts.

For better industrial development of the country, the government is rendering necessary assistance to industries scattered in the country by establishing industrial zones in order that they can run systematically.

So far, 18 industrial zones and wards have been established in states and divisions. Now, import-substitute quality industrial produce are being produced across the nation. Translation: MT Kyemon (26-6-2010)
Weather could be latest problem in spill cleanup

NEW ORLEANS, 26 June—Tropical weather gathering strength in the Caribbean could be the latest bad news for BP crews trying to contain and clean up the massive oil spill in the Gulf, an effort that has been plagued with setbacks for more than two months.

It is still too early to tell exactly where the storm might go how it might affect oil on and below the surface of the Gulf of Mexico, forecasters said. An armada of ships is working on the spill. That includes those drilling two relief wells, projected to be done by mid-August, and the best hope of halting the crude that has been gushing since April 20 in the biggest offshore oil spill in US history.

BP’s effort to drill through 2 1/2 miles of rock on target, the oil giant said Friday. But BP’s stock tumbled anyway over the mounting costs of the disaster and the company’s inability to plug the leak sooner.

The crew that has been drilling the relief well since early May ran a test to confirm it is on the right path, using a tool that detects the magnetic field around the casing of the original, blown-out well.

“The layman’s translation is, ‘We are where we thought we were,’” said BP spokesman Bill Salvin.

Once the new well intersects the ruptured one, BP plans to pump heavy drilling mud in to stop the oil flow and plug it with cement.

Measles outbreak kills 82, infects thousands in Malawi

LILONGWE, 26 June—A measles outbreak in Malawi has killed 82 people, mostly children, and infected more than 17,000 others, a senior health official said on Friday.

Dr Storn Kabuluzi, director of preventive health services in the department of health, said efforts were being made to vaccinate those most at risk.

“We have registered 82 deaths, mostly children, and 17,496 cumulative cases in the last six months since the first measles outbreak was reported in January this year,” Kabuluzi told Reuters in an interview. “Measles is an infectious disease characterized by a high temperature and red spots all over the body. Severe measles is more likely among poorly nourished young children. The most serious complications include blindness, encephalitis, severe diarrhoea and dehydration, ear infections or severe respiratory infections such as pneumonia.”

Kabuluzi said government had embarked on a vaccination campaign, focusing on rural Malawi where 80 percent of the 13 million population lives.

Machines that understand us on the rise

NEW YORK, 26 June—Devices that can understand people, using a technology known as speech recognition, are becoming a common feature of everyday life, researchers say.

From people telling their cellphones to dial a number to doctors using speech recognition software to record and transcribe patient visits, speech recognition is making inroads into all areas of human activity, The New York Times reported Friday.

Call centres use voice software technology, often to the point where an entire session is automated. If a caller becomes confused or angry, the software can even recognize that and transfer the call to a human manager.

A dark side of the technology, experts warn, is the almost certain loss of millions of jobs as humans are replaced by machines that can understand speech and act to perform a simple requested task.

“Basic work that can be automated is in the bull’s-eye of both technology and globalization, and the rise of artificial intelligence just magnifies that reality,” said Erik Brynjolfsson, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

But the technology will also drive innovation and create job opportunities, Brynjolfsson says, just as the Internet has led to new businesses and new forms of communication like blogs and social networking.

Experts say the technology is still in its infancy and some day smart machines could tutor students, assist surgeons and safely drive cars, the Times reported.

Biodiversity in plants down to ‘feedback’

NEW YORK, 26 June—Biodiversity of the world’s plant life may depend on species-specific “feedback” between plants and soil-dwelling organisms in the environment, a report says. A report in the journal Nature on tropical tree populations says these local ecological interaction processes of negative feedback between tropical trees and soil organisms can explain biodiversity, and may represent a general mechanism for generating plant species diversity across varied ecosystems, a Nature release said Friday. Report author Scott Mangan says these processes can predict tree abundance in local ecosystems. Tree species with the greatest populations says these local ecological interaction processes of negative feedback between plants and soil-dwelling organisms in the environment, a report says. A report in the journal Nature on tropical tree populations says these local ecological interaction processes of negative feedback between tropical trees and soil organisms can explain biodiversity, and may represent a general mechanism for generating plant species diversity across varied ecosystems, a Nature release said Friday. Report author Scott Mangan says these processes can predict tree abundance in local ecosystems. Tree species with the greatest populations

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet
Helicopter crashes in Malaysia, one killed

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 June—A helicopter owned by a logging company crashed in a rural area in the Sarawak State of East Malaysia Friday afternoon, killing one American pilot, local media reported on Saturday.

Another American, believed to be the co-pilot, suffered injuries in the incident near a logging camp set up at a rural settlement.

Bernama, Malaysia’s national news agency, quoted a police officer as saying on Saturday that the surviving American had been sent to a private hospital but his condition had yet to be known.

The officer also said that a police team had been deployed to retrieve the body of the pilot that was still in the wreckage. —Xinhua

India to acquire 42 advanced Su-30MKI fighters

MUMBAI, 26 June—India will buy 42 advanced Su-30MKI fighters in the coming years, local media reported on Saturday.

The Indian Cabinet Committee of Security approved the acquisition of 42 Su-30MKIs earlier this month, the Times of India quoted a senior official as saying. The official said the order of the Su-30MKI acquisition would be worth about 3 billion US dollars. They would greatly enhance the air defense capability of the country following their service in the Indian Air Force (IAF).

Su-30MKI, a variant of Su-30, was jointly developed by the Russian and Indian companies for the Indian Air Force. It could carry several air-to-air and air-to-surface missiles, including a type of cruise missile with the range of more than 300 kilometers. The 42 Su-30MKI would be delivered to the Indian Air Force around 2015. The total number of the Indian Air Force’s Su-30s would rise to 272 by 2018, becoming the largest type in the IAF’s fighter family. —Xinhua

Brazil: Missing from floods drops, deaths up

BRANQUINHA, 26 June—Brazilian officials say the number of those still missing from flooding dropped to 76 — while those killed ticked up to 51.

Torrential rains that triggered widespread flooding across the northeastern portion of Brazil sent swollen rivers rushing from their banks last weekend. Entire towns were flattened. And more than 1,000 people were initially registered as missing.

But the Civil Defence department says Friday there are now just 76 people missing. And authorities believe most of those are safe, just unable to contact family members because of downed electricity and no telephone service. Authorities also said six more bodies were discovered late Thursday, pushing the death toll up.

With rains subsiding, rescuers are intensifying their efforts. —Xinhua

US teen sailor reunited with brother after drama

Zac Sunderland, from California, who sailed around the world at age 17, arrives at Saint Denis de la Reunion, in the Reunion island, a French overseas territory in the Indian Ocean, on 24 June, 2010.

Sixteen-year-old Californian sailor Abby Sunderland has been reunited with her brother, after her solo around-the-world journey ended when her boat fell apart in an southern Ocean storm.

Abby Sunderland says she’s “really disappointed that things didn’t go as planned.”

She spoke to reporters after coming to shore early Saturday on the French island of Reunion off of east Africa, brought by a French patrol boat.

She says she plans to keep sailing. The accident June 10 “ended my trip but it didn’t end my dream.”

Second-generation biofuel plant opens in Holland

THE HAGUE, 26 June—A new second-generation biofuel plant went into operation in the Dutch city of Delfzijl on Friday. With a capacity of 250 million liters, the plant is the world’s largest facility for bio-methanol production, according to a press release by the Dutch biofuel company BioMCN.

Bio-methanol is produced through an innovative process, patented by BioMCN, and is made from crude glycerin, a sustainable biomass which is a residue from industry processing vegetable oils and animal fats. The product is a sustainable alternative to fossil fuels. —Xinhua

Robots at your beck and call

They come in all shapes and sizes — and are on the march, Matt Hodges reports.

Chinese maids and beleaguered spouses may be a thing of the past in the next decade or so when “robo-ayis” take over household chores, and care for the elderly and those with debilitating diseases, French robotics experts said at the Expo.

Contrary to Hollywood’s presenta-tion of advanced robots as cyborgs that can travel through space and time, morph into vehicles or terminate the mothers of yet-to-be-born babies, the more prosaic reality is they will probably start off helping us do the dishes or dial 911 in case of an emergency, said Bruno Maisonnier, CEO of Aldebaran Robotics.

“The robotic revol-ution” will begin in the next few years when we will see robots starting to emerge in niche areas. Within 10 years there will be robots everywhere in the domestic sphere,” he told Exposure after introducing Nao, a programmable human-oid robot, as the France Pavilion’s technological mascot.

Ultimate overload capacity.

Workers make ceramic vases at a factory in Chenlu town of Tongchuan City, northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, on 25 June, 2010. With many kiln sites, Chenlu, an ancient ceramic town, is approximately 20 kilometers southeast of downtown Tongchuan in the mountainous area of Shaanxi Province. In Chinese, “Chen” means “display” and “Lu” means “oven” or “kiln”. So Chenlu is a town for displaying kilns. About 1,000 years ago, the first kiln was built in the town, while now there are still some ancient kiln sites preserved and most of the residents here are engaged in ceramic business. —Xinhua

News Album
**Invitation to Tender**

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Tender forms and documents are available at the Procurement Department, Myanma Ceramic Enterprise, Ministry of Industry (1), Office No. 41, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who purchased Tender Documents officially.

**Myanmar Ceramic Industry**

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BK ACE VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BK ACE VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.6.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie be arriving on 27.6.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

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**Sex tape charges for Indonesian star Nazril Irham**

**London, 26 June**—One of Indonesia’s top celebrities has been charged under an anti-pornography law for his alleged role in sex videos which have appeared on the internet.

Pop star Nazril “Ariel” Irham and two other celebrities, TV presenter Luna Maya and soapstar Cut Tari, have denied involvement in the sex tapes.

The scandal has angered many in Muslim-dominated Indonesia.

Some conservative Islamic groups have called for the celebrities to be punished.

Zainuri Lubis, deputy spokesman of the National Police, told the BBC that Ariel had been charged with the making and distribution of the sex tapes under the controversial anti-pornography law.

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**Sunscreen toxic if eaten accidentally**

**Salt Lake City, 26 June**—Nanoparticles of zinc oxide can harm colon cells and may be toxic if accidentally eaten, US researchers warn.

Philip Moos of the University of Utah and colleagues said there is concern about the potential toxicity of nanoparticles of various materials, which may have different physical and chemical properties than larger particles.

The study, published in the *Chemical Research in Toxicology*, found particle size affects the toxicity of zinc oxide, a material widely used in sunscreens. Particles smaller than 100 nanometers are slightly more toxic to colon cells than conventional zinc oxide, the study said.

“Unintended exposure to nano-sized zinc oxide from children accidentally eating sunscreen products is a typical public concern, motivating the study of the effects of nanoparticles in the colon,” the researchers said in a statement.

The researchers found the nanoparticles were twice as toxic to the cells as the larger particles. The concentration of nanoparticles that was toxic to the colon cells was equivalent to eating 2 grams of sunscreen — about 0.1 ounce, the study said.

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**Major US financial reform agreed**

**London, 26 June**—The US Congress has all but finalised the biggest reform of US financial regulation since the Great Depression.

President Obama said the reforms would “hold Wall Street to account”.

Legislators stayed up all of Thursday night for 19 hours of non-stop negotiations to reconcile separate versions of the bill that had been passed by the two houses of Congress.

Agreement was reached to impose strict limits on banks’ ability to take risky speculative bets on markets.

Sparking before the start of the G8 and G20 summits in Canada, President Barack Obama said he was “gratified” by the progress made by Congress.
Picasso Blue Period work sells for $52 million

Pablo Picasso’s ‘Portrait of Angel Fernandez de Soto’, a work from the painter’s Blue Period, has sold for nearly 35 million pounds ($52 million) at a London auction.

The winning bid of 34,761,250 pounds, from an anonymous bidder at an auction at Christie’s on Wednesday night, was in the middle of the estimated sale price of 30 million pounds to 40 million pounds, the auctioneer said.

One of Claude Monet’s famous “Water Lilies” paintings — “Nympheas,” a work from 1906 — failed to sell. It had been expected to fetch up to 40 million pounds.

Kung fu craze continues

MEMOIR BY SAMMY HAGAR DUE OUT NEXT YEAR

NEW YORK, 26 June — Sammy Hagar (HAY’-gar) is lending his signature voice to an autobiography.

The rocker has signed with It Books to write a memoir. It’s due to be released in 2011.

Hagar said Wednesday that he’s “been writing this book my whole life” and that it’s “time to put it in between two covers.”

The 62-year-old has been a solo artist and even a tequila producer but is best known as the former front man for Van Halen. He replaced David Lee Roth. He’s now the lead singer for Chickenfoot.

It Books is an imprint of HarperCollins.

Organizers consider earlier time for Oscars

WASHINGTON, 26 June — Academy Awards organizers are talking about moving up the date of the show, possibly as early as January.

A statement from the academy says the idea is “being explored as a possibility.” For many years, the Oscars were held in late March but were moved to February in 2004 to shorten what many in Hollywood considered a prolonged awards season.

At the time, organizers said waiting until late March to hand out awards might have been hurting the show’s TV ratings, with audiences losing interest by then. The earliest any date change could take effect would be for the Oscars in 2012.

A firm date of 27 Feb has already been set for next year’s Oscars.

NY vet docs Mariah Carey over bills for pets’ care

NEW YORK, 26 June — Mariah Carey is in the doghouse with a veterinarian who says the pop superstar hasn’t paid nearly $30,000 in bills for three of her prized pooches.

Veterinarian Cindy Bressler sued Carey on Wednesday in a Manhattan state court.

Bressler provided “extraordinary services” for the Jack Russell terriers — Cha-Cha, Dolomite and J.J. — but the Grammy Award-winning singer paid only about $8,200 of the roughly $37,800 in charges, the lawsuit says. The bills cover a little more than a month of care.

Bressler’s lawyer, Michael C. Posner, declined to elaborate on the dogs’ treatment. Bressler, whose website notes that she makes house calls in New York City and the Hamptons and caters to “prominent New Yorkers and celebrity clients,” didn’t immediately respond to an e-mail message seeking comment.

Carey’s spokeswoman didn’t immediately respond to telephone and e-mail messages.

Shipment of Michael Jackson memoir might be stolen by fans

NEW YORK, 26 June — A shipment of copies of a Michael Jackson memoir bound for Gary, Indiana, might be stolen by someone who wants them so badly, the book’s publisher said.

A representative from the publisher, Vintage Pop, told gossip website TMZ that they sent seven boxes of “Never Can Say Goodbye: The Katherine Jackson Archives,” written by the late pop star’s mother, to the home of a Jackson family friend in Gary and they were supposed to end up for sale at the Jackson Archives, written by the late pop star’s mother, to the home of a Jackson family friend in Gary and they were supposed to end up for sale at the new Michael Jackson monument there.

“Someone Absolutely, Positively wanted them so badly, they stole them right off the front steps of the house where they were left,” he said.

A report has been filed with the Gary Police Department, the website said. The 150-page high gloss coffeetable book, which is dedicated to the memory of the King of Pop, features pictures on one page followed by a page of Katherine’s thoughts and memories about her son.

NYET DOGS MARIAH CAREY OVER BILLS FOR PETS’ CARE

NEW YORK, 26 June — Mariah Carey is in the doghouse with a veterinarian who says the pop superstar hasn’t paid nearly $30,000 in bills for three of her prized pooches.

Veterinarian Cindy Bressler sued Carey on Wednesday in a Manhattan state court.

Bressler provided “extraordinary services” for the Jack Russell terriers — Cha-Cha, Dolomite and J.J. — but the Grammy Award-winning singer paid only about $8,200 of the roughly $37,800 in charges, the lawsuit says. The bills cover a little more than a month of care.

Bressler’s lawyer, Michael C. Posner, declined to elaborate on the dogs’ treatment. Bressler, whose website notes that she makes house calls in New York City and the Hamptons and caters to “prominent New Yorkers and celebrity clients,” didn’t immediately respond to an e-mail message seeking comment.

Carey’s spokeswoman didn’t immediately respond to telephone and e-mail messages.

MEMORIAL BY SAMMY HAGAR DUE OUT NEXT YEAR

NEW YORK, 26 June — Sammy Hagar (HAY’-gar) is lending his signature voice to an autobiography.

The rocker has signed with It Books to write a memoir. It’s due to be released in 2011.

Hagar said Wednesday that he’s “been writing this book my whole life” and that it’s “time to put it in between two covers.”

The 62-year-old has been a solo artist and even a tequila producer but is best known as the former front man for Van Halen. He replaced David Lee Roth. He’s now the lead singer for Chickenfoot.

It Books is an imprint of HarperCollins.

The new Michael Jackson monument there.

“Someone Absolutely, Positively wanted them so badly, they stole them right off the front steps of the house where they were left,” he said.

A report has been filed with the Gary Police Department, the website said. The 150-page high gloss coffeetable book, which is dedicated to the memory of the King of Pop, features pictures on one page followed by a page of Katherine’s thoughts and memories about her son.
Roy Hodgson in line to become new Liverpool manager

LONDON, 26 June—Fullham boss Roy Hodgson is the strong favourite to become the next manager of Liverpool, BBC Sport understands.

An announcement is not expected over the weekend, unless developments progress rapidly over the coming days.

The Reds are still exploring options as they search for a successor to Spaniard Rafael Benitez, whose six-year reign ended earlier this month.

There are another two candidates in the running but former Liverpool boss Kenny Dalglish is not one of them. Hodgson has remained tight lipped over rumours linking him with the vacant Liverpool job.

“I’m Fullham manager. I’m perfectly happy at Fulham,” the BBC World Cup pundit told presenter Gary Lineker in Cape Town recently. “There’s a lot of speculation but I can’t enlighten you.”—Internet

Beckenbauer scored one of West Germany’s goals against England in 1970—

Internet

Uruguay beats South Korea 2-1 in round of 16

PORT ELIZABETH, 26 June—Luis Suarez scored twice as Uruguay beat South Korea 2-1 on Saturday and advanced to the World Cup quarter-finals for the first time in 40 years.

Playing in swirling wind and rain, Suarez scored the winner in the 80th minute after sidestepping two defenders and curling a right-footed shot off the post from the edge of the area.

Lee Chung-yong had tied the game in the 68th on a header after goalkeeper Fernando Muslera left his line attempting to punch away a looping ball.

Uruguay took the lead in the eighth when Diego Forlan’s cross from the left flank went across the goal mouth and Suarez put the ball in the net with a one-timer from a tight angle.

Uruguay will play a quarterfinal against the United States or Ghana, who play later Saturday.—Internet

Beckenbauer sorry for England criticism

LONDON, 26 June—Franz Beckenbauer has apologised for his negative comments about the England team ahead of their World Cup second-round match against Germany.

He had accused England of going “back to the old days of kick and rush”.

“Maybe it was a reaction because I was disappointed [with England’s performances] and maybe in a bad mood.”

Beckenbauer, Germany’s World Cup winning captain in 1974, added: “Before the World Cup I was convinced England would play a major role in the tournament and maybe win the title.”—Internet

Italy lack top talent says Cannavaro

LONDON, 26 June—Fabio Cannavaro has called on Italy to put their resources in developing younger players as the defender prepares for international retirement.

Italy were knocked out of the World Cup after a 3-2 defeat by Slovakia meant they finished bottom of their group. With nine players in the team over 30, the 36-year-old defender said: “We’ve got to invest in younger players.

“We’ve got to learn from this loss otherwise it’s going to take another 27 years before we win the World Cup.”—Internet

Preview matches on Germany Vs England and Argentina Vs Mexico on 27 June

YANGON, 26 June—World ranking 6 Germany and world ranking 8 England are going to their play-off match in Free State Stadium in South Africa on 27 June.

Both teams faced four times in the head-to-head position and each team had two wins and two failures. Germany saw two wins and one loss in the group-D while England gained one win and two draws in the group-C. Germany played all group matches restoring their regular form but England’s performances are not so encouraging. Capello’s usual tactics were not found in the first two matches. England to win the match depend upon the first starting lineup Capello will fix. If the coach prepares duo striker Rooney and Heskey, the result is considered to be negative sign. If he does Rooney and Defoe, the result will be positive sign. The blow hit to Germany is the thigh injury of Sebastian Schweinsteiger. The German midfielder has been the key player for Germany in the absence of captain Michael Ballack and he could miss the match against England. It is said that German could be lack of midfield attack and defence. The formation and substitution are very crucial in such a play-off. If Rooney and Defoe restore their regular excellent skills, England will win or the match will continue up to the penalty-shootout.

Head-to-Head Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teams</th>
<th>Germany 1-2 England</th>
<th>Germany 1-2 England</th>
<th>Germany 1-5 England</th>
<th>World Cup Qualification UEFA grp. 9</th>
<th>World Cup Qualification UEFA grp. 9</th>
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<td>0-1</td>
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</table>

Results in the latest three matches of Germany

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.06.10</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>World Cup grp. D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.06.10</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>World Cup grp. D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.06.10</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>4-0</td>
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Results in the latest three matches of England

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.06.10</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>World Cup grp. C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.06.10</td>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>0-0</td>
<td>World Cup grp. C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.06.10</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>1-1</td>
<td>World Cup grp. C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Argentina Vs Mexico

Both teams encountered four times in their head-to-head position and Argentina won all four matches. Argentina had three wins in the group-B while Mexico embraced one win, one draw and one loss in the group-A. The attack of Argentina is like the skills of champions but Mexico should not be underestimated in their skills and experience. Argentina are much higher than Mexico in the world ranking. The counter attack of Do Santos, Hernandez and Calos Vela of Mexico could pose a threat to the defence of Argentina. It is not easy to control Messi, Milito and Tevez. Argentina are constituted with reliable and outstanding footballers. Probability of winning percentages favours more to Argentina. If the Mexican defensive players make mistakes near the penalty area, they will lose to Argentina. No matter what happens, Argentina will ease past Mexico in a clever way of football tactics.

Head-to-Head Position

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<td>05.06.08</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>Argentina Friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.07.07</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>Argentina Copa America Final Rounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.06.06</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Mexico World Cup 1/8 finals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.06.05</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>6-7</td>
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Results in the latest three matches of Argentina

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<td>World Cup grp. B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>South Korea</td>
<td>4-1</td>
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Cannavaro is Italy’s most capped international.—Internet

Fabio Cannavaro has called on Italy to put their resources in developing younger players as the defender prepares for international retirement. Italy were knocked out of the World Cup after a 3-2 defeat by Slovakia meant they finished bottom of their group. With nine players in the team over 30, the 36-year-old defender said: “We’ve got to invest in younger players.

“We’ve got to learn from this loss otherwise it’s going to take another 27 years before we win the World Cup.”—Internet

PREVIEW MATCHES

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Russia requiring ‘Smoking kills’ warning

MOSCOW, 26 June— The warning “Smoking kills” will appear on the front of all packs of cigarettes sold in Russia as part of a new anti-smoking campaign, the government said.

When the new regulations take effect at the start of 2011, the mandatory “Smoking kills” message is to appear in a black-framed box covering nearly a third of the front of each pack of smokes, RIA Novosti reported. An additional warning must cover no less than half the back. The warnings are larger and more prominent than those on cigarettes sold in the United States and some other countries that have required warnings for decades.—Internet

WEATHER

Saturday, 26th June, 2010

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.
M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan and Kayah States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Magway, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Mon State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) (0.12) inch, Thaton (4.45) inches, Kyekkhame (3.54) inches, Kyakmaraw (3.05) inches, Theinzyat (3.03) inches, Mudon (2.99) inches, Bilin (2.87) inches, Hkamti (2.80) inches, Palawta (2.72) inches, Thantaunggyi (2.64) inches.

Forecast valid until evening of the 27th June 2010: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mon State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 27-6-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 27-6-2010: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 27-6-2010: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing attends rainy season tree planting ceremony at Kengtung Station

NAY PYI TAW, 26 June— Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Phyo and departmental officials, attended the rainy season tree planting ceremony at Kengtung Station yesterday. (See page 9)

Low pressure area weakens

NAY PYI TAW, 26 June—According to the observation at 5.30 am MST today, the low pressure area that occurred at northwestward of the Bay of Bengal yesterday has weakened, announced the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today.—MNA

Pakokku industrial zone mass-producing cars and motorbikes

Byline: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA); Photos: Tha Nyan (MNA)

Under the arrangement of the chairman of Pakokku District Peace and Development Council, I recently had a chance to visit Pakokku Industrial Zone. Pakokku industrial zone is located on both sides of Pakokku-Yesagyo road about four miles from northeast of Pakokku. It has an area of 350 acres in which 896 blocks measuring 100 feet x 100 feet exist. It was established on 28 March, 1998. The industrial zone is producing foodstuff, clothing, personal goods, home utensil, raw materials, mining, agricultural equipment, industrial-used equipment, automobile and electronic equipment.

During his inspection tour in Magway Industrial Region in Magway on 31 March this year, Senior General Than Shwe pointed out the need to strive to run the automobile industry efficiently with own strength. Although B-600, T-2000 and TE-11 cars were produced, all parts of the car could not be produced. It needs to strive for running Myanmar automobile industry successfully, regarded it as a main centre that can take car assembly technology. Cooperation is to be made to be successful as other (See page 9)